

MAPC Position Statement

Safe Schools

May 05, 2006

MAPC believes all schools in Manitoba must foster an environment that ensures the health, safety, and well being of all students and staff. We support the development of a universal Code of Conduct for students, staff, and parents of every school.

MAPC supports a disciplinary action plan that includes elements of: loss of privileges, restitution, personal accountability, education, and follow up. Both the Code of Conduct and the disciplinary action plan should be developed by students, staff, and parents.

MAPC believes that schools should firstly protect their students. Whether an issue arises between students, or between student and staff, a thorough, impartial investigation must be done to ensure fairness to all parties. Administrators must be encouraged to investigate staff members when negligence or wrongdoing is suspected.

MAPC supports all initiatives directed toward uncovering physical, verbal, and psychological harassment. MAPC encourages schools to acknowledge "unseen" bullying and to establish dialogue with students and parents about this issue.

Rationale:

MAPC would like to be able to share this position, as representative of its members, with our education partners (including the Minister of Education), and the media.