

# Lost Learning Opportunities

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# Student Update

## Personal Note:

- Looking ahead and into Senior year...
- Cross Country Captain
- My Experience with the SBAC

## School Level:

- Financial Literacy class
- Back to block days

## District Level:

- New Schedule to satisfy 1080 hours requirements

# Causes of Lost Learning Time

- ❑ Absenteeism
  - ❑ Appointments, Illness, Parent Discretion, Feeling Unsafe/Unwanted...  
et cetera
- ❑ Tardiness
  - ❑ Late start to class, interruption
- ❑ Testing
  - ❑ We've heard about it for months now
- ❑ Professional Development
- ❑ Discipline
  - ❑ Suspension, Expulsion

**The Focus?**

**Lost Learning Opportunities  
due to:  
Suspension**

# Education

ed·u·ca·tion

/,ejə'kāSH(ə)n/

*noun*

1. the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university.  
"a new system of public education"  
*synonyms:* teaching, schooling, tuition, tutoring, instruction, coaching, training, tutelage, guidance; [More](#)
2. an enlightening experience.  
"a day with those kids was an education in patience and forbearance"

# Education

- ❑ Why are we here?
  - ❑ Passion for all kids
    - ❑ Success
    - ❑ Happiness
    - ❑ Well being
  - ❑ Improve Washington's education system
    - ❑ Counsel about the best way forward

# Two True and Enduring Principles

- ❑ Every choice is followed by a consequence.
- ❑ With every right comes a responsibility.

**“No one can be above the law, because then everyone can be above the law. And if everyone is above the law then there is no law. If there is no law then there can be no punishment, and if there is no punishment then there can be no justice, and if there is no justice then there can be no sense of security. And without a sense of security then this place that we call the land of the free would cease to exist because we would fall into the captivity of our own fear. Fear of death, fear of violence, fear of what you yourself might do when there is no one, no thing out there to stop you.**

**The law is important and we must follow it... As citizens who live in this country, we are duty bound to abide by it as if it is a contract we have signed. A contract that was signed with the blood of our forefathers who fought so that we might live in freedom without fear of being told that we cannot live as we please, worship as we believe, and be who we were born to be.**

**However, in order to do these things, we must adhere to the laws that have been put into place, lest the law be no more and the land fall to chaos and destruction.**

**Oh how can we be free if we first do not obey?”**

**~Arizona Davis**



# Out of School Suspension

Reward or Punishment?  
Who is it punishment for?

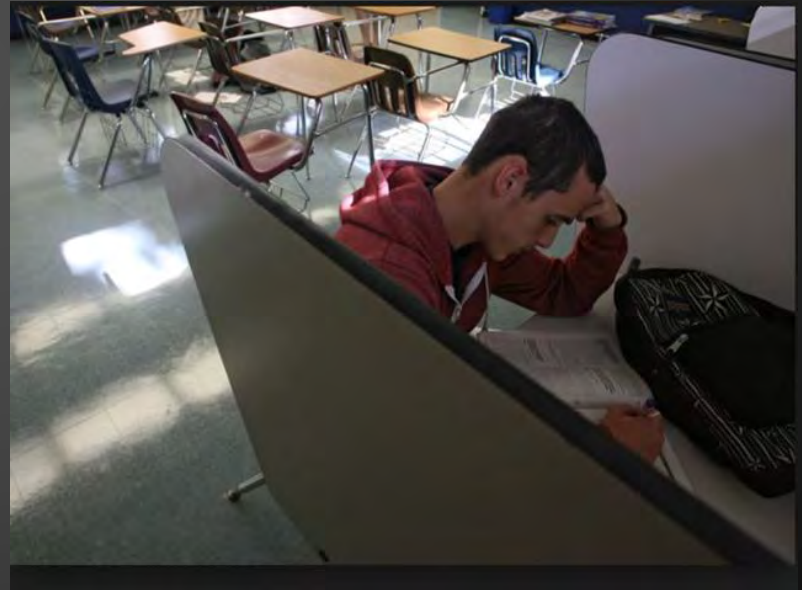


"The Principal suspended me —  
School is the only place in the  
world where you can get time  
off for *bad* behavior."



# In School Suspension

- ❑ Instructional time is lost from in-school suspension just like out-of-school suspension



# Who Does Suspension Affect?

- ❑ EVERYONE.

- ❑ New area of exploration suggests that suspensions also harm 'well behaved' students.

- ❑ Indirect consequences with exclusionary discipline
  - ❑ Suspending Progress: Collateral Consequences of Exclusionary Punishment in Public Schools
- ❑ Social Emotional Distractions
- ❑ Interruptions in learning
- ❑ Wariness and distrust of classmates

# Zero Tolerance Policies

- ❑ Instances of young kids suspended for making finger guns, drawing army men, playing 'cops and robbers' at recess
- ❑ Anyone in possession of anything remotely threatening
- ❑ Often takes children out of class for reasons that could be solved in other ways
- ❑ Punishments don't always fit the crimes

# The Flip Side

- ❑ School without discipline, dignity, and high expectations = chaos
- ❑ Kansas City experience where lack of discipline encouraged disrespect and teachers could not regain authority.
- ❑ Accountability is necessary and vital
- ❑ “It takes a village to raise a child.”

# How do we begin fixing this problem?

- ❑ There are better ways to discipline students than taking them out of class.
- ❑ Keep kids in class!
- ❑ Think outside the box, but keep it simple.
  - ❑ Social-Emotional Learning

# Good Work Already Being Done

- ❑ Appleseed Network - The Nonprofit Network of Public Interest Justice Centers
- ❑ Washington Appleseed - Helped pass ESSB 5946
  - ❑ Key points:
    - ❑ OSPI must develop and distribute rules to address changes in suspension and expulsion and due process requirements
    - ❑ Schools should make efforts to have suspended or expelled students return to the educational setting as soon as possible.

# Social Emotional Learning

- ❑ Create a Safe Environment
  - ❑ Assure parents and students of safe transportation
  - ❑ New York School District calls student homes when absent
    - ❑ Creates a feeling of importance
    - ❑ Equal opportunities for kids
- ❑ Cultural Competency
- ❑ Create a Productive Atmosphere



# Review On Major Points

- ❑ Who does it affect?
- ❑ Kids need care, not confinement
- ❑ Current discipline practices may punish minor behavior as seen in the zero tolerance policy
- ❑ Simplicity, common sense, and care is best
  - ❑ Each case is unique

Thank You!