



File JEA

### **ZERO TOLERANCE - OPERATIONAL DEFINITION**

The *Public Schools Act* [M.R. 468/88 (39)] gives the Division staff the authority and responsibility to maintain order and discipline in the school. This is accomplished by establishing a set of clearly understood expectations that are fair and reasonable, along with a series of consequences for those who choose not to follow the expectations. The consequences must be appropriate to the seriousness of the incident, while respecting the due process rights of all concerned.

Certain behaviours, if tolerated, would quickly destroy the type of learning environment to which the students and staff of the Division are entitled. These behaviours will not be tolerated and shall therefore result in immediate action being taken by the Division.

Each situation shall result in specific consequences, determined by the seriousness of the act, including consideration of expulsion from school for acts of a serious or chronic nature.

“Zero Tolerance” in the Portage la Prairie School Division is deemed to mean that all inappropriate behaviours by students will have a consequence. The consequence shall be appropriate for the student’s age, the seriousness of the incident, behavioural record, and disability, where applicable. Depending upon the circumstances, consequences may vary. These may include a meeting with the Teacher or Principal to discuss the matter all the way through to expulsion by the Board.

See also: JEH to JEM, AE, AF