

## Discipline Policy

We believe every disciplinary situation is unique in nature. Consequences for misbehavior provide the best learning value when matched to the unique student and the unique learning situation. The odds for children learning from their mistakes increase dramatically when children see a reasonable connection between their behavior and the resulting consequences.

1. We provide consistent boundaries for all the children allowing opportunities for them to process and problem-solve before a misbehavior occurs.
2. We model appropriate behavior for the children.
3. We encourage peaceful conflict resolution skills.
4. We create a caring classroom community that encourages success for each student.
5. We create positive student/teacher relationships.
6. We approach each child with empathy and understanding and provide them with choices that develop their independence.
7. We treat each child as a unique individual and respect his/her needs, desires and feelings.

The SVMS staff dedicates itself to following a set of core beliefs that provide a guide for dealing with student discipline. These core beliefs guide our attempts to individualize disciplinary procedures and to help students see reasonable connections between their behavior and the resulting consequences.

Since these core beliefs provide the guiding light for our professional decisions, the staff encourages parents to bring concerns and questions to us in the event that we operate in ways that appear to be inconsistent with these core beliefs.

### SVMS School Staff Core Beliefs

1. We believe that every attempt should be made to maintain the dignity of both the adult and the student.
2. We believe all students should be guided and expected to solve the problems they create without making problems for anyone else.
3. We believe that students should be given the opportunity to make decisions and live with the results, whether the consequences are good or bad.
4. We believe that misbehavior is an opportunity for greater learning and skill development.
5. We believe that students should have the opportunity to tell their side of the story.
6. We believe that misbehavior should be viewed as an opportunity for individual problem solving skills and preparation for the real world.
7. We believe that there should be a logical connection between misbehavior and resulting consequences.

Please sign the Discipline Policy Statement on the Signature page and return Signature Page to SVMS.

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