

LIONSGATE ACADEMY

907 PROHIBITION OF AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

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I. PURPOSE

Lionsgate Academy strives to provide safe, secure and respectful learning environments for all students in school buildings, on school grounds, school buses and at school-sponsored activities. Property destruction, like other disruptive or violent behavior, is conduct that interferes with a student's ability to learn and a teacher's ability to educate and detracts from the overall environment for all.

Lionsgate recognizes that some damage to property may occur in the normal course of the school day during instructional activities. However, when a student destroys or damages school property, not through accident or intended use, it is the policy of Lionsgate Academy to hold the family responsible for reasonable compensation in order to return the property to its state prior to the destruction.

The purpose of this policy is to inform the school community and the general public of the position of Lionsgate Academy on the prohibition of and accountability for destruction of property.

II. DEFINITIONS

Property shall include the following:

- **Structure:** Including but not limited to walls, carpet, lockers, doors, vents, ducts, water fountain
- **Technology:** Including, but not limited to: projectors, screens, televisions, computers, printers, copiers, monitors, phones
- **Equipment:** Including, but not limited to: whiteboards, filing cabinets, chairs, gym equipment, vans and buses (whether owned or contracted for)

Property Destruction is the rendering of any property by a student to a state where it is unusable (in the case of equipment and technology) or damaged so as to require repair to return the structure to its state of function or aesthetics prior to the property damage.

Accident: Property destruction that arises when a student, in the course of following adult direction and engaging in safe school behavior, in accordance with the student handbook, causes property to be damaged.

Reasonable Compensation: The cost to repair or replace the property utilizing available labor and materials, or replacing at a fair market value.

III. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. Lionsgate Academy will hold a student's family responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of property destruction caused by that student that is not considered an accident.
- B. The family will be notified within 48 hours by e-mail if Lionsgate is going to pursue reasonable compensation for property destruction. At that point, families and school can negotiate next steps to repair damage.
- C. Once the repair is made, a letter will be sent to the family detailing the events leading to the property destruction. Lionsgate will include an itemized list of repairs and their cost with an invoice.
- D. The executive director reserves the right to approve a course of restorative justice that may lessen or eliminate the debt.
- E. If prompt payment for the property destruction is not made, Lionsgate Academy may elect to collect the compensation through means including, but not limited to, a judgment obtained through small claims court and/or a collection agency.
- F. A family may appeal the responsibility for property damage to the board of directors at a regular meeting. The board will vote to uphold or overturn the accountability of the family by a majority vote.