

FUMC Youth Ministry

Discipline Policies

There are good reasons why policies and rules have to be established. They create boundaries to help us know what is and is not appropriate. Usually common sense dictates such boundaries. Most of our rules could be summed up by saying: *Respect everyone and don't do anything stupid*. If you have a question about what is and is not stupid, just ask! In all seriousness our rules have reasons and you're welcome to question those reasons at any time. Sometimes there are liability issues you haven't even thought about that dictate our rules. Sometimes our attempt to "model" what Christian community should look like dictates our rules.

Expectations in the Classrooms or in church

1. We expect students to respect adults and one another. We expect our adults to respect students.
2. We expect students to obey adult leaders. Questioning leaders is OK, disobeying them is not.
3. Non-Christian students typically act and talk and sometimes dress like they don't have a relationship with God. We're OK with that, that's what we expect from them. We expect professing Christian students to try to be an example of Jesus in all they do. Please be aware of how non-Christians perceive your actions, such as passing notes or talking or sleeping in worship.
4. We expect some wear and tear on equipment and furniture. That's what happens when stuff is used. However, we can't afford irresponsible and excessive *abuse* of property.

Road Trip Rules (not necessarily limited to Road Trips)

1. Respect adult leaders, respect college leaders, respect one another & respect strangers at all times.
2. Ride with authorized drivers (provided transportation) unless permission has been given. Don't assume you can drive your own car to an event.
3. Damage to property will come out of your piggy bank.
4. Insults tear us apart rather than build us up. Don't do it! See #1.
5. Public displays of affection should be limited to holding hands. Dr. Seuss says; "don't lay all over one another on the bus or on a boat or in the van or on dry land!" Get the idea?
6. On all trips and events, we want each person to have a positive, spiritual experience. Make your choices and select activities with this in mind. Do not cause another brother or sister to stumble.

How do we handle rule breakers? We will always try to show respect in disciplining students. Most of the time a student will be dealt with privately rather than in front of other students. Parents will be informed of the student's behavior depending on the severity or repetition of the offense. In a case where a student's behavior disrupts the learning of other students or endangers them in any way, the offending student will be removed. We will take seriously matters of the law. We will not hesitate to call law enforcement authorities when warranted. In such cases, parents will be notified as soon as possible after appropriate intervention has taken place. Just for clarification: If you do something illegal-we'll call the police first and then parents!