

Dismissal Policy and Procedures:

Sarasota Academy of the Arts is an open enrollment public charter school. It is, however, like all charter schools, a school of choice requiring an application process, an enrollment lottery if applications exceed enrollment capacity, and a parent/student contract specifying the policies and disciplinary procedures of the school.

Students may be dismissed from SAA and returned to their districted schools for:

1. Repeated violations of the parent contract.
2. Repeated serious violations of the SAA Code of Student Conduct resulting in In-School or Out-of-School Suspensions.

Reasonable interventions including student conferences, parent conferences, behavior contracts, probations, etc. will be implemented prior to a student being recommended for dismissal. All recommendations for dismissal will be subject to approval by the SAA Governing Board.

Student/Parent Grievances

In the event there is a concern that is not resolved through parent/teacher communication, the parent or student may appeal to the administration which will conduct a thorough investigation and make a determination in the best interest of the student. At no time should the dispute be allowed to escalate to a level where other parents/students are involved or affected.

If necessary, following the investigation, the following steps should be utilized:

1. Make an appointment via email or telephone with the administration to set a conference with the parties (parent and teacher)
2. The administration will schedule a conference within 48 hours.
3. The administration will render a decision regarding the issue.
4. If an acceptable resolution cannot be reached, the parent can appeal to the Governing Board through a formal letter of complaint and/or conference with the parent liaison who has been appointed by the Governing Board. The current parent liaison is Donna Scofield (dscofield@sarasotaacademyofthearts.com) who can be reached through email or by leaving a message at 941-377-2278.

Because the teachers/staff of SAA are employees of the SAA Governing Board and not Sarasota County Schools, parents should go through the above steps before contacting the Charter School department at the School Board office.

At no time may a parent address a student other than their own child or another parent about a conflict on school grounds without an administrative staff member present.