

STUDENT DISCIPLINE OUT-OF-SCHOOL ACTIONS

The Board recognizes that out-of-school conduct of students attending school within this district is not normally a concern of the Board. However, the Board believes that disciplinary action for conduct occurring off school property and not involving a school activity is proper if the conduct has an adverse effect upon the school.

Therefore, it is the policy of the Board that any student attending school, within this District will be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension from school for any conduct that, in the opinion of the school administrators, has an adverse impact upon the school.

Such activity includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Damaging school property, e.g. a school bus;
2. Engaging in an activity which causes physical or emotional harm to other students, teachers, or other school personnel;
3. Engage in activity which directly impedes discipline at school or the general welfare of school activities.

Conduct specifically prohibited shall include, but not be limited to, habitual truancy, verbal or physical abuse toward any student or faculty or staff member, disobedience of reasonable demands of staff or faculty members, distribution, consumption, possession of controlled drugs and/or alcoholic beverages on school property or at school functions, disrupting classroom atmosphere, impeding classroom decorum, causing disturbances with the educational process, disrupting the disciplinary process, so as to interfere with the educational process, disrupting the disciplinary process, and violation of other policies and rules (drugs and alcohol, dangerous weapons, etc.)

- A. Suspensions of not more than ten (10) days may be made by the Superintendent (or his representative as designated in writing) individually. Prior to such suspension the person ordering the suspension must, orally or in writing, inform the student and their parent/guardian of the charges against him/her and provide him/her with an opportunity to refute or explain the charges. If the student refutes the charge(s), evidence of the misconduct shall be related to the student.
- B. Suspension of from six (6) to twenty (20) days may be made by the Superintendent (or his representative as designated in writing) provided that the parent or guardian may appeal such suspension to the School Board.
- C. Suspensions of more than twenty days may be made by the Superintendent (or his representative as designated in writing) only if approved by the School Board.
- D. Expulsions may be made only by the School Board after written notice to the student and their parent/guardian of his/her gross misconduct or his/her neglect or refusal to conform to the rules or regulations of the school. Such expulsions occur only after a hearing by the Board. Expulsions are subject to review not less than one month prior to the start of the next school year, and may be appealed to the State Board of Education by the parent or guardian of the expelled student.

Before any suspension of more than ten days or any expulsion may be made, except as provided for below, the student and their parent/guardian must be informed in writing of the charges against him/her, and a hearing scheduled before the person making the suspension (or before the School Board if appealed to or required to be approved by it) at which the student shall be permitted to be represented by counsel at his/her expense, or refute any charges or evidence against him/her, offer evidence, explanations or mitigating circumstances, cross-examine witnesses and call witnesses of his/her own.

Mrs. Norma Joy, Chairperson
Mrs. Bonnie Cyr
Mr. Relf Fogg
Mr. Robert Ouellette
Mr. Stephen Brown

Adopted by the Board: 22 August 1989
Revised by the Board: 9 October 1995
Reaffirmed by the Board: 7 August 1998
Revised by the Board: 21 March 2001
Revised by the Board: 1 April 2015

This requirement for prior hearing shall not apply where the student's presence poses a threat to persons, property or the functioning of the educational process, and the student may be immediately suspended or expelled, provided that written notice be mailed to the student and their parent/guardian within one school day of such suspension or expulsion, such notice stating the charges and the evidence, and that a hearing provided for above, is scheduled within five school days of such suspension or expulsion.

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