

Suspension

A student may be suspended from school as provided by Education law #3214(3), for the following reasons:

- Insubordination or disorderly student conduct that otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.
- A student's physical or mental condition that endangers the health, safety, or morals of himself/herself or of other students.

The Board of Education and/or the Superintendent of Schools may suspend a student. Principals as designated by this policy may suspend a student for a maximum period of five days for a given infraction.

Suspensions should be accomplished only after careful and thorough consideration and evaluation of all factors related to the welfare of the child and the welfare of the children and/or faculty and staff in school with whom he/she is associated. Except under emergency circumstances, suspensions are the last resort.

In no case should student be suspended by the principal without direct contact with the parent of the child. When a student is suspended for five days or less, the parents have the right to request an informal conference with the principal. After the initial contact, a follow-up letter giving the reasons for suspension should be sent. Home instruction will be immediately initiated. A follow-up conference is also strongly recommended.

Principal may not suspend students for more than 5 days for a given infraction. A suspended student must be returned to school commencing with the sixth (6) school day. The Superintendent should be routinely notified of a suspension via phone contact and a copy of the principal's letter of suspension sent to parents.

Suspensions of more than 5 days require action by the Superintendent. No pupil shall be suspended in excess of five (5) school days, unless there is an opportunity for a formal hearing upon reasonable notice with the right to representation by counsel.

Suspension of Handicapped Pupils

All special education students will follow the rules established by the Board of education for Discipline and suspension with the following modifications;

1. A disabled student may not be suspended for behavior which is typical of this or her particular handicapping condition. Principals should confer with the Chairperson of CSE prior to suspending a disabled child if there is doubt about whether the behavior is related to a handicap.
2. Where the student is a clear and present danger to himself/herself or to other students, the student may be suspended. All procedures of this policy must be followed. In addition, the chairperson of the Committee on the Special Education should be informed and a written memorandum must follow.
3. If a special education student is suspended for a total of 10 days, the student is immediately referred to the CSE for a review of services and/or placement.

(Revised 1/96)