

SUSPENSION OF STUDENTS

The Board delegates to the principals the authority to suspend disobedient and disorderly students in grade six and above for a period not to exceed ten (10) school days. Suspensions may be in-school or out-of-school at the discretion of the principal. Suspensions longer than 10 days may be imposed by the Board.

Students in grade 5 or below may not be given an out-of-school suspension except when a student has violated the federal Gun-Free Schools Act or presents an imminent danger of serious physical injury to the student or others, and it is determined that less restrictive interventions would be ineffective. Any suspension of a student in grade five or below cannot be longer than three school days.

Prior to the suspension, except as indicated below:

- A. The student shall be given oral or written notice of the charge(s) against them;
- B. The student shall be given an explanation of the evidence forming the basis for the charge(s); and

The student shall be given an opportunity to present their version of the incident.

Students whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the instructional process may be immediately removed from school. In such cases, the notice of charges, explanation of evidence, and the student's opportunity to present their version of the incident, shall be arranged as soon as practicable after removal of the student from school.

The student's parents or guardians shall be notified of any in-school or out-of-school suspension as soon as practicable by telephone (if possible) and by written notice sent by mail. A copy of the notice shall also be sent to the Superintendent.

Students are not allowed on school property or to attend any school events during any out-of-school suspension except with the prior authorization of the principal or Superintendent.

The parents or guardians and the student shall be required to schedule a conference with the building administrator or designee within the suspension period and prior to readmittance to school.

Students shall be responsible for any schoolwork missed during their suspension. After readmittance, they shall be permitted to take tests, quizzes or any other form of evaluation affecting their grades.

Students serving out-of-school or in-school suspension will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA §§ 1001(9), (15-A)(D)

Cross Reference: JIC – Student Code of Conduct
JICIA – Weapons, Violence and School Safety
JICK - Bullying
JK - Student Discipline
JKE - Expulsion of Students
JKF –Disciplinary Removal of Students with Disabilities

Adopted: November 6, 2003

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