

Suspension of Students

NEPN/NSBA Code: JKD

The School Committee delegates to the Superintendent/designee the authority to suspend disobedient and disorderly students in grade six (6) and above for a period not to exceed ten (10) school days. Suspensions longer than 10 days may be imposed by the Committee. Any discussion, consideration, or hearing by the Committee about suspensions shall be held in executive session.

Students in grade five (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 (5) or below cannot be longer than three (3) school days.

Prior to the suspension, except as hereinafter provided:

- A. The student shall be given oral or written notice of the charge(s);
- B. The student shall be given an explanation of the evidence forming the basis for the charge(s); and
- C. The student shall be given an opportunity to present their version of the incident.

However, 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/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 text, mail, or email. A copy of the notice shall be retained by the Superintendent.

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

The parents/guardians and the student shall be required to schedule a conference with the teacher (and Superintendent, if necessary) 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 school sponsored activities or trips.

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: 04/28/08 by J. Boegel, M. Chioffi, & J. Stevens

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