

The School Committee delegates to the Superintendent/designee the authority to suspend disobedient and disorderly students 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.

Prior to the suspension, except as hereinafter provided:

- A. The student shall be given oral or written notice of the charge(s) against him/her;
- 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 his/her 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 his/her version of the incident shall be arranged as soon as practicable after removal of the student from school.

Under unusual and grave conditions, the superintendent can suspend a student from school if the student is summoned to court for a crime in the community that would constitute a felony indictment and/or detention if perpetrated as an adult. In such dire circumstances, the superintendent is exercising due diligence to balance the rights of that child that is summoned with the responsibility to retain good order and discipline within the school.

The student's parents/guardians shall be notified of the suspension as soon as practicable by telephone (if possible) and by written notice sent by mail, fax or email. A copy of the notice shall be retained by the Superintendent.

The parents/guardians and the student may be required to schedule a conference with the teacher 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.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRS § 1001.9

Cross Reference: JICIA – Weapons, Violence and School Safety
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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