

SUSPENSION OF STUDENTS

The Board delegates to the principals the authority to suspend disobedient and disorderly students, in grade 6 and above for a period not to exceed ten (10) school days. Suspensions longer than 10 days may be imposed by the Board.

Students in grade five or below may not receive 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 can be no longer than three school days.

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.

The student's parents/guardians shall be notified of any suspension, 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 during any out-of-school suspension except with the prior authorization of the principal or Superintendent.

The parents/guardians and the student shall be required to schedule a conference with the building administrator/designee within the suspension period and prior to re-admittance to school.

Students shall be responsible for any school work missed during their suspension. After re-admittance, they shall be permitted to take tests, quizzes or any other form of evaluation affecting their grades.

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

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