

## SUSPENSION OF STUDENTS

The Board delegates to the principals the authority to suspend disobedient and disorderly students 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. The Board may impose suspensions longer than 10 days.

Students in grade five 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 hereinafter provided:

- 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
- 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, not to exceed five student days, 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 mail and by email, if possible. In the event a parent/guardian is not available, the student will not be released until an emergency contact or suitable adult is notified. 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. Students serving out-of-school suspensions shall not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities.

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 assigned to in-school suspensions are expected to work on assignments from classroom teachers, remain in the in-school suspension location throughout the school day, and follow

school expectations for conduct. Students serving in-school suspension shall 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 – Suspension/Expulsion of Students with Disabilities

Adopted: March 24, 2010

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