

STUDENTS

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES - SUSPENSION

The Superintendent, Principals, and Assistant Principals are authorized to suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct reasonably related to school or school activities. The Superintendent, Principals, and Assistant Principals are also authorized to suspend students who are guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct on the school bus from riding the school bus.

In-School Suspension

The Superintendent, Principals, or Assistant Principals are authorized to maintain an in-school suspension program. The program shall include, at a minimum, each of the following:

1. Before assigning a student to in-school suspension, the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges.
2. Students are supervised by licensed school personnel.
3. Students are given the opportunity to complete classroom work during the in-school suspension for equivalent academic credit.

Out-of-School-Suspension

Out-of-school suspensions of 3 school days or less may be imposed if the student's continuing presence in school would pose a threat to school safety or a disruption to other students' learning opportunities.

Unless otherwise required by law, out-of-school suspensions of longer than 3 school days may be imposed if:

1. Other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions have been exhausted, and
2. The student's continuing presence in school would either:
 - a. Pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community, or
 - b. Substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operation of the school.

Suspended students will have the opportunity to make up work missed during the suspension for equivalent academic credit.

Suspended students will engage in a reintegration meeting with licensed staff following the suspension.

The Superintendent, Principals, or Assistant Principals shall implement suspension procedures that provide, at a minimum, for each of the following:

1. A conference during which the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges before he or she may be suspended.

STUDENTS

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2. A pre-suspension conference is not required, and the student can be immediately suspended when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. In such cases, the notice and conference shall follow as soon as practicable.
3. An attempted phone call to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).
4. A written notice of the suspension to the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student, which shall:
 - a. Provide notice to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their child's right to a review of the suspension;
 - b. Include information about an opportunity to make up work missed during the suspension for equivalent academic credit;
 - c. Detail the specific act of gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in the decision to suspend;
 - d. Provide a rationale to the specific duration of the suspension; and
 - e. Depending upon the length of the out-of-school suspension, include the following applicable information:
 - i. For a suspension of 4 or more school days: information as to whether other interventions were attempted or whether it was determined that there were no other appropriate and available interventions.
 - ii. For a suspension of 5 or more school days: information as to whether appropriate and available support services are to be provided, or whether it was determined that there are no such appropriate and available services.
5. A summary of the notice, including the reason for the suspension and the suspension length, must be given to the Board by the Superintendent, Principals, or Assistant Principals.
6. Upon request of the parent(s)/guardian(s), a review of the suspension shall be conducted by the Board or a hearing officer appointed by the Board. At the review, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may appear and discuss the suspension with the Board or its hearing officer and may be represented by counsel. Whenever there is evidence that mental illness may be the cause for the suspension, the Superintendent, Principals, or Assistant Principals shall invite a representative from the Department of Human Services to consult with the Board. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall take such action as it finds appropriate.

LEGAL REF.: Illinois School Code, (105 ILCS 5/10-22.6

Goss v. Lopez, 95 S. Ct. 729 (1975).

Sieck v. Oak Park River-forest High School, 807 F.Supp. 73 (N.D. Ill., E.D., 1992)

CROSS REF.: 710.01 and 715.01

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