

STUDENT SUSPENSION

The Superintendent, principals, assistant principals, and other designated administrators may suspend a student from school for disciplinary reasons outlined in the student code of conduct. A student cannot be suspended from school solely because of unexcused absences. No period of suspension is for more than 10 school days. If, at the time a suspension is imposed, fewer than 10 days remain in the school year, the Superintendent cannot apply any or all of the period of suspension to the following year.

The Superintendent may instead require a student to perform community service or another alternative consequence for the number of hours remaining in the student's suspension. The Board directs the Superintendent to develop a list of alternative consequences that may be used. If the student is required to perform community service or another alternative consequence during the summer, he/she will be required to begin serving the consequence during the first full weekday of summer break. If a student fails to complete the community service or assigned alternative consequence, the Superintendent may determine the next course of action, but still cannot require the student to serve the remaining time of the out-of-school suspension at the beginning of the following school year.

Whenever possible, principals will consult with a mental health professional under contract with the District or school when suspending a student in grades pre-K through three. If needed, the principal or mental health professional will assist the student's parent in locating additional mental health services.

The District permits students to complete any classroom assignments missed due to suspension.

The guidelines listed below are followed for all out-of-school suspensions.

1. The student is informed in writing of the potential suspension and the reasons for the proposed action.
2. The student is provided an opportunity for an informal hearing to challenge the reason for the intended suspension and explain his/her actions.
3. An attempt is made to notify the parent(s) by telephone if a suspension is issued.
4. Within one school day, a letter is sent to the parent(s) stating the specific reasons for the suspension and including notice of the right to appeal such action.
5. Notice of this suspension is sent to the:
 - a. Superintendent and
 - b. student's school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record).
6. Permanent Exclusion - If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, the notice contains that information.

Appeal Procedure

Should a student or a student's parent(s) choose to appeal the principal's suspension, he/she must do so within 10 calendar days of the notice of suspension. The appeal shall be in writing and made to the Superintendent. If dissatisfied with the Superintendent's decision, an appeal may be made to the Board. At the request of the student or of the student's parent(s) or attorney, the meeting may be held in executive session. All witnesses are sworn and a verbatim record is kept of the hearing. The decision of the Board shall be acted upon at a public meeting. The student may be excluded from school during the appeal process.

Appeal to the Court

Under State law, appeal of the Board's or its designee's decision may be made to the Court of Common Pleas.

[Adoption date: October 20, 1993]

Revised: April 16, 1997
 July 21, 1999
 March 15, 2017
 December 19, 2018

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.662; 3313.668

CROSS REFS.: IGCI, Community Service
 JEGA, Permanent Exclusion
 JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
 JFCEA, Gangs
 JFCF, Hazing and Bullying (Harassment, Intimidation, and Dating Violence)
 JFCJ, Weapons in the Schools
 JG, Student Discipline
 JGE, Student Expulsion