

NEPN/NSBA FILE: JKD 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. Suspensions longer than 10 days may be imposed by the Board. The Board recognizes that suspensions of any length constitute significant disruptions to a student's learning. Alternatives to suspension should be preferred whenever possible. Alternatives to suspension could include, but are not limited to problem-solving, restitution and restoration, skills instruction, counseling, and behavior planning.

1. Student/Parent Notification and Investigation Guidelines

Prior to the suspension, except as hereinafter provided:

- A. There will be a full formal investigation conducted to gather all facts involved in the incident. Students and Parents will be made aware of the intent to investigate, reason(s) for the initial investigation, and will be updated throughout the investigation process. Length of time to conduct investigations may vary, but will not exceed 1 week.
- B. The student shall be given an opportunity to present their version of the incident.
- C. The student shall be given an explanation of the evidence forming the basis for the charge(s)
- D. The student shall be given oral or written notice of the charge(s) against them.

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, the explanation of evidence, and the student's opportunity to present their version of the incident will be arranged as soon as practicable after removal of the student from school.

2. Parental Notification

The student's parents/guardians shall be notified of any in-school or out-of-school suspension as soon as practical by email electronically or by telephone (if possible) and by written notice sent by mail. A copy of the notice shall also be sent to the Office of the Superintendent.

3. Student Suspension Requirements/Bans

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 or in-school suspension shall not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities sponsored by the district, as provided in policy JICl.

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

4. Re-admittance- School administration, faculty, and student support staff shall collaborate with the student and family to create a re-entry plan that helps address underlying problems, restore relationships, prevent recurrence, and maintain the safety, health, and academic and social-emotional well-being of the student and the school community.

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

DATE ADOPTED: July 1, 2003

DATE REVISED: January 20, 2011; February 14, 2013; June 16, 2025