

## **SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION**

### **Background**

Teachers stand “in loco parentis” when pupils are in the charge of teachers, or other officials of the school district during classes, during extra-curricular activities that are under school sponsorship, during conveyance by school or chartered buses, or during any time whatsoever when a student is in school or on school premises. To ensure a satisfactory climate for learning, rules and regulations must be observed by students and that teachers and principals must be empowered to enforce those rules and regulations.

The suspension or expulsion of a student is deemed to be a serious measure to be invoked when other measures have proved to be ineffective or when the seriousness of the offence warrants such action.

The Board delegates the authority to expel students or to approve conditions of re-enrollment to the Student Discipline Committee of the Board.

### **Procedures**

1. The School Act requires that students shall reasonably comply with the following code of conduct:
  - 1.1 Be diligent in pursuing their studies;
  - 1.2 Attend school regularly and punctually;
  - 1.3 Cooperate fully with everyone authorized by the Board to provide education programs and other services;
  - 1.4 Comply with the rules of the school;
  - 1.5 Account to their teachers for their conduct; and
  - 1.6 Respect the rights of others.
2. Students who do not reasonably comply with the code of conduct are liable to suspension and expulsion.
3. The reasons for suspension must rest mainly on the discretion of the teacher and the Principal, both of whom are to take into account the circumstances under which the student commits the offence. The following items may be considered as reasons for suspension, but this listing shall not be considered either complete or so prescriptive as to require that suspension follow when a student commits the offence:
  - 3.1 Open opposition to the authority of the teacher, Principal, school or District;

- 3.2 Willful disobedience over a prolonged period or in a single instance where the disobedience endangers the students, teacher, building, or general climate of orderly behaviour;
  - 3.3 Habitual neglect to do work that is assigned to the student and which is within his or her competence to complete;
  - 3.4 Profane or indecent language in the presence of other students or staff;
  - 3.5 Threats of physical violence or acts of violence against a teacher or a student;
  - 3.6 Any act of indecency;
  - 3.7 Failure to observe and to obey any reasonable rule, regulation, or procedure established by the teacher or by the Principal for maintaining a climate of behaviour conducive to learning;
  - 3.8 Willful or malicious damage to school property or equipment; and/or
  - 3.9 Misuse of drugs or alcohol.
4. In accordance with the School Act, the Superintendent sets forth the following procedures for suspending or expelling a student:
- 4.1 A teacher may suspend a student from one (1) class, but the suspension must be immediately reported to the Principal.
  - 4.2 A Principal may suspend a student from class, from school, or from riding on a school bus for a period not exceeding five (5) school days, in which case the Principal shall immediately inform the student's parent of the suspension and report in writing to the student's parent, the circumstances of the suspension. The Principal may refer the suspension to the Superintendent.
  - 4.3 If, in the opinion of the Principal, the suspension ought to exceed five (5) school days, the full circumstances of the suspension and the recommendations of the Principal in respect to it, shall be immediately reported, in writing, to the Superintendent.
  - 4.4 On receipt of a recommendation from the Principal that a suspended student not be reinstated within five (5) school days, the Superintendent will refer the matter to the Student Discipline Committee or reinstate the student.

Approved: June 14, 2018

Reference: Section 12, 14, 16.2, 18, 20, 24, 25, 45, 45.1, 60, 61, 113, 123, 124, 125 School Act  
Review by the Minister – Information Bulletin 3.5.1  
Policy 13 – Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters