

SUSPENSION

Recognizing its obligation to provide educational opportunities for all school age young people in MSAD #56, the Board of Directors believes that the powers of suspension should be used as infrequently as is practicable to maintain a safe and educationally sound environment in MSAD #56.

Students shall be suspended only in accordance with regulations established by the Superintendent of Schools. Principals are authorized, subject to regulations established by the Superintendent, to suspend students up to a maximum of ten (10) school days for infractions of school rules.

The principal may consider the following as infractions of school rules and may authorize the suspension of a student upon being satisfied that:

1. A student exhibits conduct or behavior that constitutes willful disregard of school regulations, discipline policies, or other standards or requirements.
2. A student refuses to obey a proper and lawful instruction or admonition.
3. The suspension is for the general welfare of the school, or for the peace and usefulness of the school.
4. The student's act adversely affects the school's objectives.

These rules and policies apply to any student who is on school property, who is in attendance at school or at any school sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operations, discipline, or general welfare of the school.

Students shall be accorded minimal due process and given a reasonable opportunity to present their side of the issue prior to suspension. The student and the student's parents shall be notified of the suspension and the reason(s) for such suspension in a timely and appropriate manner.

An identified exceptional student shall not be suspended for misconduct related in any way to the student's exceptionality. The student's pupil evaluation team shall make the determination that the misconduct in question is not related in any way to the student's exceptionality.

The district shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws governing suspension of exceptional students.

For purposes of this rule, out-of-school suspension is a temporary discontinuation of all school services and the removal from school grounds and facilities for a period of 1 to 10 days when ordered by authorized school personnel for disciplinary reasons. An in-school suspension is the temporary discontinuation of regular school services for a period of 1 to 10 days when authorized by school personnel for disciplinary reasons.

The Superintendent or a designee shall ensure that procedures are developed and implemented to assist administrators in responding appropriately to misconduct by exceptional students.

Legal Ref: Title 20-A MRS Section 1001

ADOPTED: April 8, 1986

REVISED: June 14, 1993
January 12, 1999
March 22, 2005