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502.3 Suspensions and Expulsions

Policy

The Board recognizes the role of discipline in creating a safe, caring and respectful learning environment. While ideally students are in regular attendance at school, the Board acknowledges that there are times when a student needs a reflective opportunity to learn from experience, needs to have support structures put in place, or there is consideration for the safety of others. As a result, a student may be suspended or expelled.

The Board acknowledges the role of suspension and expulsion of a student, in response to a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, when:

1. other means of corrective action have failed to bring about orderly or appropriate conduct on the part of the student; or
2. the student's misconduct is so severe that lesser corrective action would be insufficient.

A suspension or expulsion shall be used in response to:

1. excessive, persistent or chronic disobedience or disregard of District or school rules;
2. conduct which endangers the safety of students and/or staff;
3. illegal possession and/or misuse of controlled substances; or
4. conduct which is injurious to the moral tone of the school, whether or not the conduct occurs within the school building or during the school day.

Regulations

Suspension

1. A suspension shall be defined as a temporary prohibition, instituted by a principal or a teacher under section 24 of the School Act, of a student from attending a class, course, school activity, school, or from riding on school authorized transit for a period of 10 school days or less.
 - 1.1. A teacher may suspend a student from one class period.
 - 1.2. The principal may suspend a student
 - 1.2.1. from school;



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- 1.2.2. from one or more class periods, courses or education programs;
- 1.2.3. from participation in school sponsored activities; or
- 1.2.4. from school authorized transit.
- 1.3. Parents shall be informed in writing regarding the circumstances of an out of school suspension, and parents, or the student if he or she is over 16 years of age, must be provided an opportunity to meet with the principal to discuss the reasonableness of the suspension.
- 1.4. The principal may at any time reinstate a student suspended under clause 1.1 or 1.2.
- 1.5. The principal shall reinstate the student within 5 school days or provide a written recommendation to the Superintendent for an expulsion. The student remains suspended until the Board has made a decision in regards to the expulsion.

Expulsion

1. An expulsion shall be defined as a prohibition, instituted by the Board in accordance with section 25 of the School Act, of a student from a class, course, educational program, school, school activity or from riding school authorized transit for more than 10 days.
2. The Board may make the decision to expel if:
 - 2.1. the principal has recommended that the Board expel the student; and
 - 2.2. the student has been offered another education program by the Board.
3. An Expulsion Committee shall consist of:
 - 3.1. two Trustees of the Board; and
 - 3.2. a school administrator appointed by the Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services.
4. An expulsion hearing shall be facilitated by the Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services within 10 school days after the date of the suspension
 - 4.1. Before the Expulsion Committee makes a decision to reinstate or expel the student, the student and the students' parents/guardians may make representations to the Expulsion Committee with respect to the principal's recommendation to expel the student.
5. A suspension or expulsion shall not deny a student's legal right to access an education.
 - 5.1. The Expulsion Committee may establish parameters regarding the circumstances in which an expelled student may be re-enrolled.



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6. The Board shall be informed of the results of each expulsion hearing.
 - 6.1. The student shall not be named.
 - 6.2. The Board may re-enroll a student who has been expelled.

7. When a student is expelled under this section, the Board shall notify, in writing, the student's parent/guardian and the student if he or she is 16 years of age or older,
 - 7.1. of the expulsion, and
 - 7.2. of the right to request a review under section 124 of the School Act.

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to develop the procedures necessary to implement this policy.

References

Alberta School Act:	8, 12, 16, 24, 25 , 60(1)(e), 61, 124
District Policies:	500.1 Rights and Responsibilities, 501.1 Attendance at School, 502.1 Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments, 505.9 Appeals