

## STUDENT SUSPENSION

The Superintendent/designee, principals, assistant principals and other 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/designee cannot apply any or all of the period of suspension to the following year.

The Superintendent/designee 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.

Beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, the District will reduce the number of out-of-school suspensions for non-serious offenses, as defined by State law, for students in grades pre-K through three in accordance with State law. Such out-of-school suspensions will be eliminated by the 2021-2022 school year.

Whenever possible, principals will consult with a mental health professional under contract with the District or school prior to 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. Students will receive at least partial credit upon completion of any assignment missed due to suspension. The Board directs the Superintendent to develop written procedures for completing and grading these assignments. Grade reductions are permitted, but students will not receive a failing grade on a completed assignment solely due to the student's 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;
  - B. student's school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record) and
  - C. and other staff involved.
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 suspension, he/she must do so within three school days of receipt of the notice of suspension. The Board of Education appoints the superintendent/designee to hear all suspension appeals. All witnesses are sworn and a verbatim record is kept of the hearing which may be held in executive session at the request of the student or his/her parent(s). 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: August 14, 2001]  
[Re-adoption date: November 11, 2003]  
[Re-adoption date: April 12, 2005]  
[Re-adoption date: May 11, 2015]  
[Re-adoption date: April 25, 2016]  
[Re-adoption date: April 17, 2017]  
[Re-adoption date: July 5, 2017]  
[Re-adoption date: May 13, 2019]  
[Re-adoption date: February 10, 2020]

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  
JGA, Corporal Punishment  
JGDA, Emergency Removal of Student  
JGE, Student Expulsion  
Student Handbook