

Student Conduct

Inappropriate student conduct that causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment interferes with the rights of others, or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors on school premises is prohibited. Students are expected to maintain appropriate classroom behavior that allows teachers and staff to perform their professional duties effectively and without disruption.

Students will conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others while on school property or property within the jurisdiction of the school; while on school-owned and/or operated school or chartered vehicles; and/or while attending or engaged in school activities. Additionally, students may be disciplined for off-campus conduct in accordance with the provisions of the Out-of-School Actions Policy. Consequences for the misconduct will be fair and developmentally appropriate in light of the circumstances. Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be disciplined for conduct that disrupts or interferes with the education program; conduct that disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school or school activity; conduct that disrupts the rights of other students to participate in or obtain their education; conduct that is violent or destructive; or conduct which interrupts the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere.

Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to:

- verbal correction and redirection
- removal from the classroom
- education to promote behavioral growth and personal accountability
- expecting the student to make a formal apology
- loss of privileges
- parent meeting
- act of service to the school community
- lunch or after-school detention
- in- or out-of-school suspension
- probation
- expulsion.

A student who commits an assault against a student, employee, or visitor on school property or property within the jurisdiction of the school, while on school-owned or school-operated chartered vehicles, while attending or engaged in school activities will be

suspended by the School Director or designee for an initial period not to exceed ten (10) school days with notification provided to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees. For this policy, “assault” will mean an assault as defined in New Hampshire RSA 631 and related statutes.

The Director will immediately report all assault incidents to the local law enforcement authority. The Director will make such a report immediately, by telephone or otherwise, and follow it within 48 hours with a written report. If the alleged victim is a student, the principal shall also immediately notify the person responsible for the victim's welfare, as defined in RSA 169-C:3, XXII, that a report was made to the local law enforcement authority.

Definitions

1. Removal from the classroom: This occurs when a student is sent to the School Director’s office. The person in charge of the classroom has the discretion to remove the student.

2. Detention occurs when the student's presence is required before, during, or after non-school hours for disciplinary action. The School Director is authorized to establish guidelines or protocols for when detention should be served before, during, or after school. Whether a student will serve detention and the length of the detention is within the discretion of the Principal or the Principal’s designees.

3. Suspension: Suspensions may include in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, and a restriction from activities or loss of eligibility. An in-school suspension means the student will attend school but temporarily be isolated from one or more classes under supervision. An in-school suspension will not exceed ten (10) consecutive school days. An out-of-school suspension means the student is removed from the school environment, which includes school classes and activities. An out-of-school suspension will not exceed ten (10) days. A restriction from school activities means a student will attend classes and practice but not participate in school activities.

4. Probation: a conditional suspension of a penalty for a definite period in addition to being reprimanded. The conditional suspension means the student must meet the conditions and terms for the suspension of the penalty. Failure to meet these conditions and terms will result in immediate reinstatement of the penalty.

5. Expulsion: an action by the Board to remove a student from the school environment, which includes, but is not limited to, classes and activities for a period set by the Board.

Any student involved in a proceeding that may result in suspension, exclusion, or expulsion will be afforded due process in accordance with all applicable laws. Students expelled from school may be reinstated by the Board.

Following the suspension of a student receiving special education services, an informal evaluation of the student's placement will occur. The Individual Education Program (IEP) will be evaluated to determine whether it needs to be changed or modified in response to the behavior that led to the suspension.

If a special education student's cumulative suspension in or out of school equals ten (10) days, a staffing team will meet to determine whether the IEP is appropriate. The school Director is responsible for developing administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Students with Section 504 Plans shall also have disciplinary action over ten (10) days following all federal and state laws. If a student with a disability and a Section 504 plan is recommended for a long-term suspension, a manifestation meeting shall be convened. If the Section 504 Team determines that the student's conduct was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the disciplinary action shall proceed. Suppose the Section 504 Team determines that the student's conduct manifested the student's disability. In that case, the long-term suspension shall not be imposed without an appropriate plan and placement put into place.

Legal References:

RSA 193:13, Suspension and Expulsion of Pupils

RSA 169-C:3, XXI RSE 631

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.04(f)(4), Student Discipline

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.06, Culture and Climate

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 317.04(b)

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