

Suspension of Students

In accordance with the policy of the Board of Education, the following regulations shall govern the suspension of students from school.

The authority to suspend a student from a school in the school district is delegated to the respective building principals.

- I. Any student may be suspended for violations of policy or regulations, or for any act which disrupts the academic atmosphere of the school, endangers or threatens fellow students, teachers, or officials, or damages property.
- II. A suspension shall not extend beyond the present semester and the succeeding semester except for violations of the Weapons-Free Schools Policy which provide suspensions for up to one calendar year.
- III. Except under circumstances which require the immediate removal of a student or students, the parent(s) or legal guardian shall be informed before a student is released from school.
- IV. Makeup work for suspended students may be permitted.
- V. Procedural steps to suspension:
 - A. Probation: A student may be placed on probation with or without additional disciplinary action. If probation is elected by the principal as a suitable alternative to suspension, both the student and the parent(s) shall be notified of the probation and the reasons therefore.
 - B. In-house suspension (IHS) is an alternative to short term out-of-school suspension. IHS will be imposed by the student's principal. In-house suspension involves certain procedural rules which do not pertain to other types of suspension. Therefore, a separate regulation has been established. That regulation can be found elsewhere in the policy.
 - C. Short-Term Suspension: A student may be suspended from school for up to a ten day period by the principal. Both the student and the parent(s) shall be notified of the suspension, the reasons therefore, and the right to appeal the suspension to the suspension committee.
 - D. Long-Term Suspension: A student may be suspended from school for the remainder of the current semester and the entirety of the succeeding semester. Both the student and the parent(s) shall be notified of the suspension, the grounds therefore, and the right to appeal the suspension to the Board of Education.

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- VI. Appellate Procedures: Any student who has been suspended under the steps listed above, or the student's parent(s), may appeal the suspension to the suspension committee, if the period of suspension is ten days or less, or to the Board of Education, if the suspension is for more than ten days. The following procedures shall govern the appellate process:
- A. The student, or the student's parent(s), shall notify the superintendent as soon as possible following the suspension or the notice of the intent to suspend of their intent to appeal the suspension.
 - B. Upon receiving notice of a student's or parent(s)' intent to appeal, the superintendent shall advise the suspension committee (short-term) or the President of the Board of Education (long-term). The appeal shall be heard within ten days from the date the notice of intent is filed with the superintendent. The superintendent, at his/her discretion, may permit the suspended student to attend classes pending the outcome of the appeal.
 - C. During the hearing of the appeal, the student may be represented by legal counsel or other adult representative; may examine witnesses on his own behalf; cross examine opposing witnesses, and offer other evidence in his/her behalf including the student's own testimony.
 - D. The suspension committee (short-term) or the Board of Education (long-term) shall uphold the suspension, modify the terms of the suspension, or overrule the suspension. The student and the student's parent(s) shall be notified within five school days of a decision.
- VII. Appeal for Reinstatement: Students who have been suspended for the remainder of a semester, or more, may petition the superintendent for reinstatement. The superintendent may, at his/her discretion, schedule an informal hearing with the concerned principal. At the hearing, the student may present evidence of attitude or behavior modification which would support reinstatement. The superintendent and the principal may reinstate the student or deny reinstatement and submit a written report of the informal hearing to the Board of Education. The Board shall take whatever action it deems appropriate.
- VIII. A suspension appeals committee is hereby established which will consist of administrators or teachers or a combination of administration and teachers. The members of the committee will be appointed by the superintendent and may include the superintendent.

Adopted: January 09, 1995

Revised: June 26, 2003

Legal Reference: 70 O.S. 24-102 states that a student who has been suspended from a public or private school in the State of Oklahoma or another state for a violent act or an act showing deliberate or reckless disregard for the health or safety of faculty or other students shall not be entitled to enroll in a public school of this state, and no public school shall be required to enroll such student, until the terms of the suspension have been met or the time of suspension has expired. 488.2, Section D

Cross Reference:

District #001, Woods County, Oklahoma

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