

STUDENTS

7:200 Suspension Procedures

In-School Suspension

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to maintain an in-school suspension program. The program shall include, at a minimum, each of the following:

1. Before assigning a student to in-school suspension, the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges.
2. Students are supervised by school personnel.
3. Students are given the opportunity to complete classroom work during the in-school suspension for equivalent academic credit.

Out-of-School Suspension

The Superintendent or designee shall implement suspension procedures that provide, at a minimum, for each of the following:

1. A conference during which the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges before they may be suspended.
2. A pre-suspension conference is not required, and the student can be immediately suspended when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. In such cases, the notice and conference shall follow as soon as practicable.
3. A written notice of the suspension to the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student, which shall:
 - a. Provide notice to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their child's right to a review of the suspension;
 - b. Include information about an opportunity to make up work missed during the suspension for equivalent academic credit;
 - c. Detail the specific act of gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in the decision to suspend; and the specific duration of the suspension, including the actual dates of suspension; and
 - d. For a suspension of 4 or more school days, a statement of what, if any, appropriate and available support services will be provided to the student during the length of their suspension.
4. A summary of the notice, including the reason for the suspension and the suspension length, must be given to the Board by the Superintendent or designee.
5. Upon request of the parent(s)/guardian(s), a review of the suspension shall be conducted by the Board or a hearing officer appointed by the Board. At the review, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may appear and discuss the suspension with the Board or its hearing officer and may be represented by counsel. Whenever there is evidence that mental illness may be the cause for the suspension, the Superintendent or designee shall invite a representative from a local mental health agency to consult with the Board. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall take such action as it finds appropriate. If the suspension is upheld, the Board's written suspension decision shall specifically detail.
 - a. That the student committed the gross disobedience or misconduct as charged;
 - b. For suspensions of 3 or fewer days; that the student's continued presence at school would

pose a threat to school safety, or a disruption to other students' learning opportunities;

c. For suspensions of 4 or more school days:

6. That the student's continued presence at school would pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community, or substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operation of the school; and
7. That other appropriate and available interventions were attempted or whether it was determined that there were no other appropriate and available interventions; and
 - a. The rationale as to the specific duration of the suspension; and
 - b. Describe the appropriate and available support services provided to the student during the period of suspension or whether it was determined that there were no appropriate and available support services.

Exclusionary Discipline Reporting to the Board

At each Board meeting, the superintendent or designee will report in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions, and informal removals that have occurred since the last Board meeting. This report should be prefaced by the following statement:

“At School District 73.5 we recognize that in the past historically marginalized groups - namely students of color, students with disabilities, and boys - have received exclusionary discipline at disproportionate rates. We value restorative practices and reflection, and we also recognize that the safety of our students sometimes requires the use of exclusionary discipline, though only as a last resort to ensure the safety of all in our schools.”

Annually the superintendent or designee will report demographics related to in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions, and informal removals for the prior year. This report should include race, ethnicity, gender, disability, and socio-economic status (namely, free and reduced-price lunch status).

LEGAL REF.:

Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).

105 ILCS 5/10-20.14, 5/10-22.6.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.280.

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

Adopted: January 14, 2025

Skokie SD 73.5
