



POLICY:

REGULATION: JGD-R - STATEMENT OF BELIEFS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF STUDENT SUSPENSION

EXHIBIT:

## STATEMENT OF BELIEFS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF STUDENT SUSPENSION

The Mission of Seine River Division Schools is “to ensure the highest quality education by providing learning opportunities in a **safe and caring environment.**” We expect all members of our educational community to demonstrate respect for others.

Disciplinary practices must reflect a commitment to providing such safe and healthy environments for teaching and learning. School officials and especially school principals have a duty to maintain proper order and discipline in the school. They also have the duty to protect students in their charge from foreseeable risks of harm. Principals must not knowingly allow an unsafe situation to persist when a student or students constitute a real threat to the safety of others.

- ❑ Consequently, the most supportable need to suspend students occurs when they may be posing a threat to safety and to the learning environment of the school. In these situations students may have to be suspended from attending school in order to allow time to debrief on incidents, arrange restitution, arrange for conditions of re-entry and to solicit parental involvement.
- ❑ Beyond providing for the safety of others, we believe that student suspensions provide a learning opportunity for students and, with the support of parents, the opportunity to change behavior in a positive way. It will assist students in understanding that certain norms for behavior are not negotiable, and failure to meet these most basic expectations can result in the withdrawal of the privilege of attending school.
- ❑ In some circumstances the use of a suspension is the only means by which to gain the serious attention of a student’s parents or guardian in order to communicate that the child’s behavior has strayed unacceptably from established norms.

Mandatory suspensions are required under certain provisions listed in the Division’s Freedom from Violence Policy and Drug and Alcohol Policy. There is discretion for the principal in regards to the length of such suspensions.

### Procedures:

1. Determination of a suspension has been taken.
2. Telephone call to parents followed by a letter (See Exhibit A)
3. Telephone call to Assistant superintendent – Student Services followed by a FAX copy of the suspension form (See Exhibit B)
4. When indicating the possibility of an extended suspension, do not mention a specific period of time. (See reference in Exhibit A)
5. Hold re-entry meeting with parents or guardians.
  - Specify conditions of re-entry

APPROVED:

REVISED: April 2002

SOURCE:

OTHER REFERENCE: JFC – Freedom from Violence, JFCH – Alcohol Use by Student,  
JFCJ – Dangerous Weapons in School

Page 1 of 2

White – Index  
Green – Exhibits

Buff – Policies  
Yellow - Regulations



POLICY:

REGULATION: JGD-R - STATEMENT OF BELIEFS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF STUDENT SUSPENSION

EXHIBIT:

- Parental involvement, preferably in person, is required
  - Review of any changes to previous IP that may have been in place
  - Involve Child and Family Services where appropriate
6. A suspension means the privilege of attending the school building and mixing with classmates has been temporarily taken away. The school staff is responsible to assist in the **continued learning** of the student by providing work. Students will have the opportunity to complete any summative assessment that occurs while during suspension.

APPROVED:

REVISED: April 2002

SOURCE:

OTHER REFERENCE: JFC – Freedom from Violence, JFCH – Alcohol Use by Student,  
JFCJ – Dangerous Weapons in School

Page 2 of 2

White – Index  
Green – Exhibits

Buff – Policies  
Yellow - Regulations