

STUDENT SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS

447.3

The District recognizes the importance of maintaining proper order and discipline in the schools to maintain a learning environment that is safe for all students. The District understands that personal accountability is part of the learning and growing process for students, with the ultimate goal being to help the student develop citizenship skills. The District also recognizes and actively supports the primary mission of the public schools to help ensure all students have a productive education experience and graduate from high school prepared for college and / or career readiness.

With that in mind, school administrators are to utilize, to the maximum extent possible, disciplinary strategies that keep students in school while maintaining a safe and positive school environment for student learning. These disciplinary strategies may include, but are not necessarily limited to, positive behavioral interventions and supports or restorative practices. The ultimate goal of addressing behaviors is self-awareness, growth, and improvement.

Out-of-school suspension is a serious consequence which should be reserved for situations where the student's behavior poses a safety or health danger to others, is damaging to school property or the property of others, or shows complete or repeated defiance or refusal to comply with school rules or policies. A principal may administer an out-of-school suspension under these circumstances when it is reasonably justified and is carried out in accordance with state law requirements. A student shall also be suspended from school when required by law (e.g., possessing a firearm in violation of state law and Board policy).

Except when required by law, student expulsion from school should be considered the last resort after other discipline alternatives have been considered. A student may be referred for possible expulsion when conduct poses a legitimate danger to the property, health or safety of the school, or students and others at school or under the supervision of a school authority, or District employees or Board members. All legal requirements regarding student expulsion hearings and expulsions shall be followed.

The Board shall expel a student from school only if the interest of the school demands the student's expulsion or in cases where expulsion is required by law (e.g., possessing a firearm in violation of state law and Board policy).

The Board may specify conditions in a student's expulsion order that would allow the student to be reinstated to school early before the end of the term of his/her expulsion. The early reinstatement condition(s) shall be related to the reason(s) for the expulsion and shall be enforced in accordance with state law requirements.

The District may provide continued educational services to expelled students during the term of their expulsion as deemed reasonable and appropriate by the school administration. The educational services provided to expelled students with disabilities shall be provided consistent with applicable legal requirements.

Legal References:

Wisconsin Statutes

[Section 118.127](#) [use of law enforcement records as sole basis for suspending or expelling students from school prohibited]

[Section 118.16\(4\)\(b\)](#) [conditions for making up examinations and coursework missed during suspensions from school as per student attendance policy]

[Section 120.13\(1\)](#) [board power to do all things reasonable for the cause of education and to suspend or expel students from school]

Federal Laws

[Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#) [programs and services for students with disabilities; includes requirements related to change of placements and providing continued educational services during period of expulsion]

Adoption Date: 12/20/21