



CONTEXT:

In order for learning to occur students must feel and be safe at school. The Board works actively and persistently to create and maintain safe, caring and inclusive school communities as per Board Policy 700. Infractions to students' feeling and being safe at school will occur and require intervention and action on the part of the school and/or the district.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Board will maintain an environment that supports learning through ensuring schools are safe, caring and inclusive. Should incidents occur that compromise this environment, efforts at the classroom, school and district level may be used to restore the environment.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

The Board believes in modelling and using a positive discipline program that will

1. Preserve and support a safe and effective learning environment that allows students to reach their full potential.
2. Model and educate students to practice positive social behaviors, healthy life skills and habits.

The Board expects:

1. All students will always comply with the codes of conduct while on school grounds or attending school (or district) sanctioned events.
2. Incidents compromising the safety of students will be responded to in a timely, fair and reasonable manner.
3. Wherever possible, responses and interventions to incidents that compromise safety will be restorative; meaning they will repair harm, strengthen relationships and enhance a sense of belonging to school and community.
4. Should a disciplinary response be required, it will be progressive, and individualized.
5. School and community resources may provide students with additional support.
6. Interventions may happen at the classroom, school or district level and will typically progress through these levels; however, serious infractions may result in escalation to school or district.
7. Out-of-school suspension should be used judiciously in the context of a progressive discipline model and reserved for cases that impact the safety of those in the learning environment, such as bullying, violence, weapons, and illegal use of substances.
8. That all students who have been suspended for more than five (5) days and who appear before a District Review Committee, shall receive a fair and just hearing under the protection of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

REFERENCES:

- Administrative Procedure to Board Policy 701: Student Discipline
- Board Policy 700: Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Communities
- The School Act: Sections 26, 85(2)(c)(ii), 85(2)(d)
- Charter of Rights and Freedoms

DATES OF ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS:

Adopted: 1998.02.24: **2022.01.25**

Amended: 2000.08.29: 2016.12.13: Reviewed October 2017:



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STUDENT DISCIPLINE

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Purpose

These Administrative Procedures are written in support of Policy 701: Student Discipline

1. The Board delegates the right and responsibility to teachers and school-based principals/vice-principals to require students to apply themselves to their studies and to abide by the Code of Conduct established in a school. Paramount authority in this regard rests with the administrative officers with a school.
2. The Board requires that teachers and principals/vice-principals take appropriate progressive disciplinary action when:
 - a. students fail to abide by the Code of Conduct established in a school to the extent that their behaviour is willfully disobedient or has a harmful effect on other students; or,
 - b. students fail to apply themselves to their studies.
3. School personnel shall be guided by Section 85 of the *School Act* in all of their dealings with students.
4. Students failing to comply with the Rules, Policies and/or Codes of Conduct as sanctioned by the Board of Education may be suspended according to Section 85(2) (d) of the *School Act*. Principals or Vice Principals, when suspending a student, must ensure that an educational program is available for the student during the period of suspension. Parent/caregiver(s) shall be notified that the school will provide an educational program and the nature and expectation of that program.
5. Principals and Vice Principals may suspend students for up to five (5) school days as a disciplinary measure. When a student is suspended from school, the student shall remain at the school under the Principal's or Vice Principal's supervision and control until contact has been established with the student's parent/caregiver(s) or the designated adult family alternative and a plan has been put in place for the student to be returned to the authority of the parent/caregiver(s). The Principal or Vice Principal shall notify the student and parent/caregiver(s) verbally followed by a letter to the parent/caregiver(s) with a copy being forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate.
6. The Principal or Vice Principal, where appropriate, shall arrange a meeting with the student and their parent/caregiver(s) to resolve the suspension and to establish conditions and expectations which will govern the student's return to school.
7. Any recommended suspension of longer than five (5) school days must be in accordance with Section 85(2)(d) of the *School Act* and shall be immediately reported to the parent/caregiver(s) verbally and confirmed in writing by mail or be delivered by hand. The Superintendent of Schools and/or designate must be notified and shall arrange a District Review Committee hearing.
8. All written reports, including pertinent student records and information, from teachers and the school administration shall be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate within three (3) school days of the student's suspension from school. Copies of pertinent



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written reports shall be made available to the parent/caregiver(s) and the student at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the hearing.

9. When students have been suspended for more than five days the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate shall convene a District Review Committee made up of the Superintendent of Schools or designate and up to three non-involved Principals/Vice Principals and/or community professionals.

This District Review Committee shall meet with the student, the parent/caregiver(s), and the referring Principal/Vice Principal to understand the circumstances leading to the suspension and to make recommendations regarding resolution of the suspension.

After the student, the parent/caregiver(s) and the referring Principal/Vice Principals have left, the District Review Committee shall consider the educational and support options and/or program offerings available for the student and decide the most appropriate action to take.

10. The decision of the District Review Committee will, in most cases, be communicated by telephone, through the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate, to the parent/caregiver(s) and the student and the Principal/Vice Principal within twenty-four (24) hours of the hearing.
11. Written confirmation shall be directed to the parent/caregiver(s) and the student and the referring Principal/Vice Principal by the Superintendent of Schools and/or designate. A copy of Bylaw No. 5 (Appeals) shall be attached to the letter.
12. To protect the student's right to privacy, all copies of written reports originally distributed to District Review Committee members shall be collected and destroyed immediately after the committee's decision. The original documentation will be held in a confidential file under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Schools.

References:

- Board Policy 701: *Student Discipline*
- Board Policy 700: *Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Communities*
- *The School Act*: Sections 26, 85(2)(c)(ii), 85(2)(d)
- Charter of Rights and Freedoms

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SUBSTANCE USE

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1. FIRST INCIDENT

- i. Any student of an ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-7) engaging in any of the following while under the jurisdiction of the school shall have a meeting with the principal, the school counselor and his/her parents/caregivers at the earliest opportunity:
- consumes alcohol or illicit drug(s)
 - is under the influence of alcohol or illicit drug(s)
 - is in possession of alcohol or illicit drug(s) or drug paraphernalia

Taking into account the advice of this meeting, the principal will make a decision regarding the outcome of the incident or incidents. Outcomes may include disciplinary consequences for the student, recommendation for support from school staff, and/or referral to the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee.

If referred to the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee, the committee may recommend further disciplinary consequences, support or RCMP involvement.

- ii. Any student of a SECONDARY SCHOOL (8-12) engaging in any of the following while under the jurisdiction of the school shall immediately be placed on an "In-School Suspension" for a period of no more than four (4) days and the student shall be referred to the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee:
- consumes alcohol or illicit drug(s)
 - is under the influence of alcohol or illicit drug(s)
 - is in possession of alcohol or illicit drug(s) or drug paraphernalia

The incident(s) shall be reported to parents/caregivers verbally and confirmed immediately in writing. A copy of Board Bylaw 5: *Parent/Caregiver/Student Appeals to the Board of Education* will be enclosed.

The Superintendent or designate shall be notified in writing and the RCMP may be contacted. The decision as to whether criminal charges will be laid rests with the RCMP.

The District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee may make recommendations for further disciplinary consequences or support.

2. REPEAT INCIDENTS

A student of any age who is involved in a repeat incident of consumption, under the influence or possession of alcohol or drug(s) or paraphernalia while under school jurisdiction shall be immediately placed on suspension and referred to the Superintendent and/or designate for a decision as to which committee the student will be referred to: the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee or the District Discipline Committee.



3. DISTRIBUTION/TRAFFICKING OF ALCOHOL OR ILLICIT DRUG(S)

Any student of any age who engages in the distribution, sale or proliferation of alcohol or drug(s) shall be immediately placed on "Out of School/At Home" suspension and referred to the District Discipline Committee.

In addition, the RCMP will be notified and will determine if criminal charges are warranted.

4. DISTRICT DRUG AND ALCOHOL REVIEW COMMITTEE

In most cases the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee will consist of a minimum of:

- the Superintendent or designate
- two school administrators

Any student referred to this committee will present himself/herself with their parent/caregiver at the time appointed. A representative of the student's school will also be present.

The committee will make recommendations regarding the level of support and/or intervention which might be required to assist the student to successfully continue with his/her educational program and support the student in making healthy choices.

Some of the following specific courses of action may also be recommended by the committee but it is intended that the committee would not be limited in its thinking or mandate by such a list:

- drug or alcohol counseling
- referral for family support
- school suspension in accordance with Board Policy 701: *Student Discipline*
- change of educational program
- suspension from all School District 69 schools while being provided with an educational program pursuant to Section 85 of the *School Act*

References:

- [Board Policy 701: Student Discipline](#)
- [Board Bylaw 5: Parent/Caregiver/Student Appeals to the Board of Education](#)
- [Canada's Food and Drugs Act](#)
- [Canada's Controlled Drugs and Substances Act](#)

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