

# SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SRSB File: JK-R

## **SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF STUDENTS**

### Statement of Purpose

This policy describes the procedures to be followed for the suspension and expulsion of students within the Sanborn Regional School District.

### Statement of Rules

The Sanborn Regional School Board affords due process to all students who are being subjected to suspension or expulsion actions. All suspension and expulsion actions taken by administrators and/or the school board shall be conducted in accordance with policy JK, these regulations, NH RSA 193:13 and New Hampshire Department of Education Administrative Rules 317, et seq.

### Suspensions of Ten Days or Less

The superintendent or a representative designated in writing by the superintendent (site administrator) shall have the authority to suspend students for ten days or less for gross misconduct, or neglect or refusal to conform to the reasonable rules of the school. When a student is being suspended for ten days or less, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. No student shall be suspended without being properly informed as to the reason for the suspension. The parent or legal guardian of any student being considered for a suspension action shall also be properly informed as to the reason for the suspension.
2. After being so notified, the student and/or the student's parents or guardians shall be given the opportunity to persuade the site administrator considering the matter that suspension would be improper.
3. After hearing the student, the site administrator may suspend the student for not more than ten days if the administrator reasonably believes such a suspension to be proper.

Suspension for Over Ten Days But Not More Than Twenty Days

The superintendent, upon action of the school board, shall have the authority to suspend students for over ten days but not more than twenty days for gross misconduct, or neglect or refusal to conform to the reasonable rules of the school. When a student is being suspended for over ten days but not more than twenty days, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. The accused student and at least one parent or guardian shall be furnished, either in person or by mail, directed to the student's last known address, with written notice of the charges and of the nature of the evidence against the accused student.
2. The accused student and at least one parent or guardian shall be offered the opportunity for a formal hearing with the superintendent at which hearing evidence in support of the charge shall be presented by school officials. The hearing shall be scheduled after sufficient time to prepare a defense or reply by the accused student. The accused student or the student's parent or guardian shall have ample opportunity to present any defense or reply.
3. Any suspension imposed on a student must be based upon a fair consideration of substantial evidence.
4. The parent or guardian of any student suspended for more than ten days shall have the right to appeal any such suspension to the School Board.

Expulsions and Suspensions For More Than Twenty Days

Student expulsions and student suspensions for more than twenty days must be approved by the school board.

The superintendent shall make recommendations to the school board for student expulsion or student suspension in excess of twenty days for gross misconduct, or neglect or refusal to conform to the reasonable rules of the school, or for an act of theft, destruction, or violence as defined in RSA 193-D:1, or for possession of a pellet or BB gun or rifle.

Any pupil who brings or possesses a firearm in a safe school zone without written authorization from the superintendent or designee shall be expelled from school by the school board for a period of not less than twelve (12) months.

The following procedures shall be followed for expulsions or suspensions of more than twenty days:

1. The accused student and at least one parent or guardian shall be furnished, either in person or by mail, directed to the student' last known address, with written notice of the charges and of the nature of the evidence against the accused student.
2. The accused student and at least one parent or guardian shall be offered the opportunity for a formal hearing with the school board at which hearing evidence in support of the charge shall be presented by school officials.
3. The hearing shall be scheduled after sufficient time to prepare a defense or reply by the accused student. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with board policy.
4. Any suspension or expulsion imposed on a student must be based upon a fair consideration or substantial evidence.
5. Following the hearing, the school board shall issue a written decision stating the outcome of the hearing including the legal and factual basis for the decision. The written decision shall clearly state whether the student is expelled or suspended for more than twenty (20) days or that the student is re-instated. The written decision shall also include the time period for any expulsion or suspension as well as the actions required of the student to return to school.

Students expelled by the school board shall not attend school until restored by the board. Any expulsion shall be subject to review, if requested, prior to the start of each school year. Any student expulsion shall be valid throughout the school districts of the state.

Related Policies: JK, BEE, BEE-R

Adopted: June 18, 1998 (Effective July 1, 1997)

Revised: February 4, 1998

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