STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Discipline Code

The following behaviors at school, while on school vehicles or going to or from or attending school events will result in disciplinary action, which may include in-school placement options or out-of-school suspension:

1. Arson

2. Altering or attempting to alter another individual's food or beverage

3. Assault (whether physical or verbal) and/or battery

4. Attempting to incite or produce imminent violence directed against another person because of his or her race, color, sex, pregnancy, gender, gender expression or identity, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information by making or transmitting or causing or allowing to be transmitted, any telephonic, computerized or electronic message

5. Attempting to incite or produce imminent violence directed against another person because of his or her race, color, sex, pregnancy, gender, gender expression or identity, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information by broadcasting, publishing or distributing or causing or allowing to be broadcast, published or distributed, any message or material

6. Academic Misconduct, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of academic materials or other academic misbehavior

7. Complicity in misconduct by others, including, but not limited to, attempting to or encouraging others to commit prohibited conduct. Apathy or acquiescence in the presence of prohibited conduct is violative of this policy.

8. Conduct that threatens or jeopardizes the safety of others

9. Cutting class or sleeping, eating or refusing to work in class

10. Disorderly conduct, including behaving in a disorderly, lewd, indecent manner or breaching the peace on school property or in school-sponsored activities. Examples include, but are not limited to, obscene language, profanity, inappropriate behavior or gestures, indecent exposure, nonconsensual photography, video, or audio recording of another person on school premises or at school-sponsored events when recording causes or is likely to cause injury or distress

11. Disruption of the educational process or operation of the school — as to disruptive behavior in the classroom specifically, engaging in behavior that a reasonable person would view as substantial or repeated interference with the instructor's ability to teach the class or the ability of other students to benefit from instruction

12. Extortion

13. Failure to attend assigned detention, alternative school or other disciplinary assignment without approval

14. Failure to comply with state immunization records

15. False reports or false calls

16. Fighting

17. Forgery, fraud, or embezzlement

18. Gambling

19. Gang related activity or action

20. Harassment, intimidation, and bullying, including gestures, written or verbal expression, electronic communication or physical acts

21. Hazing (whether involving initiations, admission into, affiliations with, or as a continued involvement in a group or organization or not) in connection with any school activity, regardless of location. Hazing, includes, but is not limited to, any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student. Likewise, engaging in any action or activity that causes or is likely to cause physical or mental discomfort or distress that may demean, degrade, or disgrace any person, regardless of location, intent or consent of participants is violative of this policy.

22. Immorality

23. Inappropriate attire, including violation of dress code

24. Intimidation or harassment because of race, color, sex, pregnancy, gender, gender expression or identity, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information, including but not limited to: (a) assault and battery; (b) damage, destruction, vandalism or defacing any real or personal property; or threatening, by word or act, the acts identified in (a) or (b)

25. Physical or verbal abuse, including, but not limited to, physically restraining or transporting someone against their will

26. Possession or distribution of a caustic substance

27. Possessing, distributing or viewing obscene materials, including electronic possession, distribution or viewing (sexting)

28. Possession of synthetic urine, a warmer or any other item with the intent to use that item to tamper with a drug or alcohol test

29. Possession, without prior authorization, of a wireless telecommunication device

30. Possession, threat or use of a dangerous weapon[1] and related instrumentalities (i.e., bullets, shells, gun powder, pellets, etc.)

31. Possession, claimed possession, use, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, conspiracy to sell, distribute or possess or being in the chain of sale or distribution, or being under the influence of (a) alcoholic beverages, (b) any mind altering substance, except for medications taken for legitimate medical purposes pursuant to district policy, including but not limited to prescription medications for which the individual does not have a prescription, or medications used outside their intended therapeutic purpose, (c) paint, glue, aerosol sprays, salts, incense and other substances which may be used as an intoxicating substance, or (d) any substance believed or represented to be a prohibited substance, regardless of its actual content

32. Possession or claimed possession of illegal and/or drug related paraphernalia

33. Possession, claimed possession, distribution, or claimed distribution of supplements, prescription medicine, and/or non-prescription medicine while at school and school related functions without prior district approval

34. Purchasing, selling and/or attempting to purchase or sell prescription and non-prescription medicine while at school and school related functions

35. School Bus or Transportation Misconduct – While riding on any district school bus or other district-provided mode of transportation, engaging in any of the following acts is prohibited: (i) throwing any object; (ii) placing any part of one's body out of a window (bus moving or stationary); (iii) eating, drinking, and/or possessing food or drink while on a bus (lunches taken to school are excluded provided they are packed in a container and the container is not opened on the bus); (iv) failure to remain seated (feet on floor, facing front); (v) disrespectful words, comments or actions toward the driver or other passengers; (vi) blocking the aisle; (vii) pushing while loading/unloading or while bus is approaching; (viii) transporting unauthorized items; (ix) any type of harassment; (x) excessive noise; and (xi) improper street crossing during loading or unloading

36. Sexual or other harassment of individuals including, but not limited to, students, school employees, volunteers

37. Theft

38. Threatening behavior, including but not limited to gestures, written, verbal, or physical acts, or electronic communications

[1] Students who are members of JROTC and are participating in an authorized school program may, with prior approval from the principal, bring an inoperable weapon to school for the sole and exclusive purpose of participating in the program. Students may only possess the inoperable weapon in a manner consistent with the authorization to participate in the program.

39. Truancy

40. Use, possession, claimed possession, distribution or selling marijuana or marijuana related products in any form. “Marijuana” is defined as provided for in the district’s policy on *Medical Marijuana, Hemp & Cannabidiol (CBD)*)

41. Use, possession, claimed possession, distribution or selling tobacco, or tobacco related products in any form, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, loose tobacco, rolling papers, chewing tobacco, snuff, matches and lighters, and vapor products which includes noncombustible products that may or may not contain nicotine, that employ a mechanical heating element, battery, electronic circuit or other mechanism, regardless of shape or size, that can be used to produce a vapor in a solution or other form. A vapor product also includes any vapor cartridge or other container with or without nicotine or other form that is intended to be used with an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or similar product or device and any vapor cartridge or other container of a solution, that may or may not contain nicotine, that is intended to be used with or in an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo or electronic device. Vapor products not included are any products regulated by the United States Food and Drug Administration under Chapter V of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

42. Use or possession of missing or stolen property if property is reasonably suspected to have been taken from a student, a school employee, or the school

43. Using racial, religious, ethnic, sexual, gender or disability-related epithets

44. Use of the school’s resources (i.e., computers, electronic mail, internet, and similar resources) in a manner prohibited by policies, in any manner not authorized by school officials, or in violation of law

45. Vandalism

46. Violation of board of education policies, rules or regulations or violation of school rules and regulations including, but not limited to, disrespect, lingering in restrooms, running in halls, bringing unauthorized items to school, inappropriate or unauthorized use of cellular phones or other electronic media, name calling, destroying or defacing school property

47. Vulgarity

48. Willful damage to school property

49. Willful disobedience of a directive of any school official

In addition, conduct occurring outside of the normal school day or off school property that has a direct and immediate negative effect on the discipline or educational process or effectiveness of the school, will also result in disciplinary action, which may include in-school placement options or out-of-school suspension. This includes but is not limited to electronic communication, whether or not such communication originated at school or with school equipment, if the communication is specifically directed at students or school personnel and concerns harassment, intimidation or bullying at school.

Board Approved 8/12/2021
Board Amended 9/13/2021

School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act (OKLA. STAT. tit. 70, § 24-100.2)

The Oklahoma Legislature established the *School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act* with the express intent of prohibiting bullying in all schools. In addition to the prohibition listed in the student discipline code above, the board has adopted a separate policy prohibiting bullying and outlining the district's plan to address it.

Sample Disciplinary Options

- *Instructor or Administrator Intervention*

  May include, but is not limited to: warning conference with student, parent conference, referral to counselor, behavioral contract, restriction of privileges, requirement of corrective action by student, changing student's seat or class assignment, involvement of local authorities or agencies, or other appropriate action as required or indicated by the circumstances.

- *Detention or In-School Intervention*

  Detention is a correctional measure used when it is deemed appropriate. Students are to report to the appropriate teacher/principal at the specified time with class work to be studied. Detention may be assigned on a week-day or on a Saturday, as deemed appropriate.

- *Alternative In-School Placement*

  Alternative in-school placement is an optional correctional measure that may be used by the school when deemed appropriate. It involves assignment to a school site, designated by the school, for a prescribed course of education as determined by school representatives. Any such placement will be made in accordance with applicable special education procedural safeguards.

- *Alternative Out-of-School Placement*

  Alternative out-of-school placement is an optional correctional measure specifically authorized in cases when a student has made electronic communications intended to terrify, intimidate, harass, or threaten injury or harm to faculty or students. Any such placement will be made in accordance with applicable special education procedural safeguards.

- *School Service*

  School service may be required of students when an administrator believes that it would allow the student to understand the logical consequences of his/her conduct. Examples include, but are not limited to, cleaning after vandalism or littering, helping a teacher after disrupting a class, etc. School service will not be utilized to augment the district's workforce, in ways which are likely to endanger a student, or in a manner which is designed to unduly embarrass a student.

- *Out of School Student Suspension*

  Students may be suspended out of school pursuant to the district's policy regarding student suspension.

Corporal punishment will not be utilized at any school site.

Student Privileges While Under Suspension

Participation in the extracurricular activities of the school is a privilege and not a right. Accordingly, when a student's behavior results in a determination by the principal to impose disciplinary or other correctional measures against a student, the student will not be permitted to participate in any extracurricular activities offered by the school during the term of the discipline unless, in the sole judgment of the principal, such participation is appropriate given the nature of the offense committed by the student.

"Extracurricular activities" include, but are not limited to, all school sponsored teams, clubs, organizations, ceremonies, student government, band, athletics and all other school sponsored activities and organizations.

ALTERNATIVE IN-SCHOOL PLACEMENT, DETENTION AND SIMILAR DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS OR CORRECTIONAL MEASURES ARE NOT CONSIDERED BY LAW TO BE OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION AND DO NOT REQUIRE OR INVOLVE THE DUE PROCESS PROCEDURES SET FORTH HEREIN.

The reference to "parent" in this section of the policy refers to a student's parent or legal guardian.

The reference to "principal" means the school principal or the school staff member to whom the principal has delegated the responsibility for student discipline.

A. Behavior or Conduct that May Result in Suspension:

Students who are guilty of any of the following acts may be suspended out-of-school by the administration of the school or the District for:

1. violation of a school regulation;

2. immorality;

3. adjudication as a delinquent for an offense that is not a violent offense. For the purposes of this section, "violent offense" shall include those offenses listed as the exceptions to the term "nonviolent offenses" as specified in Okla. Stat. tit. 57, § 571. "Violent offense" shall include the offense of assault with a dangerous weapon but shall not include the offense of assault;

4. possession of an intoxicating beverage, low-point beer, as defined by Okla. Stat. tit. 37, § 163.2, wireless telecommunication device, or missing or stolen property if the property is reasonably suspected to have been taken from a student, a school employee, or the school during school activities; and

5. possession of a dangerous weapon or a controlled dangerous substance, as defined in the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act. Possession of a firearm shall result in out-of-school suspension as provided in the District's policy related to firearms.

6. In the event of a suspension for any of the reasons listed above, an education plan as discussed in Out-of-School Suspension Requirements below, shall be applicable for acts which fall within paragraphs 1. through 4. above. However, no education plan shall be necessary for acts that fall within paragraph 5., above.

Any student in grades 6 through 12 found to have assaulted, attempted to cause physical bodily injury, or acted in a manner that could reasonably cause bodily injury to a school employee or person volunteering for the school shall be suspended for the remainder of the current semester and the next consecutive semester. For good cause and considering the totality of the circumstances the District's Superintendent or designee may modify the term of the suspension. Final action as to any such suspension, including its term, remains with the Board of Education or a Hearing Officer appointed by the Board, pursuant to a timely appeal.

Students suspended for a violent offense directed toward a classroom teacher shall not be allowed to return to the teacher's classroom without the teacher's prior approval. Whether an offense is considered a violent offense, requiring an affected teacher's approval as a condition of return to a particular classroom, shall be based on applicable provisions of the Oklahoma school law regarding student suspension and applicable Oklahoma criminal law distinguishing between violent and nonviolent offenses.

B. District's Obligation Applicable to All Out-of-School Suspensions

Alternative In-School Placements

Before the District, through its designated representatives, recommends out-of-school suspension, alternative in-school placements including, but not limited to: placement in an alternative school setting, reassignment to another classroom, placement in in-school detention, or other available disciplinary or correctional options shall be considered. These shall not be considered as an out-of-school suspension but shall be treated as disciplinary or corrective actions that may be used, if warranted, as an alternative to out-of-school suspension.

Students with Disabilities

THE DISTRICT WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS AS REQUIRED BY LAW FOR STUDENTS IDENTIFIED AS HAVING DISABILITIES UNDER THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT OR SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT/TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT WHO ARE SUSPENDED OUT OF SCHOOL OR ARE OTHERWISE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY REMOVAL.

C. Pre-Out-of-School Suspension Conferences

1. When a student violates Board policy or a school rule or regulation or has been adjudicated as a delinquent for an offense that is not a violent offense (as set out in Okla. Stat. tit. 57, § 571), the principal shall conduct an informal conference with the student.

2. At the conference with the student the principal shall read the policy, rule or regulation that the student is charged with having violated and shall discuss the conduct of the student that is a violation of the policy, rule or regulation.

3. The student shall be asked whether he/she understands the policy, rule or regulation and be given a full opportunity to explain and discuss his/her conduct.

4. If it is concluded that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate, the student shall be advised that he/she is being suspended and the length of the out-of-school suspension.

5. The principal shall immediately notify the parent by phone and in writing that the student is being suspended out of school and that alternative in-school placement or other available options have been considered and rejected. The written notice should state what alternative in-school placement or other available options have been considered and why they were rejected. Elementary and middle school students shall not be dismissed before the end of the school day without advance notice to the parent.

D. Immediate Out-of-School Suspension Without a Pre-Out-of-School Suspension Conference

1. A student may be suspended out-of-school without the above pre-out-of-school suspension conference with the student only in situations where the conduct of the student reasonably indicates to the principal that the continued presence of the student in the building will constitute an immediate danger to the health or safety of the students, or school employees, or to school property, or a continued substantial disruption of the educational process.

2. In such cases, an out-of-school suspension conference with the student and the parent or guardian will be scheduled as soon as possible after the student has been removed from the building.

E. Conferences with Parents

1. The principal will seek to hold a conference with the parent or guardian as soon as possible after the out-of-school suspension has been imposed. The parent should be advised of his/her right to a conference with the principal at the time he/she is notified that an out-of-school suspension has been imposed. The conference will be held during the regular school hours, Monday through Friday, with consideration given whenever possible to the hours of working parents.

2. At the conference, the principal will read the policy, rule or regulation the student is charged with having violated and will briefly outline the conduct or behavior on the part of the student. The principal will also explain the basis for an out-of-school suspension rather than the use of alternative options. The parent should be asked by the principal if he/she understands the rule and the charges against the student.

3. At the conclusion of the conference the principal shall state whether he/she will terminate or modify the out-of-school suspension. In all cases the parent will be advised of his/her right to have the out-of-school suspension reviewed by the Superintendent, the Board of Education or a Hearing Officer appointed by the Board, or the Out-of-School Suspension Committee as provided by this Policy. If the parent is in agreement with the principal's decision, he/she will be requested to sign a Waiver of Review.

F. Out-of-School Suspension Requirements

1. An out-of-school suspension shall be long-term or short-term. A long-term out-of-school suspension shall be an out-of-school suspension in excess of ten (10) school days. A short-term out-of-school suspension shall be a period of ten (10) or fewer school days.

2. In no event should an out-of-school suspension extend beyond the current school semester and succeeding semester, except in the case of possession of a firearm, in which case an out-of-school suspension for up to one calendar year is appropriate. Out-of-school suspensions involving firearms are governed by the School District's Gun-Free Schools Student Suspension Policy. Out-of-school suspensions should have a definite commencement and ending date; indefinite out-of-school suspensions are not permitted. It is recommended that out-of-school suspensions beyond ten (10) days be imposed only in serious situations.

3. Out-of-school suspensions should be consistent; that is, one student should not be suspended out of school for a few days and another student suspended out of school for an extended period for the same or similar offense. However, the principal may take previous conduct and previous disciplinary actions and out-of-school suspensions of the student into consideration.

4. Out-of-school suspensions until the student performs some remedial act are not permitted; however, the student may be advised that an out-of-school suspension of definite length will be terminated at an earlier date if he/she performs a prescribed remedial act or acts.

G. Individualized Plans for Out-of-School Suspension

Out-of-school suspensions in excess of five (5) days shall include an Individualized Plan for Out-of-School Suspension ("Plan") that shall describe either a home-based school work assignment setting or other appropriate work assignment setting. The plan shall be prepared by the principal with the assistance of other school employees as warranted by the circumstances of the out-of-school suspension.

The Plan shall provide for the core units in which the student is enrolled. Core units shall consist of the minimum English, mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Art units required by the Oklahoma State Department of Education for grade completion in grades kindergarten through eight and for high school graduation in grades nine through twelve.

A copy of the Plan shall be provided to the student and parent or guardian. The parent or guardian shall be responsible for provision of a supervised, structured environment in which the parent or guardian shall place the student. The parent or guardian shall bear responsibility for monitoring the student's educational progress until the student is readmitted into school. The Plan shall set out the procedure for education and shall also address academic credit for work satisfactorily completed.

H. Records and Reports

The principal will keep written records of each out-of-school suspension conference containing the date of the conference, the names of the persons present, the time duration of the conference, and the basis for rejection of alternative disciplinary options. Also, the principal shall maintain records related to the Education Plan and the student and/or parent's compliance or non-compliance with the Plan.

I. Long-Term Out-of-School Suspensions (Out-of-School Suspensions in Excess of Ten (10) School Days)

1. Right of Appeal: A parent or the student may appeal the out-of-school suspension decision of the principal to an Administrative Committee and the Board of Education or, in the Board’s discretion, a Board-appointed Hearing Officer. At the student and/or parent or guardian's option the appeal may be directly to the Board of Education or Board-appointed Hearing Officer.

2. Method of Appeal to the Administrative Committee: An appeal can be presented by letter to the Superintendent.

3. If no appeal is received within five (5) calendar days after the principal's decision is received by the parent or student, the principal's out-of-school suspension decision will be final.

4. The Superintendent shall appoint a review committee consisting of not less than three School District employees who shall be certified administrators, and shall designate a chairperson for the committee. No administrator is eligible to serve on the committee who was a witness to the student's conduct. The Administrative Committee should hold a conference with the parent or guardian as soon as possible after receipt of the appeal. The conference will be held during regular school hours, Monday through Friday, with consideration given to the hours of working parents whenever possible.

5. At the conference, the Administrative Committee chairperson will read the policy, rule or regulation the student is charged with having violated and will briefly outline the conduct on the part of the student. The parent should be asked by the chairperson if he/she understands the rule and the charges against the student.

6. At the conclusion of the conference the Administrative Committee will deliberate and then state whether the Committee shall terminate or modify the out-of-school suspension. In all cases the parent shall be advised of his/her right to have the out-of-school suspension reviewed by the Board of Education. If the parent is in agreement with the decision of the Administrative Committee, he/she shall be requested to sign a waiver of review by the Board.

Method of Appeal to the Board of Education or Board-Appointed Hearing Officer

1. An appeal can be requested by letter to the Superintendent or to the Clerk of the Board of Education.

2. If no appeal is received within five (5) days after the decision of the Administrative Committee is received by the parent or student, the decision of the Committee will be final. A direct appeal to the Board or Board-appointed Hearing Officer requires the student, parent, or guardian to file the written request for appeal within five (5) days of receipt of the principal's decision.

Hearing the Appeal

1. The Board will hear the appeal as soon as possible or it may appoint a Hearing Officer to hear the appeal. The Board's decision, or the Hearing Officer's decision, is final and nonappealable.

2. The parent and student will be notified in writing of the date, time and place of the hearing.

3. The parent and student will have the right to an "open" or "closed" hearing, at their option.

4. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the work schedule of parents.

Procedure for Student Out-of-School Suspension Appeal Hearing Before the Board of Education or Hearing Officer

1. The Board President or the appointed Hearing Officer should:

    a. Announce that the next agenda item is an out-of-school suspension review hearing for the student stating her/his name.

    b. Ask whether the parents/child wish the hearing to be open to the public or in executive session. The offer of an open hearing and their response is to be made a part of the minutes of the meeting. If parents/child request a closed hearing, a motion to go into executive session per their request should be made and voted on.

2. The Board President or Hearing Officer should advise the parents/child:

    a. That they are entitled to legal counsel, if they desire it.

    b. That the administration will present its witnesses first and that after each witness the parents or their legal counsel will be given an opportunity to cross-examine.

    c. That the parents/child will be given an opportunity to call any relevant witnesses and present any relevant evidence they may wish, subject to cross-examination by legal counsel for the administration.

    d. That the Board or its Hearing Officer will consider the evidence and documents and reach a decision that will be recorded by vote in open session.

    e. That the parents/child may ask any questions about the procedure.

3. Following presentation of 1. and 2. above, all administration witnesses and documents should be presented subject to cross-examination.

4. Parents/child may call any witnesses and present any documents subject to cross-examination.

5. After each witness is presented School Board members or the Hearing Officer may ask the witness any questions.

6. Parents'/child's closing statement.

7. Administration's closing statement.

8. Deliberate in private. (If the hearing is not in executive session, the Board or its Hearing Officer may deliberate in executive session only with permission of the parents or student.)

9. Return to open session and vote. After adopting a motion making certain findings of fact the Board must make a motion to: (1) affirm the out-of-school suspension; (2) modify the out-of-school suspension (increase or decrease severity of the out-of-school suspension); or (3) revoke the out-of-school suspension. If the hearing is before a Hearing Officer, no motions will be required as a part of the hearing process; otherwise, the Hearing Officer will have the same obligations as the Board when rendering a decision.

Attendance at School Pending Appeal Hearing

Pending the appeal hearing of an out-of-school suspension to the Board or Hearing Officer, the student will have the right to attend school under such "in-house" restrictions as the principal deems proper, except that at the discretion of the principal, the student may be prohibited from attending school pending any appeal hearing if in the judgment of the principal:

1. the conduct for which the student was suspended out of school reasonably indicates that continued attendance by the student pending any appeal hearing would be dangerous to other students, staff members or school property; or

2. the conduct for which the student was suspended out of school reasonably indicates that the continued presence of the student at school pending any appeal hearing would substantially interfere with the educational process at the school.

J. Short-Term Out-of-School Suspensions (Out-of-School Suspensions of Ten (10) or Fewer School Days)

The Board of Education recognizes that student out-of-school suspensions of ten (10) or fewer school days (referred to as "short-term out-of-school suspensions") involve less stigma and require less formal due process procedures than are required for out-of-school suspensions of greater than ten (10) school days (referred to as "long-term out-of-school suspensions"). Appellate rights in such instances are satisfied in an effective and expedient manner by giving the student the right to appeal the out-of-school suspension decision to a committee composed of administrators and/or teachers. The composition of the committee shall be reserved to the District's discretion.

Right of Appeal

A student who has been suspended out of school for a period of ten (10) or fewer school days is entitled to all pre-appeal rights presently accorded by School District policy to students who have been suspended out of school for periods of greater than ten (10) school days. A student who has been given a short-term out-of-school suspension and that student's parent have a right to appeal an out-of-school suspension decision to a committee composed of administrators and/or teachers. A student with a short-term out-of-school suspension and his/her parent shall be informed by the principal of this right and the method of submitting an appeal.

Method of Appeal to a Committee

1. An appeal to a committee can be requested by letter to the school principal, which must be received within five (5) days after the principal's out-of-school suspension decision is received by the student, or his/her parent. The out-of-school suspension decision will become final and nonappealable if a request is not timely submitted.

2. Upon receipt of the request, the school principal shall confirm that the student's out-of-school suspension falls within the category of out-of-school suspensions to which an appeal to the committee is authorized. If the school principal determines that the period of out-of-school suspension is greater than ten (10) school days, or if for any reason, the short-term out-of-school suspension is extended beyond ten (10) school days prior to the committee hearing, the procedures applicable to long-term out-of-school suspensions must be followed and the student must be given the opportunity to appeal any adverse decision to the Board of Education.

Hearing the Appeal

1. The Superintendent shall appoint a review committee consisting of not less than three School District employees who shall be certified administrators and/or teachers, and shall designate a chairperson for the committee. No administrator or teacher is eligible to serve on the committee who was a witness to the student's conduct, nor is any teacher eligible to serve who has the student in his/her class for the current school term.

2. The Superintendent shall schedule the committee hearing as soon as possible during regular school hours, Monday through Friday. Reasonable consideration shall be given to accommodate the work schedules of the parent or guardian whenever possible. The student and his/her parent or guardian will be notified in writing of the date, time and place of the hearing. The principal who issued the out-of-school suspension decision shall attend the committee hearing. Either party choosing to have legal counsel at the committee hearing shall give the other party twenty-four (24) hours advance notice of that decision. The failure to give such notice will preclude the party's right to have counsel attend the hearing.

3. The committee will conduct a full investigation of the student's out-of-school suspension in an informal manner. The principal will briefly outline the student's conduct, read the policy, rule or regulation that the student's conduct violated, and present any evidence and witnesses that support the principal's decision to suspend the student. The student and his/her parent or guardian will be asked by the committee if they understand the rule and charges against the student. The student and his/her parent or guardian will then briefly explain the student's conduct, and present any evidence and witnesses that support the student's position.

4. At the conclusion of the presentation of the evidence, the committee shall retire to render a decision by a majority vote as to the guilt or innocence of the student. The committee shall also determine the reasonableness of the term of the out-of-school suspension. The committee's decision shall be confirmed in writing and a copy will be mailed to the parent or guardian of the student, the principal and the Superintendent.

5. The decision of the committee shall be final and nonappealable.

K. Student Privileges While Under Suspension

Participation in the extracurricular activities of the school is a privilege and not a right. disciplinary or other correctional measures against a student, the student will not be permitted to participate in any extracurricular activities offered by the school during the term of the discipline unless, in the sole judgment of the principal, such participation is appropriate given the nature of the offense committed by the student.

"Extracurricular activities" include, but are not limited to, all school sponsored teams, clubs, organizations, ceremonies, student government, band, athletics and all other school sponsored activities and organizations.