

## **STUDENTS - Series 500**

### **502 Student Behavior and Discipline**

#### **502.2 Student Suspension**

The Iowa Code gives the Board of Education the power to suspend students and the authority to confer this power on members of the professional staff.

In-school suspension is the temporary isolation of a student from one or more classes while under administrative supervision. In-school suspensions may be imposed by the principal for infractions of school rules which are serious but which do not warrant the necessity of removal from school.

Out-of-school suspension is the removal of a student from the school environment for periods of short duration. Suspension is to be employed when other available school resources are unable to constructively remedy student misconduct. Out-of-school suspension may be imposed when the presence of the student will cause interference with the maintenance of the educational environment or the operation of the school.

The principal of each school building may temporarily suspend a student for a period not to exceed five days for disciplinary reasons by following the due process procedures. The minimal due process procedures include the rights of students to:

1. Be given oral and/or written notice of the charges.
2. Be given the opportunity to admit or deny such charges.
3. Be given an explanation of the evidence against the students if he/she denies the charges.
4. Be given the opportunity to explain the situation.

The superintendent may extend the suspension upon the principal's request, for a total of no more than ten days. The president of the board shall be advised in writing of all short-term and extended suspensions. Written notice of the suspension and the reasons therefore shall be sent to the student's parents.

Readmission of the student after short-term suspension will be done by the building principal. Readmission after extended suspension may occur following a hearing conducted by the superintendent. The purpose of this informal hearing shall be to determine the most appropriate educational program available for the student, or to consider an administrative recommendation to the board for expulsion.

The informal hearing should be attended by the superintendent, the principal, the student, the parents and any other persons deemed appropriate by the superintendent or requested by the parent or the student.

Parents and students should be aware that under certain circumstances school officials are obligated to inform law enforcement authorities of certain types of student misbehavior. In addition, legal action may be instituted against the student.

Following the suspension of a special education student, an informal evaluation of the student's placement shall take place. The IEP shall be evaluated to determine whether it needs to be changed or modified in response to the behavior responsible for the suspension:

If a special education student's suspensions, either in or out of school, equal ten days on a cumulative basis, a staffing team shall meet to determine whether the IEP is appropriate.

Adoption Date:	January 24, 1983
Review Date:	November 10, 2008
Revision Date:	November 15, 1993
Legal Reference:	Iowa Code Sections 279.9; 282.4; 282.5. Court Cases: U.S. Supreme Court, Goss v. Lopez (1975). U.S. Supreme Court, Wood v. Strickland (1975).
Cross Reference:	500 Statement of Guiding Principles (Student Rights and Responsibilities) 502.3 Student Expulsion