

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE BOARD POLICY

STUDENTS

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES STUDENT DISCIPLINE

STUDENT SUSPENSIONS/EXPULSIONS

447.3

The School Board recognizes the importance of maintaining proper order and discipline in the schools and holding students accountable for their actions and compliance with Board policies and school rules. The Board also recognizes and actively supports the primary mission of the public schools to help ensure all students receive a proper education and graduate from high school.

With that in mind, the Board directs the District Administrator and building principals to utilize 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, after-school detentions and in-school suspensions.

Out-of-school suspension is a serious consequence which should be reserved for situations where the student's behavior is disruptive to the school environment, poses a safety or health danger to the student or 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. The building 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 to the District Administrator for possible expulsion when conduct seriously endangers 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. Conduct that endangers a person or property includes making a threat to the health or safety of a person or making a threat to damage property. The District Administrator will review the circumstances and refer the matter to the Board for expulsion consideration if the circumstances involved warrant. All legal requirements regarding student expulsion hearings and expulsions shall be followed. Expulsion decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

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). When determining whether to expel a student and the length of expulsion, the following factors may be considered in each individual case:

1. The degree of danger the student poses to others or property, including consideration of past conduct;
2. The age of the student;
3. The effect a term of expulsion will have on the student's education;
4. The desire of the student to make good use of the educational services provided;
5. Whether the student has made good use of educational services in the past;
6. The degree of responsibility and remorse the student feels regarding his/her offending conduct; and,
7. The support of the student's parent(s) or guardian in reforming the student's offending conduct and preventing the recurrence of such conduct.

If the Board determines that the interest of the school demands the student's expulsion, the student shall be expelled from school.

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.

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]

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