

**Suspension and Expulsion  
Board of Education  
Wrightstown Community School District**

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The Wrightstown Community School District 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 District also recognizes and actively supports the primary mission of the schools to help ensure all students receive a proper education and graduate from high school.

The Board of Education recognizes that exclusion from educational programs, by suspension or expulsion, is a substantial sanction and that such action must comply with the student's due process rights.

The Board directs the District Administrator and building principals to develop and utilize disciplinary strategies that keep students in school while maintaining a safe and positive school environment for student learning.

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, knowingly conveys a threat or false information, or shows complete or repeated defiance or refusal to comply with school rules or policies. A student shall also be suspended from school when required by law (i.e. possessing a firearm in violation of state law and Board policy).

The District Administrator or the Building Principal may suspend a student for up to five (5) school days or, if a notice of expulsion hearing has been sent, for up to fifteen (15) consecutive school days or ten (10) consecutive school days for each incident if the student is eligible for special education services under Chapter 115, Wis. Stats.

The parent of a suspended minor must be given prompt notice of the suspension and the reason for the suspension. The suspended student, the student's parent or guardian may, within five (5) school days following the commencement of the suspension, request a conference with the school District administrator or his or her designee who shall be someone other than a principal, administrator or teacher in the suspended student's school, for the purpose of appealing the decision to suspend the pupil.

A student suspended under this paragraph shall not be denied the opportunity to take any quarterly, semester or grading period examination missed during the suspension period or to complete coursework missed during a suspension.

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Under this policy, expulsion shall mean the Board will not permit a student to attend school at all for a specified period of time. If the student is expelled, the Board will determine the length of the expulsion period, which may extend at a maximum to the student's 21st birthday.

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 he/she have engaged in any of the following types of conduct:

1. Repeated refusal or neglect to obey District policies or school rules.
2. Knowingly conveying any threat or false information concerning an attempt or alleged attempt being made or to be made to destroy any school property by means of explosives.
3. Conduct while at school or under the supervision of a school authority which endangered the property, health or safety of others.
4. Conduct while not at school or while not under the supervision of a school authority which endangered the property, health or safety at school or under the supervision of the school authority, or of any District employee or Board member.
5. The student repeatedly engages in conduct while at school or while under the supervision of a school authority that disrupted the ability of school authorities to maintain order or an educational atmosphere at school or at any activity supervised by a school authority and such conduct does not constitute grounds for expulsion under any of the other reasons for expulsion outlined above. This last reason for expulsion only applies to students 15 years of age or older.

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.

The School Board shall expel a student from school for not less than one (1) year whenever it finds that the student brought a firearm to school or, while at school or while under the supervision of a school authority, possessed a firearm, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3), unless the Board finds that the punishment should be reduced based upon the circumstances of the incident. Any such finding by the Board shall be in writing.

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Prior to expelling a student, the Board shall provide the student with a hearing. Prior written notice of the hearing must be sent separately to both the student and if the student is a minor, to his/her parent(s) or guardians(s). The notice must be sent at least five (5) days prior to the date of hearing, not counting the date notice is sent. The notice must also satisfy the requirement of Sec. 120.13(1)(c)4, Wis. Stats.

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.

All student expulsions, including those involving students with disabilities as defined by IDEA or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, shall follow all statutory procedures and requirements.

An expelled student or, if the student is a minor, the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the Board's expulsion decision to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. An appeal from the decision of the DPI may be taken within thirty (30) days to the circuit court for the county in which the school is located.

The Board may specify conditions in a student's expulsion order that would allow the student to be reinstated to the 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.

The District may provide continued educational services to expelled students during the term of their expulsion as deemed reasonable and appropriate. The educational services provided to expelled students with disabilities shall be provided consistent with applicable legal requirements.

Adopted: 12/18/2019

Reviewed:

Revised:

Legal Reference:

Wisconsin Statutes – Section 118.127, Section 118.16(4)(b), Section 120.13(1)

Federal Law – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act