



# NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

Board of Education Policy 7-210

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## STUDENTS

### SUSPENSION

The Superintendent, the Principal or the Assistant Principals are authorized to suspend students from school who are guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct in accordance with the guidelines set forth below. Students may also be assigned all day detention, which shall be served in a supervised setting within the school building.

Acts of misconduct that may result in assignment of an all-day detention or an out-of-school suspension include, but are not limited to:

1. Absence from class without a satisfactory excuse;
2. Insubordination;
3. Refusal to comply with any instruction of a faculty member, administrator or staff member made within the scope of his or her duties;
4. Any behavior which materially disrupts or which could be reasonably anticipated to disrupt the educational process;
5. Any behavior which involves or is intended to create disorder or invade the rights of others; or
6. Other acts or conduct in violation of rules and regulations of the District as established by the Board of Education and its administrators.

Students shall be afforded the following procedural protections:

#### **All Day Detention:**

1. Before assigning a student to all day detention, the charges will be explained and the student shall be given an opportunity to respond to the charges.
2. Students shall be properly supervised.

3. Students shall be given the opportunity to complete classroom work during the all-day detention for equivalent academic credit.

**Out-of-School Suspension:**

1. Prior to suspension, the student shall be provided oral or written notice of the charges. If the student denies the charges, the student shall be given an explanation of the evidence and an opportunity to present his or her version of the incident.  
Prior notice and hearing, as stated above, is not required and the student may be immediately suspended when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. In such cases, the necessary notice and hearing shall follow as soon as practicable.
2. An attempted phone call to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).
3. A written notice of the suspension to the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student, which shall:
  - a. Provide a full statement of the reasons for the suspension;
  - b. Provide notice to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their child's right to a review of the suspension;
  - c. Include information about an opportunity to make up work missed during the suspension for equivalent academic credit;
  - d. Provide a rationale as to the specific duration of the suspension; and
  - e. Depending upon the length of the out-of-school suspension, include the following applicable information:
    - i. For a suspension of 3 school days or less, an explanation that the student's continuing presence in school would either pose:
      - a) A threat to school safety, or
      - b) A disruption to other students' learning opportunities.
    - ii. For a suspension of 4 or more school days, an explanation:
      - a) That other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions have been exhausted and/or that school officials determined that no other appropriate and available interventions existed for the student.
      - b) As to whether school officials attempted other interventions and/or determined that no other interventions were available for the student, and
      - c) That the student's continuing presence in school would either:
        - 1) Pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community, or
        - 2) Substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operation of the school.

- iii. For a suspension of 5 or more school days, the information listed in section 4.e.ii., above, along with documentation by the Superintendent or designee determining what, if any appropriate and available support services will be provided to the student during the length of his or her suspension.
4. A summary of the notice, including the reason for the suspension and the suspension length, must be given to the Board by the Superintendent or designee.
5. Parents/guardians who disagree with the suspension decision are entitled to request a review with the principal of the entire incident which led to the suspension with the Assistant Principal or Principal or. Parents must request a review with the Principal within 3 school business days after notice of the suspension decision. All principal-level reviews must be held in person. The Principal or Assistant Principal will render the decision in writing to the parents/guardians as within 3 school business days of the hearing.
6. Upon request of the parents/guardians, a hearing shall be conducted by the Board or a hearing officer appointed by it to review the suspension. At the hearing, the parents/guardians of the student may appear and discuss the suspension with the Board or its hearing officer and may be represented by counsel. Whenever there is evidence that mental illness may be the cause for the behavior resulting in the suspension, the Superintendent or designee shall invite a representative from the Department of Human Services to consult with the Board. If a hearing officer is appointed by the Board, he or she shall report to the Board a written summary of the evidence heard at the meeting. After its hearing or upon receipt of the report of the hearing officer, the Board may take such action as it finds appropriate. If the suspension is upheld, the Board's written suspension decision shall specifically detail items 3(c), 3(d), and 3(e), above.

**Legal References: Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975); Sieck v. Oak Park River-Forest High School, 807 F. Supp. 73 (N.D. Ill., E.D., 1992).**

**105 ILCS 5/10-22.6**

**Adopted: 7/20/94**

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