

Corrective Actions and Punishment

All students shall submit to the reasonable rules of the District. Refusal to comply with written rules and regulations established for the governing of the school shall constitute sufficient cause for discipline, suspension, or expulsion. Suspensions or expulsions shall be used only for instances of serious student misconduct.

For the purposes of the District's policies relating to corrective action or punishment:

1. "Suspension" is the exclusion from school or individual classes for a specific period of time, after which the student has a right to return. Administrators may suspend students for up to 10 consecutive school days per incident. Following due process procedures, the Board may suspend a student for a specific period of time with or without stipulations for readmission. Suspension may be Out of School (OSS) or on campus in the Internal School Suspension (ISS) facility. Both the administration and the Board may assign a combination of both OSS and ISS suspension periods.
2. "Expulsion" is the exclusion from school. Only the Board has the authority to expel. The Board may permanently expel a student. When a permanent expulsion is ordered by the Board, the Board may grant a right to petition for readmission after a specified time period.
3. "Discipline" constitutes all other forms of corrective action or punishment, including brief exclusions from a class and exclusion from any other type of activity conducted by or for the District. The administration may also assign school supervised community service for discipline violations. Community service may include, but is not limited to, campus cleanup, delivering school supplies, or assisting with school activities such as sporting events. Discipline under this category shall not adversely affect specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements, as long as all required work is satisfactorily performed. Academic penalties are not to be imposed for non-academic related offenses.

No student shall be expelled, suspended, or disciplined in any manner for any act not related to the orderly operation of the school or school-sponsored activities or any other aspect of the educational process. The administration shall implement disciplinary measures in accordance with statutory authority, board policies, and the student handbook. Cases of serious student misconduct, as determined by the school

administration, shall be referred to the Board for a due process discipline hearing. The administration shall present a discipline recommendation to the Board relative to the seriousness of the offense and following the guidelines of board policy and the student handbook. Dependent upon the circumstances of the incident, the administration may recommend greater or lesser consequences to the Board. The administration may develop and implement special discipline consequences, including alternative placements for special education students, so long as appropriate special education procedures are followed.

Drugs, Alcohol, and Paraphernalia

All drugs and alcohol discipline violations are considered to be of a serious nature and subject to a due process hearing before the Board.

Possession, Use, and Being Under The Influence

- First Offense
 - Suspension (OSS) from school for 90 consecutive school days. Suspension start and end dates determined by the Board of Trustees.
- First Offense – Alternative Corrective Action (in lieu of 90-day Out of School Suspension)
 - Out of School (OSS) Suspension of 3 to 10 days
 - In School Suspension (ISS) of 2 to 20 days
 - Twenty (20) hours of community service as approved by the Building Principal
 - Chemical abuse evaluation and required participation in Student Assistance Program or completion of a drug and alcohol awareness class
 - Participation or attendance at any school activity is prohibited during the period of the suspension
 - Presence of school campus is prohibited
 - Loss of driving and parking privileges on school campus until all other stipulations are successfully met
 - Behavior and attendance contract for period of 90 school days
 - Montana High School Association and school district policies apply to participation in extra-curricular activities

Should the student refuse to accept any of the conditions imposed in First Offense – Alternative Corrective Action in lieu of suspension, the Board shall suspend the student for a term of 90 consecutive school days. Should the student fail to abide by any of the conditions imposed in First Offense –

Alternative Corrective Action in lieu of suspension, the student shall be suspended by the administration for the balance of the 90 school days from the original date of suspension unless the term of the suspension is modified by the Board upon a request from the student for a hearing.

➤ **Second Offense:**

- Permanent expulsion with right to petition the Board for readmission during a subsequent school year as determined by the Board
- The Board may establish criteria for readmission which may include, but not limited to, the following:
 - ❖ Successful completion of drug and alcohol class
 - ❖ Proof of continued successful academic work
 - ❖ Proof of appropriate conduct

The Board is under no obligation to accept a petition for readmission or meet with the parties involved.

Criminal Distribution of Drugs

➤ **First Offense:**

- Permanent expulsion

Special Education Students

Students with disabilities may also be suspended under these same rules if the suspension will not constitute a change in placement. If a student with a disabling condition accrues ten (10) or more days' suspension per incident, the Child Study Team who has knowledge of the student's disabling condition will determine if there is causal relationship between the disabling condition and the student's misconduct. If such a relationship exists, the student's educational placement may not be changed without parental approval or a court order, pending a due process hearing under IDEA.

Likewise, before a recommendation on the expulsion of a disabled student is submitted to the Board, the Child Study Team must meet to determine if there is a causal relationship between the disabling condition and the student's misconduct. The Board shall consult legal counsel before expelling any disabled student.

When a disabled student is acting in such a way that he/she poses a danger to himself/herself or to another student or property, or substantially disrupts his/her

educational program or that of other students, an emergency suspension may take place. Emergency suspensions may not last longer than ten (10) school days. The principal shall convene the Team for reviewing the student's record before the student is readmitted to school and no later than the tenth (10th) day of suspension.

Once a student is expelled in compliance with District policy, the expulsion shall be brought to the attention of appropriate local or state authorities, in order that such authorities may address the student's needs.

Legal Reference:	20 U.S.C. 1400, et esq.	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
	34 CFR 300.5 19-521	
	§20-5-105, MCA	Attendance Officer-Powers & Duties
	§20-5-106, MCA	Truancy
	§20-4-302, MCA	Power of Teacher or Principal Over Pupils
	§20-4-402, MCA	Duties of District Superintendent
	§20-5-201, MCA	Duties and Sanctions
	§20-5-202, MCA	Suspension and Expulsion
	§10.16.3346, ARM	Aversive Treatment Procedures
	§45-9-101, MCA	Criminal Distribution of Dangerous Drugs

Policy History:

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