

# DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Danbury, Connecticut

## POLICY

### ***SUSPENSION, DISCIPLINE & EXPULSION OF STUDENTS***

Adopted: 5/10/00  
Revised: 3/11/10

Policy No. 7-230\*

### STUDENT BEHAVIOR

It is the goal of the Board of Education to ensure the safety and welfare of all students in attendance, and to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning. In keeping with this goal, students are expected to comply with school rules and regulations, as well as Board policies. Students may be disciplined for conduct on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity that endangers persons or property, is seriously disruptive of the educational process, or that violates a publicized policy of the Board. Students may be disciplined for conduct off school grounds if such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process and violates a publicized policy of the Board.

In working with students, emphasis shall be placed upon developing effective self-discipline as the most effective disciplinary approach.

### DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

At times it may be necessary to employ disciplinary measures which involve removal, suspension or expulsion. Whichever measure is employed must always be fair, dignified and consistent. No student shall be suspended, excluded or otherwise disciplined on account of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, financial status, pregnancy, parenthood or marriage.

At the beginning of each school year and at other such times as it deems appropriate, the intent of this policy shall be distributed to students and parents (or legal guardians, if known to be other than parents) and to school employees printed in the English language with notices appended thereto in the Portuguese and Spanish languages indicating copies of the policy are available.

All notices, written or oral, required by this policy shall be in English and when possible the primary language of the home. All notices shall be made in simple and commonly understood words to the extent possible. All hearings and conferences required by this policy shall be conducted by persons fluent in the primary language of the student's home or with assistance of an interpreter.

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### SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

It is the policy of the Danbury Board of Education that students are subject to discipline, up to and including suspension and expulsion, for misconduct on or off school property which endangers or threatens the health, safety or welfare of persons or property, seriously disrupts the educational process or violates a publicized policy of the Board.

### RECOMMENDATION FOR EXPLUSION

A principal may consider recommendation for expulsion of a student in a case where he/she has cause to believe that the student's conduct on school grounds or at school-sponsored activity is violative of a publicized Board policy or is seriously disruptive of the educational process or endangers persons or property or whose conduct off school grounds is violative of such policy and is seriously disruptive of the educational process.

A recommendation for expulsion shall be required, however, whenever there is a reason to believe that any pupil (A) on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, was in possession of a firearm, as defined in 18 USC 921, as amended from time to time, or deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or martial arts weapon, as defined in C.G.S. Section 53a-3, (B) off school grounds, did possess such a firearm in violation of C.G.S. Section 29-35 or did possess and use such a firearm, instrument or weapon in the commission of a crime under C.G.S. Chapter 952, or (C) on or off school grounds, offered for sale or distribution a controlled substance, as defined in subdivision (9) of C.G.S. Section 21a-240, whose manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting or possessing with the intent to sell or dispense, offering, or administering is subject to criminal penalties under C.G.S. Sections 21a-277 or 21a-2278.

If it is found that the pupil did so possess or so possess and use, as appropriate, such firearm, instrument or weapon or did so offer for sale or distribution such a controlled substance, the pupil will be expelled for one (1) calendar year, provided the Board may modify the period of expulsion for a pupil on a case by case basis.

### EXPULSION HEARINGS

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The Board may conduct expulsion hearings at a full Board meeting or through a committee appointed by the Chair in accordance with State statutes. When the Chair has appointed a committee for any such hearing as described above, the Superintendent shall notify members of the Board of Education Committee of the time and place for such hearing.

#### EXPULSION AND EARLY READMISSION TO SCHOOL

Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d(j) states the following: “An expelled pupil may apply for early readmission to school. Except as provided in this subsection, such readmission shall be at the discretion of the local or regional board of education. The board of education may delegate authority for readmission decisions to the superintendent of schools for the school district. If the board delegates such authority readmission shall be at the discretion of the superintendent. Readmission decisions shall not be subject to appeal to Superior Court. The board or superintendent, as appropriate, may condition such readmission on specified criteria.”

#### LEGAL REFERENCE: Connecticut General Statutes

- 10-233a through 10-233f Suspension, removal and expulsion of students, as amended by PA 95-304, PA 96-244, PA 98-139, PA 07-66, PA 07-122, PA 08-160, PA 09-82 and PA 09-6
- 53a-3 Definitions.
- 53a0217b Possession of Firearms and Deadly Weapons on School Grounds.
- PA 94-221 An Act Concerning School Discipline and Safety.
- 18 U.S.C. 921 Definitions.