Suspension Procedures

"Suspension" shall be the short-term removal (not more than ten consecutive (10) school days) of a student from a regular District program and loss of access to any school activity for disciplinary reasons, whether conducted on or off District property, or to or from school property during the period of suspension.

A student may be given a suspension of up to ten (10) consecutive school days by the Superintendent, Principal, Assistant Principal, or their designee for each act of misconduct in violation of the Student Behavior Code, if so warranted.

The following procedures shall govern student suspensions in Peoria Public Schools:

1. **Due Process.** When reasonable, before a student may be suspended, the student shall be provided a conference during which the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges.

2. **Immediate Suspension.** A student may be immediately suspended when, in the judgment of the responsible administrator, the student’s presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. Under such circumstances, a conference prior to suspension is not required. In such cases, the notice and conference shall follow as soon as practicable.

3. **Notice to Parent/Guardian.** The administration will make every reasonable effort to contact the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) and report the student’s suspension. A written notice of the suspension shall be prepared, which states the behavior that resulted in the suspension, including any school rule that was violated. The notice shall inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their right to a review of the suspension.

4. **Suspension Review.** A review of the suspension shall be conducted by a hearing officer appointed by the Board upon written request of the parent(s)/guardian(s). The student will serve the suspension as prescribed during the suspension review process. At the review, the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) may appear and discuss the suspension with the hearing officer, may be represented by counsel, and may present any evidence on their behalf or question the administration regarding any of their evidence. The hearing officer shall then prepare a report to the Board of Education. After receipt of the hearing officer’s report, the Board shall take such action as it finds appropriate.

5. **Reintegration Meeting.** After the student has served the term of his/her suspension, the administration shall attempt to schedule a reintegration meeting with the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) prior to the student returning to school. At the reintegration meeting, when deemed appropriate, the administration, student and parent(s) will develop strategies to ensure that the student is supported in his/her transition back into the classroom. These strategies may include, but are not limited to: student behavior contract; direct counseling services from the building social worker, school counselor or the buildings principal’s designee; and student mediation.
ADOPTED: July 29, 2016