STUDENTS

PACES Abeyance Program

1. When a student commits a drug and/or alcohol offense for which she/he may be recommended for expulsion under Board Policy, school administration is to proceed forward with a recommendation for expulsion with participation in the PACES Abeyance program being offered as an option, if the following criteria are met:

   a) The school administration feels that the PACES Abeyance program option is appropriate.
   b) The student is eligible for participation in the PACES Abeyance Program.

   NOTE: It should be fully explained to the parents and student that participation in the PACES Abeyance Program involves an informal expulsion hearing with the Director of Student Affairs.

2. Eligibility for the PACES Abeyance Program will be determined by the following:

   The student has violated specific sections of Board Policy 7:190, Student Behavior, number two (2) and/or number three (3). Rule 2 references alcohol prohibitions while Rule 3 references drug prohibitions:

   a) Any illegal drug, controlled substance, cannabis (including marijuana and hashish) and/or residue.
   b) Any anabolic steroid not administered under a physician’s care and supervision.
   c) Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a licensed physician or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician’s instructions.
   d) Look-alike or counterfeit drugs, including a substance not containing an illegal drug or controlled substance, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug or controlled substance; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug or controlled substance.
   e) Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

3. No student who is charged with selling, distributing, or delivering drugs or alcohol may participate in the PACES Abeyance Program.

4. The Office of Student Affairs will send a letter to the student’s parent/guardian(s) informing them of the recommended expulsion and the date and time for a conference explaining the PACES Abeyance Program. A copy of the Board Policy 7:190 should be enclosed with the letter.

5. A student may be given the opportunity to participate in the PACES Abeyance Program twice while attending school in grades K through 6. The student may again participate in the PACES Abeyance Program twice while attending grades 7 through 12.

6. A student who enters into the PACES Abeyance Program who also participates in athletics and/or extra-curricular competition is subject to the stipulations outlined in the Abeyance Agreement, school rules, the terms of the Extra-Curricular Competition Code, and IHSA rules and regulations.
7. The expulsion period for a student that is offered and accepts participation in the PACES Abeyance Program will be no less than two (2) complete semesters from the date of their rule violation.

Hearing Process

8. The PACES Abeyance Program, under Board Policy 7:190, will be explained to the student and parent/guardian(s) including the responsibilities of all parties to help insure the successful completion of the program. The PACES Abeyance Program Agreement will detail the offense(s) and conditions that must be met for the expulsion to be held in abeyance. When the student and parent/Guardian(s) sign the agreement, they will receive a copy of the school rules which, if broken, may result in revocation of the PACES Abeyance Agreement.

   a) Participation in the PACES Abeyance Program will hold the expulsion in Abeyance.
   b) If the PACES Abeyance Program is accepted, three copies of the PACES Abeyance Program Agreement shall be signed. Copies of the signed contract will be given to the student and parent/guardian(s) and the student’s home school administration.
   c) If the student and parent/guardian(s) choose not to accept the option of participating in the PACES Abeyance Program, the Office of Student Affairs will proceed with scheduling a formal expulsion hearing to address the charges against the student.

9. The term of the mandated abeyance is the same as the Board assigned expulsion time period.

10. When the student successfully completes the PACES Abeyance Program provisions, the signed agreement and the letter recommending expulsion will be removed from the student’s records and destroyed.

Revocation

11. If a student violates a school rule which may breach the terms of the PACES Abeyance Agreement, the student shall be suspended from school for that infraction and the school administration shall notify the Director of Student Affairs by letter recommending revocation of the abeyance and proceed with the expulsion for the original infraction. The Director of Student Affairs will then recommend to the Board of Education that the Board impose expulsion for the original infraction and revoke the PACES Abeyance Agreement.

Intensive Abeyance

12. The District recognizes that students receiving substance education and/or treatment may relapse. Students who violate the terms of the PACES Abeyance Agreement due to a positive drug test or a second drug and/or alcohol offense may be placed on Intensive Abeyance based on the following conditions:

   a) Enrollment is not automatic; only students that have shown progress in education and/or treatment and have otherwise complied with the PACES Abeyance Agreement will be considered.
   b) The Director of Student Affairs will determine if the student is eligible for Intensive Abeyance.
   c) The student will be required to enroll in and successfully complete a drug treatment program offered by a District 150 provider. Any costs that might be incurred must be paid by the student and their parent/guardian(s).
d) The student will consent to drug testing at any time for the remainder of the PACES Abeyance Agreement.

e) The student and the Abeyance counselor will meet with each other a minimum of bi-weekly for the duration of the Abeyance Agreement.