

### TEACHER SUSPENSION RIGHTS

A teacher is authorized to immediately remove and suspend a student from a class, subject, or activity for up to one (1) school day when the teacher has good reason to believe and can support and document that the student's behavior poses a clear and present danger to self or others.

For all other conduct, including conduct which would result in an automatic suspension or expulsion under the code of conduct, the teacher must handle the matter in accordance with the standard disciplinary process used in the school building. The teacher may also elect to disregard the teacher suspension rights provided in this policy and remove the student from class in accordance with the standard disciplinary process used in the school building.

A student receiving a teacher-imposed suspension shall not return to the class, subject or activity for the rest of that school day from the time of the student infraction, unless permitted by concurrence of both the teacher and the principal or designee.

At the discretion of the principal or designee, the student receiving a teacher-imposed suspension from a class, subject or activity may be permitted to attend other classes, subjects or activities if the student's conduct does not otherwise qualify for a multiple day suspension or expulsion in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

If the student remains at school, the student shall be appropriately supervised while suspended from the class, subject or activity.

All teacher-imposed suspensions shall be applied in a manner consistent with applicable student discipline procedures, as well as all Federal and State laws for students determined to be eligible for special education programs/services or reasonable accommodation of their disability.

This policy does not diminish the due process rights under Federal law of a student who has been determined to be eligible for special education programs and services.

#### **Procedural Requirements**

- A. Prior to imposing a suspension, the teacher must first specifically warn the student that if the conduct continues, the teacher will suspend the student from the class, subject or activity for the day.

- B. If the teacher imposes a suspension as defined and allowed in this policy, the teacher shall immediately report the suspension and the reason for the suspension to the principal or designee for appropriate action. This immediate report may be made verbally or on the District's *Classroom Suspension Form*.
- C. A teacher, who imposes a suspension from a class, subject or activity, shall complete the District's *Classroom Suspension Form* by the end of that school day.
- D. If the appropriate administrative action under the Code of Conduct requires the student's continued presence in the school, the student shall be under appropriate supervision.
- E. During the teacher-imposed suspension, the student shall not be returned that day to the class, subject or activity from which s/he was suspended without the concurrence of the principal and the teacher of the class, subject or activity.
- F. As soon as possible after the suspension, but not later than the next school day, the teacher shall ask the student's parent/guardian to attend a parent-teacher conference regarding the suspension.
  - 1. A school administrator shall attend the meeting if requested by the teacher or parent/guardian.
  - 2. The teacher shall contact a school counselor, school psychologist, or school social worker who shall attend the conference whenever practicable.
- G. The parent-teacher conference must be scheduled during the teacher's non-instructional time.
- H. A parent-teacher conference must be held before the teacher can suspend the student again for classroom conduct.
- I. The teacher must report the outcome of the parent teacher conference to the principal in writing.
- J. A record of the teacher-imposed suspension will be kept.

- K. A school principal, at his/her discretion, may revoke an individual teacher's right to suspend students.
- L. This policy is included in the student code of conduct.

**DEFINITIONS**

**CLASS, SUBJECT OR ACTIVITY:** At the elementary level, "class" is defined to mean any time during which the student is assigned to the regular classroom teacher who imposed the suspension. "Subject" is defined as music, art or physical education. "Activity" is defined as recess. At the middle school and high school, "class" and "subject" are interchangeable and refer to the period of time during which the student is assigned to the teacher imposing the suspension. There is no "activity" during the school day from which a middle school or high school teacher may suspend a student.

**AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER A SUSPENSION:** The action must be taken not later than the next day following the suspension.

**TEACHER:** The authority for teacher-imposed suspensions is limited to teachers under contract with the South Lyon Community Schools. All other teachers are not authorized to utilize the teacher-imposed suspension procedure and must refer student discipline matters to the principal or designee. Guest teachers may not suspend students from a class, subject or activity.

MCL 380.1309

*Adopted January 21, 2008*