

iii. The results of any relevant testing, assessments or evaluations of the student; and

iv. The recommendation of the chief school administrator, principal or director of the alternative education program or home or other in-school or out-of-school instruction program in which the student has been placed.

2. The district board of education shall develop and adopt policies and procedures providing for action on the continuation of student suspensions in the event of cancellation of the first or second regular board meeting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-4 and 5.

(d) When the district board of education votes to continue the suspension of a general education student, the board of education, in consultation with the chief school administrator, shall review the case at each subsequent district board of education meeting for the purpose of determining:

1. The status of the student's suspension;
2. The appropriateness of the current educational program for the suspended student; and
3. Whether the suspended student's current placement, pursuant to (a)9 above, should continue or whether the student should return to the general education program.

(e) When the district board of education votes to continue the suspension of a general education student, the district board of education, in consultation with the chief school administrator, shall make the final determination on:

1. When the student is prepared to return to the general education program;
2. Whether the student shall remain in an alternative education program or receive home or other in-school or out-of-school instruction, based on the criteria set forth in (c)1i through iv above; or
3. Whether to initiate expulsion proceedings in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.5.

(f) The district board of education shall provide a general education student suspended under this section with an appropriate educational program or appropriate educational services, based on the criteria set forth under (a)9ii above, until the student graduates from high school or reaches the age of 20, whichever comes first.

1. The educational program shall be consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2 and 10.2 and 6A:14-2 and 4.3, whichever is applicable; or

2. The educational services provided, either in school or out of school, shall be comparable to those provided in the public schools for students of similar grades and attainments, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25.

(g) For a student with a disability who receives a long-term suspension, the district board of education shall proceed

in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14 in determining or changing the student's educational placement to an interim or alternate educational setting.

1. All procedural protections set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:14 and this section shall be afforded to each student with a disability who is subjected to a long-term suspension.

2. All decisions concerning the student's educational program or placement shall be made by the student's Individualized Education Program team.

3. The provisions of (b) through (f) above shall not apply to students with disabilities.

Amended by R.2006 d.366, effective October 16, 2006.

Sec: 38 N.J.R. 2294(a), 38 N.J.R. 4411(c).

In introductory paragraph of (a), inserted "consecutive" and "the following"; added new (a)2; recodified former (a)2 through (a)12 as present (a)3 through (a)13; in a(6), inserted "; no later than five days prior to the formal hearing, pursuant to a(10) below"; in (a)7, substituted "the Federal" for "federal"; added new (a)9ii; recodified former (a)9ii as (a)9iii; in (a)10i, substituted a comma for "or to" following "committee" and inserted "or an impartial hearing officer"; in (a)10iii, deleted "and" from the end; in (a)10iv, inserted "and" at the end; added (a)10v; in (a)11ii, deleted "and" from the end; in (a)11iii, inserted "of each charge"; added (a)11iv through (a)11vi; in (a)12, substituted "did not commit" for "is not guilty of" and deleted "and" from the end; in (a)13, substituted "to have committed" for "guilty of" and "; and" for a period at the end; added (a)14; in (b), substituted "general education student's" for "student's general education"; in introductory paragraph of (c), substituted "shall" for "may"; in (c)2, inserted "develop and"; in (d)3, substituted "Whether" for "If" and "whether" for "if" and inserted "; pursuant to (a)9 above"; deleted (f), recodified (g) and (h) as (f) and (g); in introductory paragraph of (f), substituted "The" for "A" and "(a)9ii" for "(f)" and inserted "; whichever comes first" at the end; in the introductory paragraph of (g), substituted "in determining" for "-2.8 in determining"; and in (g)1, inserted "and this section".

Amended by R.2007 d.184, effective June 4, 2007.

See: 39 N.J.R. 294(a), 39 N.J.R. 2243(a).

In (a)5iii, updated the first N.J.A.C. reference; in (a)10i and (a)10i(1), inserted "district"; in (a)10iii, inserted "and" at the end; deleted former (a)10iv; recodified former (a)10v as (a)10iv; in (c)1iv, inserted "in-school or"; and in (g)3, substituted "(f)" for "(g)".

6A:16-7.4 Mandated student removals from general education

(a) The district board of education shall follow N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.5 for student removals for firearms offenses.

(b) The district board of education shall follow N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.6 for student removals for assaults with weapons offenses.

(c) The district board of education shall follow N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.7 for student removals for assaults on district board of education members or employees.

6A:16-7.5 Expulsions

(a) A district board of education may expel, that is discontinue the educational services or discontinue payment of educational services for, a general education student from school, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, only after the district board of education has provided the following:

1. The procedural due process rights set forth at N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3 and 7.4, subsequent to a long-term suspension pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3; and

2. An appropriate educational program or appropriate educational services, based on the criteria set forth under N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3(f).

i. The educational program shall be consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2 and 10.2 and 6A:14-2 and 4.3, whichever are applicable; or

ii. The educational services provided, either in school or out of school, shall be comparable to those provided in the public schools for students of similar grades and attainments, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25.

(b) Any appeal of the district board of education's decision regarding the cessation of the student's general education program shall be made to the Commissioner of Education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.3 through 1.17.

1. A district board of education shall continue to provide an appropriate educational program or appropriate educational services, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.5(a)2, until a final determination has been made on the appeal of the district board of education's action to expel a student.

(c) An expulsion of a student with a disability from a receiving school shall be handled in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14.

6A:16-7.6 Conduct away from school grounds

(a) School authorities have the right to impose a consequence on a student for conduct away from school grounds, including on a school bus or at a school-sponsored function that is consistent with the district board of education's code of student conduct, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1.

1. This authority shall be exercised only when it is reasonably necessary for the student's physical or emotional safety, security and well-being or for reasons relating to the safety, security and well-being of other students, staff or school grounds, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:25-2 and 18A:37-2.

2. This authority shall be exercised only when the conduct which is the subject of the proposed consequence materially and substantially interferes with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school.

3. The consequence pursuant to (a) above shall be handled in accordance with the district board of education approved code of student conduct, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1, and as appropriate, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2, 7.3 or 7.5.

Amended by R.2006 d.366, effective October 16, 2006.
See: 38 N.J.R. 2294(a), 38 N.J.R. 4411(c).
In (a)1, inserted " , security" two times.

6A:16-7.7 Staff responsibilities

(a) District boards of education shall provide for the equitable application of the code of student conduct.

(b) District boards of education shall delineate the roles and responsibilities of each staff member in the implementation of the code of student conduct.

(c) District boards of education shall provide to all district board of education employees training annually on the code of student conduct, which shall include training on the prevention, intervention and remediation of student conduct in violation of the district board of education's code of student conduct.

1. Information on the code of student conduct shall be incorporated into the orientation program for new employees.

Amended by R.2006 d.366, effective October 16, 2006.
See: 38 N.J.R. 2294(a), 38 N.J.R. 4411(c).

Section was "Staff responsibilities and rights". In introductory paragraph of (c), substituted "district board of education employees" for "school staff".

6A:16-7.8 Attendance

(a) Each district board of education shall develop, adopt and implement policies and procedures regarding the attendance of students, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25 through 31 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8 and 13.1, at the public schools of the district or day schools in which students are provided with equivalent instruction, according to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25, that shall include, at a minimum:

1. The expectations and consequences regarding the timely arrival of students to school and classes;

2. The expectations and consequences regarding attendance at school and classes;

3. A definition of unexcused absence, for the purpose of this section, that, at a minimum, shall be based on the definition of a school day, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3, and the following considerations:

i. Family illness or death;

ii. Educational opportunities;

iii. Written parental permission;

iv. Excused religious observances, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14 through 16;

v. Where appropriate, Individualized Education Programs pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §§1400 et seq., the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, accommodation plans under 29 U.S.C. §§794 and