

Purpose/Background

Rocky View Schools supports the use of a variety of interventions and behavior strategies to promote positive behavior. Rocky View Schools recognizes, from time to time, it may be necessary to exclude a student, through suspension or recommendation for expulsion, from a class, one or more courses or programs, school, school sponsored functions, or riding a school bus when less intrusive interventions have not been successful, or the behavior is of an extreme nature.

Procedures

1. Suspension may be used when interventions or other positive behavior supports have not been successful or where the student's behaviour is of an extreme nature.
2. The Principal may suspend a student for up to five (5) days from school, from one or more class periods, courses or education programs, or from riding a school bus.
3. A teacher may suspend a student from one (1) class period. That suspension must be promptly reported to the Principal or designate.
4. An out of school suspended student is prohibited from being on the school grounds, in the school building, riding the school bus and from participation in school sponsored activities or events for the duration of the suspension.
5. The Principal shall promptly inform the student's parent of a suspension via phone call and follow up letter (emailed to parent) detailing the circumstances of the suspension. The Principal will meet with the student's parent(s), or the student if the student is at least 16 years old, if requested to do so, to discuss the suspension. In the case of an independent student, the suspension letter shall be sent to that student.
A copy of the suspension letter is also forwarded to the Superintendent or designate.
6. A principal may suspend a student for engaging in unacceptable behaviour, whether or not it occurs within the school building, on school grounds, off school grounds on an approved school related activity, on the school bus, during the school day or by electronic means. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to:
 - 6.1. Use possession of, sale, distribution of or active contact with a weapon on a student's person, in a student's locker or desk, on Rocky View Schools property, or in a vehicle on Rocky View Schools property used by a student or occupied by a student as a passenger;
 - 6.2. Threats;
 - 6.3. Conduct which endangers others;
 - 6.4. Encouraging conduct which endangers or may endanger others;
 - 6.5. Encouraging unacceptable conduct;
 - 6.6. Use or display of improper, obscene or abusive language;
 - 6.7. Distribution or display of offensive messages or pictures;

- 6.8. Theft, including identity theft;
 - 6.9. Assault;
 - 6.10. Wilful damage to school or others' property;
 - 6.11. Use, possession of, distribution of, or active contact with, or collection of money for illicit drugs, cannabis, alcohol, or inhalants in school, on RVS property or in the context of any school-related activity;
 - 6.12. Attending school or any school-related activity under the influence of illicit drugs, cannabis, alcohol or inhalants;
 - 6.13. Personal, gender identification related, sexual orientation or sexual harassment;
 - 6.14. Hazing, initiation activities, the formation or the operation of sororities, fraternities, gangs and secret organizations;
 - 6.15. Extortion;
 - 6.16. Disruptive behaviour, wilful disobedience or defiance of authority;
 - 6.17. Interfering with the orderly conduct of classes or the school;
 - 6.18. Tampering with fire alarms and safety equipment;
 - 6.19. Criminal activity;
 - 6.20. Contravention of the school's code of conduct;
 - 6.21. School-related violence;
 - 6.22. Bullying, including cyber-bullying; and
 - 6.23. Inappropriate information technology use.
7. A Principal may recommend to the Board that a student be expelled for:
- 7.1. Displaying a willful, blatant, and repeated refusal to comply with Section 31 or 36(1) of the Education Act, Board policies or administrative procedures relating to discipline.
 - 7.2. Excessive, persistent and/or chronic unacceptable behavior;
 - 7.3. Actions which endanger the safety of students and/or staff members and/or members of the school community;
 - 7.4. Offenses in connection with the use of prohibited substances; and
 - 7.5. Conduct which is injurious to the physical or mental well-being of the members of the school.
8. Upon receipt of a recommendation for expulsion, the Superintendent or designate shall proceed according to Board Policy 13: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters to determine whether to expel or reinstate the student.

9. In most cases, students who have been expelled from a school in a particular school year may return the following September to the school from which they have been expelled provided they meet any conditions specified at the time of expulsion.

10. The Board may make conditions for the student's return to re-enroll at the original school or another school in Rocky View Schools at the end of the expulsion term. If the student returns after the term of the expulsion without having met the conditions, the Superintendent or designate has the authority to direct the student to another school or program.

Reference:

- Sections 8,11,31,32,33,36,37,41,42,43,44,52,53,196,197,222 Education Act
- RVS AP350: Student Code of Conduct
- RVS AF355-A Suspension Report
- Board Policy 13 – Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters