

District: Tupelo Public School District
Section: J - Students
Policy Code: JDF - Student Discipline Hearings

STUDENT DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

A student who has been recommended for expulsion, or suspended or otherwise denied admission to attend school for a period of more than ten days, and/or his parent, has the right to request a student disciplinary hearing to review the recommendation of the principal. The district will afford the student appropriate due process as soon as possible following the suspension of the student. The authority is given to a District Disciplinary Committee (DDC) to hear discipline issues arising from the school site. Procedures for a DDC hearing will be as follows:

1. The DDC shall be composed of a hearing officer and three panel members chosen from a list of eligible school administrators. To be eligible, panel members shall be trained by the assistant superintendent at the beginning of each school year. The composition of the DDC will be selected in such manner to contain a fair distribution of members.
2. The hearing officer will preside over the hearing and will not vote. Only the three members of the DDC will vote and make the recommendations for disciplinary action.
3. The hearing will be conducted in a relatively informal manner. No person will be admitted to the hearing except members of the DDC, the principal or designee involved, the student and his parents. The purpose of the hearing will be to listen to both the student as well as the administrator from the school site and to determine whether or not the student has committed an act that violates school policies or state laws.
4. If it is determined that the student did not violate school policies or a state law, the student will be allowed to return to school. If the DDC determines that the student did violate school policies or state law, then the DDC will recommend the disciplinary action to be imposed.
5. The DDC can recommend (1) the disciplinary action as determined by the principal be upheld, (2) the placement of the student on probation, (3) placement to an alternative school, (4) expulsion, and/or (5) that no action be taken against the student.
6. A written report of the findings from each hearing will be given to the assistant superintendent.

Adopted Date: 4/23/2013
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