

Chapter 392-400 WAC
((PUPILS)) STUDENT DISCIPLINE

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-010 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to ensure that school districts in Washington:

- (1) Provide due process to students;
- (2) Implement culturally responsive discipline policies and procedures that provide opportunity for all students to achieve personal and academic success;
- (3) Engage school personnel, students, parents, families, and the community in decisions related to the development and implementation of discipline policies and procedures;
- (4) Ensure fairness and equity in the administration of discipline;
- (5) Administer discipline in ways that respond to the needs and strengths of students, support students in meeting behavioral expectations, and keep students in the classroom to the maximum extent possible;
- (6) Provide educational services that students need to complete their education without disruption;
- (7) Facilitate collaboration between school personnel, students, and families to ensure successful reentry into the classroom following a suspension or expulsion; and
- (8) Provide a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-015 Authority. The authority for this chapter is RCW 28A.600.015 and 28A.600.020, which require the office of superintendent of public instruction to establish rules that prescribe the substantive and procedural due process rights of students served by any program or activity conducted by, or on behalf of, school districts.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-020 Application. (1) This chapter establishes the minimum procedural and substantive due process rights of students when they may be subject to discipline in Washington school districts. A school district may establish additional due process protections for students consistent with federal statutes and regulations, state statutes, common law, and rules prescribed by the office of superintendent of public instruction.

(2) This chapter must be construed in a manner consistent with the following laws and rules:

(a) RCW 28A.600.010 through 28A.600.022 and 28A.320.211, regarding the administration of student discipline;

(b) RCW 28A.300.042, regarding the collection, reporting, and disaggregation of student-level discipline data;

(c) Chapter 392-190 WAC, prohibiting unlawful discrimination in Washington public schools, including the requirement under WAC 392-190-048 that school districts annually review disaggregated discipline data to identify and address disproportionality in the administration of discipline on the basis of sex, race, limited-English proficiency (i.e., English learners), and disability, including students protected under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;

(d) WAC 392-172A-05140 through 392-172A-05175, and 34 C.F.R. Part 300.530 through 300.536, regarding the discipline of students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;

(e) RCW 28A.165.035, regarding the state menu of best practices and strategies for behavior; and

(f) RCW 28A.415.410 and 28A.415.420, regarding training to support school personnel in implementing discipline policies and procedures and gaining knowledge and skills in cultural competence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-023 Definitions. As used in this chapter the terms:

(1) "Behavioral violation" means a student's behavior that violates a school district's discipline policy adopted under WAC 392-400-225.

(2) "Classroom exclusion" means the exclusion of a student from a classroom or instructional or activity area for behavioral violations, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-330 and 392-400-335. Classroom exclusion does not include actions that result in missed instruction for a brief duration when:

(a) A teacher or other school personnel attempts other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations; and

(b) The student remains under the supervision of the teacher or other school personnel during such brief duration.

(3) "Corrective action" means discipline, classroom exclusion, suspension, emergency expulsion, or expulsion.

(4) "Culturally responsive" has the same meaning as "cultural competency" in RCW 28A.410.270.

(5) "Discipline" and "other forms of discipline" mean all forms of corrective action used in response to behavioral violations, other than classroom exclusion, suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion, which may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035.

(6) "Discretionary discipline" means a disciplinary action taken by a school district for student behavior that violates rules of student conduct adopted by a school district board of directors under RCW 28A.600.010 and 28A.600.015, but does not constitute action taken in response to any of the following:

(a) A violation of RCW 28A.600.420;

(b) An offense in RCW 13.04.155;

(c) Two or more violations of RCW 9A.46.120, 9.41.280, 28A.600.455, 28A.635.020, or 28A.635.060 within a three-year period; or

(d) Behavior that adversely impacts the health or safety of other students or educational staff.

(7) "Disruption of the educational process" means the interruption of classwork, the creation of disorder, or the invasion of the rights of a student or group of students.

(8) "Emergency expulsion" means an emergency removal from school for up to, and not exceeding, ten consecutive school days from the student's current school placement by a school district superintendent or a designee of the superintendent. The superintendent or designee must have good and sufficient reason to believe that the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school staff or an immediate and continuing threat of substantial disruption of the educational process. An emergency expulsion must end or be converted to another form of corrective action within ten school days from the date of the emergency removal from school.

(9) "Expulsion" means a denial of attendance for a period of time up to, but not longer than, the length of an academic term, as defined by the school board, from the time a student is removed from his or her current school placement by a school district superintendent or a designee of the superintendent. An expulsion also may include a denial of admission to, or entry upon, real and personal property that is owned, leased, rented, or controlled by the school district.

(10) "Length of an academic term" means the total number of school days in a single trimester or semester, as defined by the school board.

(11) "Long-term suspension" means a suspension that:

(a) Exceeds ten school days and has an end date of not more than the length of an academic term, as defined by the school board, from the time of corrective action;

(b) Cannot be imposed in such a manner that causes the student to lose academic grades or credit in excess of one semester or trimester during the same school year; and

(c) Cannot be imposed beyond the school year in which the alleged misbehavior occurs.

(12) "Parent" has the same meaning as in WAC 392-172A-01125.

(13) "School business day" means any calendar day, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and any federal and school holidays, upon which the office of the superintendent of the school district is open to the public for the conduct of business. A school business day shall be concluded or terminated upon the closure of said office for the calendar day.

(14) "School day" means a calendar day except school holidays on which students enrolled in the school district are afforded the opportunity to be engaged in educational activity which is planned, supervised, and conducted by or under the supervision of the school district certificated staff, and on which day all or any portion of the students enrolled in the program actually participate in such educational activity.

(15) "Short-term suspension" means a suspension for any portion of a calendar day up to and not exceeding ten consecutive school days.

(16) "Suspension" means a denial of attendance in response to a behavioral violation from any subject or class, or from any full schedule of subjects or classes, but not including classroom exclusions, expulsions, or emergency expulsions.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-025 Definitions. As used in this chapter the terms:

(1) "Behavioral violation" means a student's behavior that violates a school district's discipline policy adopted under WAC 392-400-110.

(2) "Classroom exclusion" means the exclusion of a student from a classroom or instructional or activity area for behavioral violations, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-330 and 392-400-335. Classroom exclusion does not include actions that result in missed instruction for a brief duration when:

(a) A teacher or other school personnel attempts other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations; and

(b) The student remains under the supervision of the teacher or other school personnel during such brief duration.

(3) "Culturally responsive" has the same meaning as "cultural competency" in RCW 28A.410.270.

(4) "Discipline" means any action taken by a school district in response to behavioral violations.

(5) "Disruption of the educational process" means the interruption of classwork, the creation of disorder, or the invasion of the rights of a student or group of students.

(6) "Emergency expulsion" means the removal of a student from school because the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-510 through 392-400-530.

(7) "Expulsion" means a denial of admission to the student's current school placement in response to a behavioral violation, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-480.

(8) "Length of an academic term" means the total number of school days in a single trimester or semester, as defined by the school board.

(9) "Other forms of discipline" means actions used in response to behavioral violations, other than classroom exclusion, suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion, which may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035.

(10) "Parent" has the same meaning as in WAC 392-172A-01125.

(11) "School business day" means any calendar day, except Saturdays, Sundays, or any federal, state, or school holiday, when the office of the superintendent of a school district is open to the public for business.

(12) "School board" means the governing board of directors of a local school district.

(13) "School day" means any day or partial day that students are in attendance at school for instructional purposes.

(14) "Suspension" means a denial of attendance in response to a behavioral violation from any subject or class, or from any full schedule of subjects or classes, but not including classroom exclusions, expulsions, or emergency expulsions.

(a) "In-school suspension" means a suspension in which a student is excluded from the student's regular educational setting but remains in the student's current school placement for up to ten consecutive

school days, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-475.

(b) "Long-term suspension" means a suspension in which a student is excluded from school for more than ten consecutive school days, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-475.

(c) "Short-term suspension" means a suspension in which a student is excluded from school for up to ten consecutive school days, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-475.

DISCIPLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-110 Discipline policies and procedures—Development, review, and distribution. (1) **School district policies and procedures beginning in the 2019-20 school year.** Before the commencement of the 2019-20 school year, a school district must adopt written policies and procedures for supporting students in meeting behavioral expectations and administering discipline in accordance with this chapter. The policies and procedures must:

(a) Clearly state the types of behaviors for which discipline, including suspension and expulsion, may be administered;

(b) Have a real and substantial relationship to the lawful maintenance and operation of the school district including, but not limited to, the preservation of the health and safety of students and employees and the preservation of an educational process that is conducive to learning;

(c) Provide for early involvement of parents in efforts to support students in meeting behavioral expectations;

(d) Provide that school personnel make every reasonable attempt to involve parents and students in the resolution of behavioral violations for which discipline may be administered;

(e) Identify other forms of discipline that school personnel should administer before or instead of administering classroom exclusion, suspension, or expulsion to support students in meeting behavioral expectations. Administering other forms of discipline may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035;

(f) Identify school personnel with the authority to administer classroom exclusions, suspensions, expulsions, emergency expulsions, and other forms of discipline;

(g) Establish appeal and review procedures related to the administration of suspensions, expulsions, and emergency expulsions, consistent with WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-530;

(h) Establish grievance procedures to address parents' or students' grievances related to the administration of classroom exclusions and other forms of discipline, including discipline that ex-

cludes a student from transportation or extra-curricular activity. The procedures must, at a minimum, include an opportunity for the student to share the student's perspective and explanation regarding the behavioral violation;

(i) Describe the types of educational services the school district offers to students during a suspension or expulsion and the procedures to be followed for the provision of educational services under WAC 392-400-610;

(j) Provide for reengagement meetings and plans, consistent with WAC 392-400-710;

(k) Provide a process for students who have been suspended or expelled to petition for readmission; and

(1) Be consistent with the model policy developed under RCW 28A.345.090.

(2) **Development and review.** A school district must develop and periodically review discipline policies and procedures with the participation of school personnel, students, parents, families, and the community. During the development and review of discipline policies and procedures, the school district must use disaggregated data collected under RCW 28A.300.042 to:

(a) Monitor the impact of the school district's discipline policies, procedures, and practices; and

(b) Update the school district's discipline policies and procedures to improve fairness and equity in the administration of discipline.

(3) **Distribution of policies and procedures.** A school district must make discipline policies and procedures available to families and the community. The school district must annually provide the district's discipline policies and procedures to all district personnel, students, and parents, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The school district must ensure district employees and contractors are knowledgeable of the discipline policies and procedures.

DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, AND EXPULSION RULES

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 07-04-048, filed 1/31/07, effective 3/3/07)

WAC 392-400-230 Persons authorized to impose discipline, suspension, or expulsion(, ~~or emergency removal~~)) upon students. (1) Each certificated teacher, each school administrator, each school bus driver, and any other school employee designated by the board of directors of a school district shall possess the authority to impose discipline upon a student for misconduct which violates rules of the school district established pursuant to WAC 392-400-225 (~~and to impose an emer-~~

~~gency removal from a class, subject, or activity upon a student pursuant to WAC 392-400-290)).~~

(2) The board of directors of any school district may delegate to the superintendent and/or his or her designee(s) the authority to impose suspensions and expulsions upon students for misconduct which violates rules of the school district established pursuant to WAC 392-400-225. Each certificated teacher and each administrator shall possess the authority to recommend suspensions and expulsions for such misconduct.

(3) Any board of directors which chooses not to delegate the authority to impose suspensions and/or expulsions, nevertheless, shall be subject to the requirements set forth in this chapter when it imposes a suspension or expulsion.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, each teacher is empowered to exclude any student who creates a disruption of the educational process in violation of the building disciplinary standards while under the teacher's immediate supervision from his or her individual classroom and instructional or activity area for all or any portion of the balance of the school day or until the principal or designee and teacher have conferred, whichever occurs first: Provided, That except in emergency circumstances as provided for in WAC 392-400-290, the teacher shall have first attempted one or more alternative forms of corrective action: Provided further, That in no event without the consent of the teacher shall an excluded student be returned during the balance of the particular class or activity period from which the student was initially excluded.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-15-153, filed 7/23/14, effective 8/23/14)

WAC 392-400-233 ((Unexcused)) Absences ((and)), tardiness, and school meals. ~~((1) Students with one or more unexcused absences and subject to compulsory attendance pursuant to chapter 28A.225 RCW may be subject to corrective action reasonably calculated to modify the student's conduct. If a school district imposes corrective action on a student for one or more unexcused absences, the school district must:~~

~~(a) Provide notice to the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) in writing in English or, if different, the primary language of the parent(s) or guardian(s), that the student has failed to attend school without valid justification, and by other means reasonably necessary to achieve notice of such fact;~~

~~(b) Schedule a conference or conferences with the parent(s) or guardian(s) and the student at a time and place reasonably convenient to all persons included to analyze the causes for the student's absence, and to determine, by appropriate means, whether the student should be made a focus of concern for placement in special programs designed for his or her educational success; and~~

~~(c) Take steps to reduce the student's absence which include, where appropriate in the judgment of local school officials and where possible, discussed with the student, parent(s) or guardian(s), adjustments of the student's school program or school or course assignment or assisting the student or parent to obtain supplementary services that might ameliorate the cause(s) for the student's absence from school.~~

~~(2) A student's academic grade or credit in a particular subject or course may be adversely affected by reason of tardiness or absences only to the extent and upon the basis that:~~

~~(a) The student's attendance or participation is related to the instructional objectives or goals of the particular subject or course;~~

~~(b) The student's attendance or participation has been identified by the teacher pursuant to policy of the school district as a basis for grading, in whole or in part, in the particular subject or course; and~~

~~(c) The circumstances pertaining to the student's inability to attend school have been taken into consideration, including whether the tardiness or absences are directly related to the student's disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.) (1) **Absences and tardiness.** A school district may not suspend or expel a student from school for absences or tardiness.~~

~~(2) **School meals.** A school district may not administer a corrective action in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to a student.~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-18-028, filed 8/26/16, effective 9/1/16)

WAC 392-400-235 Discipline—Conditions and limitations. Discipline may be imposed upon any student for violation of the rules of the school district that have been established pursuant to this section, subject to the following limitations and conditions and the grievance procedure set forth in WAC 392-400-240:

(1) No form of discipline shall be enforced in such a manner as to prevent a student from accomplishing specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements.

(2) School districts may not suspend the provision of educational services to a student as a disciplinary action.

~~((3) Corporal punishment which is defined as any act which willfully inflicts or willfully causes the infliction of physical pain on a student is prohibited.~~

~~Corporal punishment does not include:~~

~~(a) The use of reasonable physical force by a school administrator, teacher, school employee or volunteer as necessary to maintain order or to prevent a student from harming him/herself, other students and school staff or property;~~

~~(b) Physical pain or discomfort resulting from or caused by training for or participation in athletic competition or recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by a student; or~~

~~(c) Physical exertion shared by all students in a teacher directed class activity, which may include, but is not limited to, physical education exercises, field trips or vocational education projects.)~~

CLASSROOM EXCLUSIONS

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-330 Classroom exclusions—Conditions and limitations. (1) **Authority to administer classroom exclusions.**

(a) **Teacher authority.** A teacher may exclude a student from the teacher's classroom or instructional or activity area for behavioral violations that disrupt the educational process while the student is under the teacher's immediate supervision, subject to the requirements in this section and WAC 392-400-335.

(b) **Other school personnel authority.** A school district may authorize other school personnel to exclude a student from a classroom or instructional or activity area for behavioral violations of the district's discipline policy adopted under WAC 392-400-110 or 392-400-225, subject to the requirements in this section and WAC 392-400-335.

(2) **Other forms of discipline.** The teacher or other school personnel must first attempt one or more other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations, unless the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process. In administering other forms of discipline, the teacher or other school personnel may consider using best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035.

(3) **Limitations on classroom exclusion.**

(a) **Duration of classroom exclusion.** A classroom exclusion may be administered for all or any portion of the balance of the school day in which the student was excluded from the student's classroom or instructional or activity area. When a student is excluded from the student's classroom or instructional or activity area for longer than the balance of the school day, the school district must provide notice and due process for a suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion under this chapter.

(b) **Removal from school.** A student may not be removed from school during a classroom exclusion unless the school district provides notice and due process for a suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion under this chapter.

(4) **Assignments and tests.** The school district must provide the student an opportunity to make up any assignments and tests missed during the classroom exclusion.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-335 Classroom exclusion—Notice and procedure. Following a classroom exclusion under WAC 392-400-330:

(1) **Notice to principal.** The teacher or other school personnel must report the classroom exclusion, including the behavioral violation that led to the classroom exclusion, to the principal or designee as soon as reasonably possible.

(2) **Notice to parents.** The teacher, principal, or designee must notify the student's parents regarding the classroom exclusion as soon as reasonably possible. The school district must ensure that this notification is in a language the parents understand, which may require language assistance for parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

(3) **Emergency circumstances.** When a teacher or school personnel administers a classroom exclusion on the grounds that the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process:

(a) The teacher or other school personnel must immediately notify the principal or designee; and

(b) The principal or designee must meet with the student as soon as reasonably possible and administer appropriate discipline.

SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-430 Suspensions and expulsions—General conditions and limitations. A school district may administer suspensions and expulsions for behavioral violations, subject to the following requirements:

(1) **Parent involvement.** A school district must:

(a) Provide for early involvement of parents in efforts to support students in meeting behavioral expectations; and

(b) Must make every reasonable attempt to involve the student and parents in the resolution of behavioral violations.

(2) **Considerations.** Before administering any suspension or expulsion, a school district must consider the student's individual circumstances and the nature and circumstances of the behavioral violation to determine whether the suspension or expulsion, and the length of the exclusion, is warranted.

(3) **Completing academic requirements.** A school district may not:

(a) Suspend the provision of educational services to a student in response to behavioral violations; or

(b) Administer discipline in a manner that would prevent a student from completing subject, grade-level, or graduation requirements.

(4) **Opportunity to receive educational services.** A school district must provide an opportunity for students to receive educational services during a suspension or expulsion under WAC 392-400-610.

(5) **Reporting.** The principal or designee must report all suspensions and expulsions, and the behavioral violation that led to each suspension or expulsion, to the school district superintendent or designee within twenty-four hours after the administration of the suspension or expulsion.

(6) **Reentry.** After suspending or expelling a student, a school district must:

(a) Make reasonable efforts to return the student to the student's regular educational setting as soon as possible.

(b) Allow the student to petition for readmission at any time.

(7) **Absences and tardiness.** A school district may not suspend or expel a student from school for absences or tardiness.

(8) **Access to school district property.** When administering a suspension or expulsion, a school district may deny a student admission to, or entry upon, real and personal property that is owned, leased, rented, or controlled by the district.

(9) **End date.**

(a) An expulsion or suspension of a student may not be for an indefinite period of time and must have an end date.

(b) If a school district enrolls a student in another program or course of study during a suspension or expulsion, the district may not preclude the student from returning to the student's regular educational setting following the end date of the suspension or expulsion, unless:

(i) The school district superintendent or designee grants a petition to extend a student's expulsion under WAC 392-400-480;

(ii) The student is excluded from the student's regular educational setting in accordance with WAC 392-400-810; or

(iii) The student is otherwise precluded under law from returning to the student's regular educational setting.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-435 Short-term and in-school suspensions—Additional conditions and limitations. (1) **Other forms of discipline.** Before administering a short-term or in-school suspension, a school district must first attempt one or more other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations. Administering other forms of discipline may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035.

(2) **Length of exclusion.** A school district may not administer a short-term or in-school suspension beyond the school year in which the behavioral violation occurred.

(3) **Grade-level limitations.**

(a) A school district may not administer a short-term or in-school suspension for a student in kindergarten through fourth grade for more than ten cumulative school days during any academic term; and

(b) A school district may not administer a short-term or in-school suspension for a student in grades five through twelve:

(i) For more than fifteen cumulative school days during any single semester; or

(ii) For more than ten cumulative school days during any single trimester.

(4) **School personnel.** When administering an in-school suspension, a school district must ensure school personnel:

(a) Are physically in the same location as the student to provide direct supervision during the duration of the in-school suspension; and

(b) Are accessible to offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes as required under WAC 392-400-610.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-440 Long-term suspensions—Additional conditions and limitations. (1) **Other forms of discipline.** Before administering a long-term suspension, a school district must consider other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations. Administering other forms of discipline may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035.

(2) **Limitations on long-term suspensions.** A school district may only administer a long-term suspension:

(a) For behavioral violations under RCW 28A.600.015 (6)(a) through (d); and

(b) After the school district has determined that, if the student returned to school before completing a long-term suspension:

(i) The student would pose an imminent danger to students or school personnel; or

(ii) The student would pose an imminent threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.

(3) **Length of exclusion.**

(a) A long-term suspension may not exceed the length of an academic term.

(b) A school district may not administer a long-term suspension beyond the school year in which the behavioral violation occurred.

(4) **Grade-level limitations.** Except for a violation of WAC 392-400-820, a school district may not administer a long-term suspension for any student in kindergarten through fourth grade.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-445 Expulsions—Additional conditions and limitations. (1) **Other forms of discipline.** Before administering an expulsion, a school district must consider other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations. Administering other forms of discipline may involve the use of best practices and

strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035.

(2) **Limitations on expulsions.** A school district may only administer an expulsion:

(a) For behavioral violations under RCW 28A.600.015 (6)(a) through (d); and

(b) After the school district has determined that if the student returned to school before completing an expulsion, the student would pose an imminent danger to students or school personnel.

(3) **Length of exclusion.** An expulsion may not exceed the length of an academic term, unless the principal or designee petitions the school district superintendent for extension of an expulsion under WAC 392-400-480, and the petition is granted.

(4) **Grade-level limitations.** Except for violations of WAC 392-400-820, a school district may not administer an expulsion for any student in kindergarten through fourth grade.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-450 Suspensions and expulsions—Initial hearing with student. (1) **Initial hearing.** Before administering any suspension or expulsion, the principal or designee must conduct an informal initial hearing with the student for the purpose of hearing the student's perspective. At the initial hearing, the principal or designee must provide the student:

(a) Notice of the student's violation of the school district's discipline policy adopted under WAC 392-400-110;

(b) An explanation of the evidence regarding the behavioral violation;

(c) An explanation of the discipline that may be administered; and

(d) An opportunity for the student to share the student's perspective and provide explanation regarding the behavioral violation.

(2) **Parent participation.**

(a) **Short-term and in-school suspensions.** At an initial hearing in which the principal or designee is considering administering a short-term or in-school suspension, the principal or designee must provide the student an opportunity for the student to contact the student's parents.

(b) **Long-term suspensions and expulsions.** At an initial hearing in which the principal or designee is considering administering a long-term suspension or expulsion, the principal or designee must make a reasonable attempt to contact the student's parents to provide an opportunity for the parents to participate in the initial hearing in person or by telephone.

(3) **Administrative decision.** Following the initial hearing, the principal or designee must inform the student of the decision regarding the behavioral violation, including the date on which any suspension or expulsion will begin and end.

(4) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure that the initial hearing is held in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents

with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-455 Suspensions and expulsions—Notice to student and parents. (1) **Initial notice.** Before administering any suspension or expulsion, a school district must attempt to notify the student's parents, as soon as reasonably possible, regarding the behavioral violation.

(2) **Written notice.** No later than one school business day following the initial hearing with the student in WAC 392-400-450, a school district must provide written notice of the suspension or expulsion to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email. The written notice must include:

(a) A description of the student's behavior and how the behavior violated the school district's policy adopted under WAC 392-400-110;

(b) The duration and conditions of the suspension or expulsion, including the dates on which the suspension or expulsion will begin and end;

(c) The other forms of discipline that the school district considered or attempted, and an explanation of the district's decision to administer the suspension or expulsion;

(d) The opportunity to receive educational services during the suspension or expulsion under WAC 392-400-610;

(e) The student's and parents' right to an informal conference with the principal or designee under WAC 392-400-460;

(f) The student's and parents' right to appeal the suspension or expulsion under WAC 392-400-465, including where and to whom the appeal must be requested; and

(g) For a long-term suspension or expulsion, the opportunity for the student and parents to participate in a reengagement meeting under WAC 392-400-710.

(3) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure the initial and written notices required under this section are provided in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-460 Suspensions and expulsions—Optional conference with principal. (1) **Requesting a conference.** If the student or parents disagree with the school district's decision to suspend or expel the student, the student or parents may request an informal conference with the principal or designee to resolve the disagreement. The request for an informal conference may be made orally or in writing.

(2) **Time limit.** The principal or designee must hold the conference within three school business days after receiving the request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parents.

(3) **Conference.** During the informal conference, the principal or designee must provide the student and parents the opportunity to:

(a) Share the student's perspective and explanation regarding the behavioral violation;

(b) Confer with the principal or designee and school personnel involved in the incident that led to the suspension or expulsion; and

(c) Discuss other forms of discipline that may be administered.

(4) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure the conference is held in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

(5) **Right to appeal.** An informal conference must not limit a student's or parents' right to appeal the suspension or expulsion under WAC 392-400-465, participate in a reengagement meeting under WAC 392-400-710, or petition for readmission.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-465 Suspensions and expulsions—Appeal. (1) **Requesting an appeal.** A student or the parents may appeal a suspension or expulsion to the school district superintendent or designee orally or in writing.

(2) **Time limit.** A school district may establish a time limit to appeal a suspension or expulsion. Appeal time limits must be no less than five school business days from the date the school district provides the written notice under WAC 392-400-455.

(3) **Short-term and in-school suspensions.**

(a) **Appeal.** The superintendent or designee must provide the student and parents the opportunity to share the student's perspective and explanation regarding the behavioral violation orally or in writing.

(b) **Appeal decision.** The superintendent or designee must deliver a written appeal decision to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email within two school business days after receiving the appeal. The written decision must include:

(i) The decision to affirm, reverse, or modify the suspension;

(ii) The duration and conditions of the suspension, including the dates on which the suspension will begin and end;

(iii) The educational services the school district will offer to the student during the suspension under WAC 392-400-610; and

(iv) Notice of the student's and parents' right to request review and reconsideration of the appeal decision under WAC 392-400-470, including where and to whom to make the request.

(4) **Long-term suspensions and expulsions.**

(a) **Notice.** Within one school business day after receiving the appeal request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parents, the superintendent or designee must provide the student and parents written notice in person, by mail, or by email of:

(i) The time, date, and location of the appeal hearing;

(ii) The name(s) of the official(s) presiding over the appeal;

(iii) The student's and parents' rights to inspect the student's education records under (e) of this subsection;

(iv) The student's and parents' rights to inspect any documentary or physical evidence and a list of any witnesses that will be introduced at the hearing under (e) of this subsection;

(v) The student's and parents' rights under (f) of this subsection; and

(vi) Whether the school district will offer to hold a reengagement meeting under WAC 392-400-710 before the appeal hearing.

(b) **Reengagement.** Before the appeal hearing, the student, parents, and school district may agree to hold a reengagement meeting and develop a reengagement plan under WAC 392-400-710. The student, parents, and school district may mutually agree to postpone the appeal hearing while participating in the reengagement process.

(c) **Appeal hearing.** The school district must hold an appeal hearing within three school business days from the date the superintendent or designee received the appeal request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student or parents.

(d) **Presiding officials.** The school board may designate the superintendent, a hearing officer, or a discipline appeal council, if established under WAC 392-400-475, to hear and decide appeals under this section. The presiding official(s) may not be involved in the student's behavioral violation or decision to suspend or expel the student and must be knowledgeable about the rules in this chapter and of the school district's discipline policies and procedures.

(e) **Evidence and witnesses.**

(i) Upon request, the student, parents, and school district may inspect any documentary or physical evidence and a list of any witnesses that will be introduced at the appeal hearing. The school district, student, or parents must make the information available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing.

(ii) Upon request, the student and parents may review the student's education records. The district must make the records available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing.

(iii) If a witness for the school district cannot or does not appear at the appeal hearing, the presiding official(s) may excuse the witness's nonappearance if the district establishes that:

(A) The district made a reasonable effort to produce the witness; and

(B) The witness's failure to appear is excused by fear of reprisal or another compelling reason.

(f) **Student and parent rights.** During the appeal hearing, the student and parents have the right to:

(i) Be represented by legal counsel;

(ii) Question witnesses;

(iii) Share the student's perspective and provide explanation regarding the behavioral violation; and

(iv) Introduce relevant documentary, physical, or testimonial evidence.

(g) **Recording of hearing.** The appeal hearing must be recorded by manual, electronic, or other type of recording device. The school district must provide the recording to the student or parents upon request.

(h) **Appeal decision.** The presiding official(s) must base the decision solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. The presiding official(s) must provide a written decision to the student and parents

in person, by mail, or by email within three school business days after the appeal hearing. The written decision must include:

- (i) The findings of fact;
- (ii) A determination whether:

(A) The student's behavior violated the school district's discipline policy adopted under WAC 392-400-110;

(B) The behavioral violation reasonably warrants the suspension or expulsion and the length of the suspension or expulsion; and

(C) The suspension or expulsion is affirmed, reversed, or modified;

(iii) The duration and conditions of the suspension or expulsion, including the dates on which the suspension or expulsion will begin and end;

(iv) Notice of the student's and parents' right to request review and reconsideration of the appeal decision under WAC 392-400-470, including where and to whom to make the request; and

(v) Notice of the opportunity to participate in a reengagement meeting under WAC 392-400-710 and the contact information for the person who will coordinate scheduling of the reengagement meeting.

(5) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure that the notice, appeal proceedings, and decision are in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

(6) **Pending appeal.** If the student or parents request an appeal under this section, the school district may temporarily continue to administer the suspension or expulsion during the appeal period subject to the following requirements:

(a) The school district may temporarily continue to administer the suspension or expulsion for no more than ten consecutive school days from the initial hearing under WAC 392-400-450 or until the appeal is decided, whichever is earlier;

(b) Any days that the student is temporarily suspended or expelled before the appeal is decided must be applied to the term of the student's suspension or expulsion and may not extend the term of the student's suspension or expulsion;

(c) If the student who is temporarily suspended or expelled returns to school before the appeal is decided under this section, the school district must provide the student an opportunity to make up assignments and tests missed during the suspension or expulsion upon the student's return.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-470 Suspensions and expulsions—Review and reconsideration.

(1) **Requesting review.** The student or parents may request that the school board or discipline appeal council, if established under WAC 392-400-475, review and reconsider the school district's appeal decision under WAC 392-400-465. The student or parents may request the review orally or in writing.

(2) **Time limit.** A school district may establish a time limit for parents and students to request a review under this section. The time limit must be no less than ten school business days from the date the

school district provides the written appeal decision to the student and parents under WAC 392-400-465.

(3) Review procedure.

(a) In reviewing the school district's decision, the school board or discipline appeal council must consider all documentary and physical evidence related to the behavioral violation, any records from the appeal under WAC 392-400-465, relevant state law, and the school district's discipline policy adopted under WAC 392-400-110.

(b) The school board or discipline appeal council may request to meet with the student or parents, the principal, witnesses, or school personnel to hear further arguments and gather additional information.

(c) The decision of the school board or discipline appeal council must be made only by board or council members who were not involved in the behavioral violation, the decision to suspend or expel the student, or the appeal decision under WAC 392-400-465. If the discipline appeal council presided over the appeal under WAC 392-400-465, the decision must be made by the school board.

(4) Decision. The school board or discipline appeal council must provide a written decision to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email within ten school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

(a) Whether the school board or discipline appeal council affirms, reverses, or modifies the suspension or expulsion;

(b) The duration and conditions of the suspension or expulsion, including the dates on which the suspension or expulsion will begin and end; and

(c) For long-term suspensions or expulsions, notice of the opportunity to participate in a reengagement meeting under WAC 392-400-710.

(5) Language assistance. The school district must ensure that any review proceedings and decision are in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-475 Discipline appeal council. A school board may designate a discipline appeal council to hear and decide appeals under WAC 392-400-465 or to review and reconsider the district's appeal decisions under WAC 392-400-470. A discipline appeal council must consist of at least three persons appointed by the school board for fixed terms. All members of the discipline appeal council must be knowledgeable about the rules in this chapter and of the school district's discipline policies and procedures.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-480 Petition to extend expulsion. (1) **Petition.** When risk to public health or safety warrants extending a student's expulsion, the principal or designee may petition the school district

superintendent or designee for authorization to exceed the academic term limitation on an expulsion. The petition must inform the superintendent or designee of:

(a) The behavioral violation that resulted in the expulsion and the public health or safety concerns;

(b) The student's academic, attendance, and discipline history;

(c) Any nonacademic supports and behavioral services the student was offered or received during the expulsion;

(d) The student's academic progress during the expulsion and the educational services available to the student during the expulsion;

(e) The proposed extended length of the expulsion; and

(f) The student's reengagement plan.

(2) **Time limit.** The principal or designee may petition to extend an expulsion only after the development of a reengagement plan under WAC 392-400-710 and before the end of the expulsion. For violations of WAC 392-400-820, the principal or designee may petition to extend an expulsion at any time.

(3) **Notice.** The school district must provide written notice of the petition to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email within one school business day from the date the superintendent or designee received the petition. The written notice must include:

(a) A copy of the petition;

(b) The student's and parents' right to an informal conference with the school district superintendent or designee to be held within five school business days from the date the district provided written notice to the student and parents; and

(c) The student's and parents' right to respond to the petition orally or in writing to the school district superintendent or designee within five school business days from the date the district provided written notice.

(4) **Written decision.** The school district superintendent or designee may grant the petition only if there is substantial evidence that, if the student were to return to the student's previous school of placement after the length of an academic term, the student would pose a risk to public health or safety. The school district superintendent or designee must deliver a written decision to the principal, the student, and the student's parents in person, by mail, or by email within ten school business days after receiving the petition.

(a) If the petition is granted, the written decision must include:

(i) The date on which the extended expulsion will end;

(ii) The reason that, if the student were to return before the initial expulsion end date, the student would pose a risk to public health or safety; and

(iii) Notice of the student's or parents' right to request review and reconsideration of the appeal decision under subsection (5) of this section, including where and to whom to make the request.

(b) If the petition is not granted, the written decision must identify the date on which the expulsion will end.

(5) **Review and reconsideration.**

(a) **Requesting review.** The students or parents may request that the school board or discipline appeal council, if established under WAC 392-400-475, review and reconsider the decision to extend the student's expulsion. The student or parents may request the review orally or in writing.

(b) **Time limit.** A school district may establish a time limit for parents and students to request a review under this subsection. The

time limit must be no less than ten school business days from the date the school district superintendent or designee provides the written decision under subsection (4) of this section.

(c) **Review procedure.**

(i) The school board or discipline appeal council may request to meet with the student or parents or the principal to hear further arguments and gather additional information.

(ii) The decision of the school board or discipline appeal council may be made only by board or council members who were not involved in the behavioral violation, the decision to expel the student, or the appeal decision under WAC 392-400-465.

(d) **Decision.** The school board or discipline appeal council must provide a written decision to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email within ten school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

(i) Whether the school board or discipline appeal council affirms, reverses, or modifies the decision to extend the student's expulsion; and

(ii) The date on which the extended expulsion will end.

(6) **Duration.** Any extension of an expulsion may not exceed the length of an academic term.

(7) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure that any petition proceedings, notices, and decisions are provided in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

(8) **Annual reporting.** The school district must annually report the number of petitions approved and denied to the office of superintendent of public instruction.

EMERGENCY EXPULSIONS

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-510 Emergency expulsions—Conditions and limitations. A school district may immediately remove a student from the student's current school placement, subject to the following requirements:

(1) **Sufficient cause.** The school district must have sufficient cause to believe that the student's presence poses:

(a) An immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel; or

(b) An immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.

(2) **Determination of immediate and continuing threat of disruption.** For purposes of this section, an immediate and continuing threat

of material and substantial disruption of the educational process means:

(a) The student's behavior results in an extreme disruption of the educational process that creates a substantial barrier to learning for other students across the school day; and

(b) School personnel have exhausted reasonable attempts at administering other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations.

(3) **Time limit.** An emergency expulsion may not exceed ten consecutive school days. An emergency expulsion must end or be converted to another form of discipline within ten school days from the start of the emergency expulsion.

(4) **Conversion.** If a school district converts an emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district must:

(a) Apply any days that the student was emergency expelled before the conversion to the total length of the suspension or expulsion; and

(b) Provide the student and parents notice and due process under WAC 392-400-455 through 392-400-480.

(5) **Reporting.** All emergency expulsions, including the reason the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, must be reported to the district superintendent or designee within twenty-four hours after the start of the emergency expulsion.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-515 Emergency expulsions—Notice to student and parents. (1) **Initial notice.** After an emergency expulsion, the school district must attempt to notify the student's parents, as soon as reasonably possible, regarding the reason the district believes the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.

(2) **Written notice.** Within twenty-four hours after an emergency expulsion, a school district must provide written notice of the emergency expulsion to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email. The written notice must include:

(a) The reason the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel, or poses an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process;

(b) The duration and conditions of the emergency expulsion, including the dates on which the emergency expulsion will begin and end;

(c) The opportunity to receive educational services during the emergency expulsion under WAC 392-400-610;

(d) The student's and parents' right to an informal conference with the principal or designee under WAC 392-400-520; and

(e) The student's and parents' right to appeal the emergency expulsion under WAC 392-400-525, including where and to whom the appeal must be requested.

(3) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure the initial and written notices required under this section are provided in a language the student and parents understand, which may require lan-

guage assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-520 Emergency expulsions—Optional conference with principal. (1) **Requesting a conference.** If a student or the parents disagree with the school district's decision to administer an emergency expulsion, the student or parents may request an informal conference with the principal or designee to resolve the disagreement. The request for an informal conference may be made orally or in writing.

(2) **Time limit.** The principal or designee must hold the conference within three school business days after receiving the request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parents.

(3) **Conference.** During the informal conference, the principal or designee must provide students and parents the opportunity to share the student's perspective and explanation regarding the events that led to the emergency expulsion.

(4) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure the conference is held in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

(5) **Right to appeal.** An informal conference must not limit a student's or parents' right to appeal the emergency expulsion under WAC 392-400-525.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-525 Emergency expulsions—Appeal. (1) **Requesting an appeal.** A student or the parents may appeal an emergency expulsion to the school district superintendent or designee orally or in writing.

(2) **Time limit.** A school district may establish a time limit to appeal an emergency expulsion. Appeal time limits must be no less than three school business days from the date the school district provides the written notice of the emergency expulsion.

(3) **Notice.** Within one school business day after receiving the appeal request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parents, the superintendent or designee must provide the student and parents written notice in person, by mail, or by email of:

(a) The time, date, and location of the appeal hearing;

(b) The name(s) of the official(s) presiding over the appeal;

(c) The student's and parents' rights to inspect the student's education records under subsection (6) of this section;

(d) The student's and parents' rights to inspect any documentary or physical evidence and a list of any witnesses that will be introduced at the hearing under subsection (6) of this section; and

(e) The student's and parents' rights under subsection (7) of this section.

(4) **Appeal hearing.** The school district must hold an appeal hearing as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than two school business days after the date the superintendent or designee received the appeal request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parents.

(5) **Presiding official(s).** The school board may designate the superintendent, a hearing officer, or a discipline appeal council, if established under WAC 392-400-475, to hear and decide appeals under this section. The presiding official(s) may not be involved in the student's behavioral violation or decision to emergency expel the student and must be knowledgeable about the rules in this chapter and of the school district's discipline policies and procedures.

(6) **Evidence and witnesses.**

(a) Upon request, the student, parents, and school district may inspect any documentary or physical evidence and a list of any witnesses that will be introduced at the appeal hearing. The school district, student, or parents must make the information available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing.

(b) Upon request, the student and parents may review the student's education records. The school district must make the records available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing.

(c) If a witness for the school district cannot or does not appear at the appeal hearing, the presiding official(s) may excuse the witness's nonappearance if the district establishes that:

(i) The district made a reasonable effort to produce the witness; and

(ii) The witness's failure to appear is excused by fear of reprisal or another compelling reason.

(7) **Student and parent rights.** The student and parents have the right to:

(a) Be represented by legal counsel;

(b) Question witnesses;

(c) Share the student's perspective and provide explanation regarding the events that led to the emergency expulsion; and

(d) Introduce relevant documentary, physical, or testimonial evidence.

(8) **Recording of hearing.** The appeal hearing must be recorded by manual, electronic, or other type of recording device. The school district must provide the recording to the student or parents upon request.

(9) **Appeal decision.** The school district must provide a written decision to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email within one school business day after the appeal hearing. The written decision must include:

(a) The findings of fact;

(b) A determination whether the student's presence continues to pose:

(i) An immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel; or

(ii) An immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.

(c) Whether the school district will end the emergency expulsion or convert the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion. If the school district converts the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district must provide the student and parents notice and due process under WAC 392-400-455 through 392-400-480; and

(d) Notice of the student's and parents' right to request review and reconsideration of the appeal decision under WAC 392-400-530, including where and to whom to make the request.

(10) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure that any appeal proceedings, notices, and decisions are provided in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-530 Emergency expulsions—Review and reconsideration. (1) **Requesting review.** The student or parents may request that the school board or discipline appeal council, if established under WAC 392-400-475, review and reconsider the school district's appeal decision under WAC 392-400-525. The student or parents may request the review orally or in writing.

(2) **Time limit.** A school district may establish a time limit for parents and students to request a review under this section. The time limit must be no less than five school business days from the date the school district provided the written appeal decision to the student and parents under WAC 392-400-525.

(3) **Review procedure.**

(a) In reviewing the school district's decision, the school board or discipline appeal council must consider all documentary and physical evidence related to the events that led to the emergency expulsion, any records from the appeal under WAC 392-400-525, relevant state law, and the district's discipline policy adopted under WAC 392-400-110.

(b) The school board or discipline appeal council may request to meet with the student or parents, the principal, witnesses, or school personnel to hear further arguments and gather additional information.

(c) The decision of the school board or discipline appeal council must be made only by board or council members who were not involved in the events that led to the emergency expulsion, the decision to emergency expel the student, or the appeal decision under WAC 392-400-525. If the discipline appeal council presided over the appeal under WAC 392-400-525, the decision must be made by the school board.

(4) **Decision.** The school board or discipline appeal council must provide a written decision to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email within five school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

(a) Whether the school board or discipline appeal council affirms or reverses the school district's decision that the student's presence posed:

(i) An immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel; or

(ii) An immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.

(b) If the emergency expulsion has not yet ended or been converted, whether the school district will end the emergency expulsion or convert the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion. If the

school district converts the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district must provide the student and parents notice and due process under WAC 392-400-455 through 392-400-480.

(5) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure that any review proceedings and decision are in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-610 Educational services during suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion. (1) Educational services.

(a) A school district may not suspend the provision of educational services to a student in response to behavioral violations.

(b) During the suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion of a student, a school district must provide the student the opportunity to receive educational services. The educational services must enable the student to:

(i) Continue to participate in the general education curriculum;

(ii) Meet the educational standards established within the district; and

(iii) Complete subject, grade-level, and graduation requirements.

(c) When providing a student the opportunity to receive educational services under this section, the school district must consider:

(i) Meaningful input from the student, parents, and the student's teachers;

(ii) Whether the student's regular educational services include English language development services, special education, accommodations and related services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or supplemental services designed to support the student's academic achievement; and

(iii) Access to any necessary technology, transportation, or resources the student needs to participate fully in the educational services.

(d) A school district may provide educational services to the student in an alternative setting or modify the suspension or expulsion on a case-by-case basis. An alternative setting should be comparable, equitable, and appropriate to the regular educational services a student would have received without the exclusionary discipline. Example alternative settings include alternative high schools, one-on-one tutoring, and online learning.

(2) **Notice.** As soon as reasonably possible after administering a suspension or expulsion, a school district must provide written notice to the student and parents about the educational services the district

will provide. The school district must provide the written notice in person, by mail, or by email. The notice must include:

(a) A description of the educational services that will be provided; and

(b) The name and contact information for the school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work as required under this section.

(3) **Exclusions for up to five days.** For students subject to suspension or emergency expulsion for up to five consecutive school days, a school district must provide at least the following:

(a) Course work, including any assigned homework, from all of the student's regular subjects or classes;

(b) Access to school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes; and

(c) An opportunity for the student to make up any assignments and tests missed during the period of suspension or emergency expulsion.

(4) **Exclusions for six to ten days.** For students subject to suspension or emergency expulsion for six to ten consecutive school days, a school district must provide at least the following:

(a) Course work, including any assigned homework, from all of the student's regular subjects or classes;

(b) Access to school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes. School personnel must make a reasonable attempt to contact the student or parents within three school business days following the start of the suspension or emergency expulsion and periodically thereafter until the suspension or emergency expulsion ends to:

(i) Coordinate the delivery and grading of course work between the student and the student's teacher(s) at a frequency that would allow the student to keep current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes; and

(ii) Communicate with the student, parents, and the student's teacher(s) about the student's academic progress.

(c) An opportunity for the student to make up any assignments and tests missed during the period of suspension or emergency expulsion.

(5) **Long-term suspensions and expulsions.** For students subject to expulsion or suspension for more than ten consecutive school days, a school district must provide educational services in accordance with WAC 392-121-107.

(6) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure that notices and communications required under this section are provided in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

REENGAGEMENT

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-710 Student reengagement after long-term suspension or expulsion. (1) **Reengagement meeting.** When a school district administers a long-term suspension or expulsion, the district must convene a reengagement meeting with the student and parents to discuss a plan to reengage the student. Before convening a reengagement meeting, a school district must communicate with the student and parents to schedule the meeting time and location. The reengagement meeting must occur:

(a) Within twenty calendar days of the start of the student's long-term suspension or expulsion, but no later than five calendar days before the student returns to school; or

(b) As soon as reasonably possible, if the student or parents request a prompt reengagement meeting.

(2) **Reengagement plan.** The school district must collaborate with the student and parents to develop a culturally sensitive and culturally responsive reengagement plan tailored to the student's individual circumstances to support the student in successfully returning to school. In developing a reengagement plan, the school district must consider:

(a) The nature and circumstances of the incident that led to the student's suspension or expulsion;

(b) As appropriate, students' cultural histories and contexts, family cultural norms and values, community resources, and community and parent outreach;

(c) Shortening the length of time that the student is suspended or expelled;

(d) Providing academic and nonacademic supports that aid in the student's academic success and keep the student engaged and on track to graduate; and

(e) Supporting the student, parents, or school personnel in taking action to remedy the circumstances that resulted in the suspension or expulsion and preventing similar circumstances from recurring.

(3) **Documentation.** The school district must document the reengagement plan and provide a copy of the plan to the student and parents.

(4) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure that the reengagement meeting and plan are in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

(5) **Student and parent rights.** Reengagement meetings do not replace an appeal hearing under WAC 392-400-465 or a petition for readmission.

ADDITIONAL DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-805 Fundamental rights. When administering discipline under this chapter, the school district must not:

(1) Unlawfully discriminate against a student on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal;

(2) Deprive a student of the student's constitutional right to freedom of speech and press, the constitutional right to peaceably assemble and to petition the government and its representatives for a redress of grievances, the constitutional right to the free exercise of religion and to have the student's school free from sectarian control or influence, subject to reasonable limitations upon the time, place, and manner of exercising the right;

(3) Deprive a student of the student's constitutional right to be secure in the student's person, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures;

(4) Unlawfully interfere in a student's pursuit of an education while in the custody of the school district; or

(5) Deprive a student of the student's right to an equal educational opportunity, in whole or in part, by a school district without due process of law.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-810 Exceptions for the purpose of protecting victims. In accordance with RCW 28A.600.460, a school district may preclude a student from returning to the student's regular educational setting following the end date of a suspension or expulsion for the purpose of protecting victims of certain offenses, as follows:

(1) **Teacher victim.** A student committing an offense under RCW 28A.600.460(2), when the activity is directed toward the teacher, shall not be assigned to that teacher's classroom for the duration of the student's attendance at that school or any other school where the teacher is assigned;

(2) **Student victim.** A student who commits an offense under RCW 28A.600.460(3), when directed toward another student, may be removed from the classroom of the victim for the duration of the student's attendance at that school or any other school where the victim is enrolled.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-815 Behavior agreements. (1) **General.** A school district may enter into behavior agreements with students and parents in response to behavioral violations, including agreements to reduce the length of a suspension conditioned on the participation in treatment services, agreements in lieu of suspension or expulsion, or agreements holding a suspension or expulsion in abeyance.

(2) **Policies and procedures.** A school district entering into behavior agreements under this section must adopt written policies and procedures authorizing the agreements.

(3) **Reengagement meetings and educational services.** A school district must ensure that a behavior agreement does not waive a student's opportunity to participate in a reengagement meeting under WAC 392-400-710, or receive educational services as provided under WAC 392-400-610.

(4) **Duration.** The duration of behavior agreements must not exceed the length of an academic term.

(5) **Subsequent behavioral violations.** Nothing in this section precludes a school district from administering discipline for behavioral violations that occur after the district enters into an agreement with the student and parents.

(6) **Language assistance.** The school district must ensure any behavior agreement under this section is provided in a language the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-820 Firearm exceptions. As provided under RCW 28A.600.420:

(1) A school district must expel a student for no less than one year if the district has determined that the student has carried or possessed a firearm on school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public schools. The school district superintendent may modify the expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

(2) A school district may suspend or expel a student for up to one year if the student acts with malice, as defined under RCW 9A.04.110, and displays an instrument that appears to be a firearm on school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public schools.

(3) This section does not apply to:

(a) Any student while engaged in military education authorized by the school district in which rifles are used;

(b) Any student while involved in a convention, showing, demonstration, lecture, or firearms safety course authorized by the school district in which the rifles of collectors or instructors are handled or displayed; or

(c) Any student while participating in a rifle competition authorized by the school district.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-825 Corporal punishment, restraint, and isolation.

(1) Corporal punishment. A school district may not administer corporal punishment, including any act that willfully inflicts or willfully

causes the infliction of physical pain on a student. Corporal punishment does not include:

(a) The use of reasonable physical force by a school administrator, teacher, school personnel or volunteer as necessary to maintain order or to prevent a student from harming themselves, other students, school personnel, or property;

(b) Physical pain or discomfort resulting from or caused by training for or participation in athletic competition or recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by a student; or

(c) Physical exertion shared by all students in a teacher-directed class activity, which may include, but is not limited to, physical education exercises, field trips or vocational education projects.

(2) Restraint and isolation. A school district may not use isolation, restraint, or a restraint device on any student, except as provided for in RCW 28A.155.210, 28A.600.485, WAC 392-172A-02105, and 392-172A-02110.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-400-830 School meals. A school district may not administer any discipline in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to the student.

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

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| WAC 392-400-200 | Purpose and application. |
| WAC 392-400-205 | Definitions. |
| WAC 392-400-210 | Student responsibilities and duties. |
| WAC 392-400-215 | Student rights. |
| WAC 392-400-220 | Student disciplinary boards— Establishment at option of school district—Functions. |
| WAC 392-400-227 | School district rules defining students religious rights. |
| WAC 392-400-290 | Emergency removal from a class, subject, or activity. |
| WAC 392-400-420 | Reengagement meetings and plans. |