## Suspension

## Suspension Without Pay

The School Board may suspend without pay: (1) a professional employee pending a dismissal hearing, or (2) a teacher as a disciplinary measure for up to 30 employment days for misconduct that is detrimental to the School District. The Superintendent or designee may suspend an employee without pay for up to five (5) days as a disciplinary measure, or pending a recommendation for dismissal. Administrative staff members may not be suspended without pay as a disciplinary measure. in increments of less than a full work week.

Misconduct that is detrimental to the School District includes:

- Insubordination, including any failure to follow an oral or written directive from a supervisor;
- Violation of Board policy or Administrative Procedure;
- Conduct that disrupts or may disrupt the educational program or process;
- Conduct that violates any State or federal law that relates to the employee's duties; and
- Other sufficient causes.

Prior to any suspension without pay under this policy, the affected employee shall be notified in writing of the charges by the Superintendent or designee and shall have the right to explain or rebut the charges. The Superintendent or designee shall then verbally advise the employee of the decision regarding the employee's suspension, and the employee shall be required to immediately comply with the Superintendent or designee's directive regarding the suspension.

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to issue a pre-suspension notification to a professional employee. This notification shall include the length and reason for the suspension as well as the deadline for the employee to exercise his or her right to appeal the suspension to the Board or Board-appointed hearing examiner before it is imposed. At the request of the professional employee made within five calendar days of receipt of a pre-suspension notification, the Board or Board-appointed hearing examiner will conduct a pre-suspension hearing. The Board or its designee shall notify the professional employee of the date and time of the hearing. At the pre-suspension hearing, the professional employee or his/her representative may present evidence. If the employee does not appeal the pre-suspension notification, the Superintendent or

designee shall report the action to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

As soon as practicable thereafter, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the employee with written confirmation of the decision. Prior to the Superintendent's or designee's decision regarding the employee's suspension, the employee shall continue to receive full pay.

For disciplinary suspensions issued by the Superintendent, within five (5) school days of the verbal notification of the determination of the Superintendent or designee, the suspended employee may file a written request with the Superintendent for a review hearing before the Board of Education. If the suspended employee fails to request a review of the Superintendent's or designee's decision, he or she shall be deemed to have accepted the decision and no review by the Board shall take place.

## Suspension With Pay

The Board or Superintendent or designee may suspend a professional employee with pay: (1) during an investigation into allegations of disobedience or misconduct whenever the employee's continued presence in his or her position would not be in the School District's best interests, (2) as a disciplinary measure for misconduct that is detrimental to the School District as defined above, or (3) pending a Board hearing to suspend a teacher without pay.

As soon as practicable, The Superintendent shall meet with the employee to present the allegations and give the employee an opportunity to refute the charges. The employee will be told the dates and times the suspension will begin and end.

Any criminal conviction resulting from the investigation or allegations shall require the employee to repay to the District all compensation and the value of all benefits received by the employee during a paid or unpaid suspension.

Employees Under Investigation by Illinois Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Upon receipt of a DCFS recommendation that the District remove an employee from his or her position when he or she is the subject of a pending DCFS investigation that relates to his or her employment with the District, the Board or Superintendent or designee, in consultation with the Board Attorney, will determine whether to:

- 1. Let the employee remain in his or her position pending the outcome of the investigation; or
- 2. Remove the employee as recommended by DCFS, proceeding with:
  - a. A suspension with pay; or

b. A suspension without pay.

## Repayment of Compensation and Benefits

If a professional employee is suspended with pay, either voluntarily or involuntarily, pending the outcome of a criminal investigation or prosecution, and the employee is later dismissed as a result of his or her criminal conviction, the employee must repay to the District all compensation and the value of all benefits received by him or her during the suspension. The Superintendent will notify the employee of this requirement when the employee is suspended.