

EXPULSION

1. If the Superintendent recommends that the School Committee expel a student, the parent or guardian of the student (or the student if he or she is 18 years of age or older) shall receive written notice of the expulsion hearing. The notice shall include:
 - the date, time and place of the expulsion hearing
 - a description of the charges
 - a statement informing the parent, guardian or student that they may be represented by counsel
 - a statement that the student and his/her representative may present evidence on the student's behalf.
2. The School Committee will hear and consider relevant evidence at the hearing. The formal rules of evidence do not apply.
3. The student, and if the student is a minor, his or her parent(s) or guardian, shall be permitted to be present at the hearing. The student may be represented by counsel.
4. The student or the student's representative may cross-examine witnesses who are called by the School Department, and the student or student's representative may call witnesses to testify on the student's behalf. The student or his/her representative may also present non-testimonial evidence, such as documents.
5. The student may testify on his or her own behalf. If the student elects not to testify, such election not to testify shall not be considered by the School Committee to be an admission of guilt.
6. The School Committee shall maintain a record of the hearing.
7. The hearing shall be held in executive session.
8. The School Committee will make written findings in support of its decision. Any action taken by the School Committee shall occur in open session, with appropriate measures taken to safeguard the student's confidentiality.

ISSUED: January 7, 2002

