

# STATE OF NEW YORK

3036

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 19, 2017

Introduced by Sen. MONTGOMERY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the development of school codes of conduct and to the treatment of students subject to certain disciplinary actions

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 2801 of the education law, as added by chapter 181  
2 of the laws of 2000, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 402 of the laws  
3 of 2005, the opening paragraph, paragraphs a and c of subdivision 2 and  
4 paragraph a of subdivision 5 as amended by chapter 380 of the laws of  
5 2001, paragraphs 1 and m as amended and paragraph n of subdivision 2 as  
6 added by chapter 482 of the laws of 2010, and subdivision 3 as amended  
7 by chapter 123 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

8 § 2801. Codes of conduct on school property. 1. For purposes of this  
9 section, school property [~~means in or within~~] shall mean real, personal  
10 or intellectual property owned, leased or occupied by a public school  
11 including a charter school. Such property shall include but not be  
12 limited to any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground,  
13 parking lot or land contained within the real property boundary line of  
14 a public elementary or secondary school; or in or on a school bus, as  
15 defined in section one hundred forty-two of the vehicle and traffic law;  
16 or electronic files and databases; and a school function shall mean a  
17 school-sponsored or school-authorized extra-curricular event or activity  
18 regardless of where or when such event or activity takes place, includ-  
19 ing any event or activity that may take place in another state.

20 2. The board of education or the trustees, as defined in section two  
21 of this chapter, of every school district within the state, however  
22 created, and every board of cooperative educational services and county  
23 vocational extension board, shall adopt and amend, as appropriate, a  
24 code of conduct [~~for the maintenance of order on school property,~~

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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~~including a school function, which shall govern the conduct of students, teachers and other school personnel as well as visitors]~~ which shall govern the conduct of students, school employees and visitors in order to promote a safe, respectful and supportive learning and teaching environment on school property and at school functions and shall provide for the enforcement thereof. ~~[Such policy may be adopted by the school board or trustees only after at least one public hearing that provides for the participation of school personnel, parents, students and any other interested parties.]~~ Such code of conduct shall apply to all students, school employees, school board members, independent contractors and visitors and include, at a minimum, provisions that:

~~a. [provisions regarding conduct, dress and language deemed appropriate and acceptable on school property, including a school function, and conduct, dress and language deemed unacceptable and inappropriate on school property, including a school function, and provisions regarding acceptable civil and respectful treatment of teachers, school administrators, other school personnel, students and visitors on school property, including a school function, including the appropriate range of disciplinary measures which may be imposed for violation of such code, and the roles of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, the board of education and parents;~~

~~b. standards and procedures to assure security and safety of students and school personnel;~~

~~c. provisions for the removal from the classroom and from school property, including a school function, of students and other persons who violate the code;~~

~~d. disciplinary measures to be taken in incidents involving the possession or use of illegal substances or weapons, the use of physical force, vandalism, violation of another student's civil rights and threats of violence;~~

~~e. provisions for detention, suspension and removal from the classroom of students, consistent with section thirty two hundred fourteen of this chapter and other applicable federal, state and local laws including provisions for the school authorities to establish policies and procedures to ensure the provision of continued educational programming and activities for students removed from the classroom, placed in detention, or suspended from school;~~

~~f.]~~ establish standards and procedures to assure security and safety of students and school personnel;

b. establish a school climate that promotes and sustains a safe, inclusive, civil and respectful school environment for school personnel, students and visitors on school property and at school functions through prevention, intervention and discipline that support education and learning, promotes positive student behaviors, holds students accountable for their behavior and keeps students in school and class;

c. set out clear expectations for student conduct at school and school functions, using specific and objective criteria, and define violations of the code of conduct;

d. require age-appropriate, graduated and proportionate interventions and discipline that respond to student misconduct and hold students accountable for their behavior through a process that requires school personnel to use the intervention or response that interferes the least with a student's ability to attend class and school;

e. require the standard use of school-wide and individual positive interventions and supports that assist students in developing social and emotional competencies such as self-management, resilience, self-aware-

1 ness, responsible decision-making, avoiding conflict, and refocus on  
2 learning, before a child may be suspended;

3 f. establish procedures for the removal from the classroom and from  
4 school property, including a school function, of students and other  
5 persons who violate the code;

6 g. establish the range of interventions for student behaviors that  
7 violate the code of conduct including graduated interventions for  
8 repeated violations of the code of conduct; provided, however, that  
9 removal of a student from class or classes, school or school functions  
10 for a specific period of time shall not be used to respond to tardiness,  
11 unexcused absence from class or school, leaving school without permis-  
12 sion or insubordinate behavior including but not limited to the use of  
13 inappropriate language or gestures, lack of identification upon request  
14 by school personnel or violation of a school dress code. Suspension of  
15 students in kindergarten through grade three shall be prohibited, except  
16 in situations of serious physical harm to students, staff, or others  
17 while taking into account the totality of the circumstances. Permanent  
18 suspension from school shall be prohibited as a response to student  
19 misconduct;

20 h. establish prevention programs and services that include school-  
21 based initiatives that promote a safe and secure environment for all  
22 persons in school or at school functions including but not limited to:  
23 comprehensive, school-based models approved by the commissioner that  
24 improve safety of person and property, promote learning and collab-  
25 oration; interdisciplinary academic and support services provided by or  
26 at the school; and involvement of administrators, teachers, parents and  
27 students in identifying specific performance goals and assessment meth-  
28 ods;

29 i. require the consideration of the use of restorative practices such  
30 as conflict resolution, mediation, peer counseling, facilitated  
31 discussion and other restorative interventions that can effectively  
32 address student misconduct, hold students accountable for their behav-  
33 ior, repair harm to persons and property caused by misconduct and foster  
34 healthy relationships within the school community. Restorative practices  
35 may be used only with the consent of any person immediately affected by  
36 a student's alleged misconduct, including staff, and, in the case of an  
37 incident where another student has been injured, that student's parent  
38 or person in parental relationship to the student and the consent of the  
39 student who is alleged to have behaved inappropriately and that  
40 student's parent;

41 j. comply with the federal Gun-Free Schools Act;

42 k. establish the circumstances under and procedures by which a school  
43 may respond immediately to student behavior that: (i) physically injures  
44 or poses an immediate threat of serious physical injury to the student  
45 or other person or persons; or (ii) damages property and such damage  
46 injures or poses an immediate threat of serious physical injury to the  
47 student or other person or persons;

48 l. establish procedures by which violations of the code of conduct are  
49 reported to the appropriate school personnel, the facts are investi-  
50 gated, determined[~~7-discipline~~] and intervention measures [~~imposed and~~  
51 ~~discipline measures carried out~~] decided and implemented. Such  
52 provisions shall ensure that procedures established are consistent with  
53 this section, section thirty-two hundred fourteen of this chapter and  
54 other federal, state and local laws;

1 ~~[g. provisions ensuring]~~ m. ensure such code and ~~[the]~~ its enforcement  
2 ~~[thereof are in compliance]~~ comply with state and federal laws relating  
3 to students with disabilities;

4 ~~[h. provisions setting forth the procedures by which local law~~  
5 ~~enforcement agencies shall be notified of code violations which consti-~~  
6 ~~tute a crime]~~ n. define the roles and areas of responsibility of school  
7 personnel, security services and law enforcement for response to student  
8 misconduct that violates the discipline code. A school district that  
9 employs, contracts with or otherwise retains public law enforcement or  
10 public or private security including school resource officers for daily  
11 services at the school shall, by contract or memorandum of understanding  
12 in writing and consistent with the code of conduct and with stakeholder  
13 input, including parents, students, school administrators, teachers,  
14 probation officers, prosecutors, defense counsel, courts, parent and  
15 student organizations, and community members, establish protocols that  
16 define the relationship between the school district, its personnel,  
17 students and visitors, and law enforcement, and public or private secu-  
18 rity. Such contract or memorandum of understanding shall limit law  
19 enforcement or security personnel involvement when a student's behavior  
20 does not threaten the safety of the school, define which behaviors  
21 should not result in an arrest or summons, require law enforcement or  
22 security personnel to receive training as required by paragraph t of  
23 this section, and clearly delegate the role of school discipline to the  
24 school administration. Such contract or memorandum of understanding  
25 shall be incorporated into and published as part of the code of conduct;

26 ~~[i. provisions setting]~~ o. set forth the circumstances under and  
27 procedures by which persons in parental relation to ~~[the student]~~  
28 students accused of and affected by student behavior that violates the  
29 discipline code shall be notified of code violations;

30 ~~[j. provisions setting]~~ p. set forth the circumstances under and  
31 procedures by which a complaint in criminal court, a juvenile delinquen-  
32 cy petition or person in need of supervision petition as defined in  
33 articles three and seven of the family court act will be filed;

34 ~~[k.]~~ q. set out the circumstances under and procedures by which  
35 ~~[referral]~~ students who are suspended from school may also be referred  
36 to academic services, school-based support services or to appropriate  
37 human service agencies ~~[shall be made];~~

38 ~~[l. a minimum suspension period, for students who repeatedly are~~  
39 ~~substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially~~  
40 ~~interfere with the teacher's authority over the classroom, provided that~~  
41 ~~the suspending authority may reduce such period on a case by case basis~~  
42 ~~to be consistent with any other state and federal law. For purposes of~~  
43 ~~this section, the definition of "repeatedly are substantially disrupt-~~  
44 ~~ive" shall be determined in accordance with the regulations of the~~  
45 ~~commissioner,~~

46 ~~m. a minimum suspension period for acts that would qualify the pupil~~  
47 ~~to be defined as a violent pupil pursuant to paragraph a of subdivision~~  
48 ~~two-a of section thirty-two hundred fourteen of this chapter, provided~~  
49 ~~that the suspending authority may reduce such period on a case by case~~  
50 ~~basis to be consistent with any other state and federal law; and~~

51 ~~n. provisions to comply with article two of this chapter.]~~

52 r. ensure the continued educational programming and activities for  
53 students removed from the classroom or suspended from school. Students  
54 who have been removed from the classroom or suspended from school shall  
55 have the right to continue their education when they are excluded from

1 the classroom regardless of the reason for or type of exclusion as  
2 follows:

3 (i) when a student is removed from a classroom, the teacher, principal  
4 or the principal's designee shall provide the student with all missed  
5 classroom work within twenty-four hours of the removal and the student  
6 shall have the opportunity to earn all academic credit including the  
7 opportunity to complete any missed assignments and take any missed exam-  
8 inations or tests.

9 (ii) when a student is suspended from class or school, the principal  
10 or the principal's designee, in consultation with the student's teach-  
11 ers, shall create for the student an education plan for each subject of  
12 class in which the student is enrolled. The education plan shall make  
13 provisions for a student's on-going academic instruction during the  
14 suspension. The student shall have the opportunity to earn all academic  
15 credit including the opportunity to complete any assignments and take  
16 any examinations or tests missed during the student's suspension and if  
17 an assessment or examination cannot be rescheduled, the student shall be  
18 allowed on school property to take such assessment or examination on the  
19 day that the assessment or examination is given.

20 (iii) the education plan pursuant to subparagraph (ii) of this para-  
21 graph may include placement of the suspended student at an alternative  
22 learning site including the student's home if such alternative is avail-  
23 able and appropriate for the student's education. The principal or the  
24 principal's designee at the school in which the student is enrolled  
25 shall consult with the administrator of an alternative site or, in the  
26 case of the student's home, with the teacher overseeing home instruc-  
27 tion, to make arrangements for the student's continued instruction.

28 (iv) school districts must provide to students with disabilities all  
29 services and educational programming protections set forth in this  
30 section and in applicable federal and state laws.

31 (v) schools must schedule a conference within five school days after a  
32 student's return to school after any short term or long term suspension  
33 and provide notice of the conference to the parent and the student. The  
34 failure of the parent or student to attend shall not delay re-entry  
35 following suspension, nor shall a principal be held responsible if he or  
36 she makes a good faith effort to make the parent or student attend and  
37 is unsuccessful. The conference must include a discussion of the follow-  
38 ing:

39 (A) a record of the student's educational activities while on suspen-  
40 sion that can be counted toward credit accumulation. This record shall  
41 include the student's test scores, grades, completed assignments, and  
42 total credits earned while suspended, and the student's existing academ-  
43 ic record can be used for these purposes, given the record provides this  
44 information for the period of the suspension;

45 (B) the steps the student and the school will take to follow all  
46 school rules;

47 (C) the supports the school will provide for the student to success-  
48 fully re-enter school;

49 (D) a discussion of when a student's permanent record will be  
50 expunged, given there are no further incidents; and

51 (E) any other pertinent circumstances;

52 s. require the school to maintain in the student's permanent record  
53 documentation of interventions determined for student misconduct, the  
54 intervention or discipline imposed and reinstatement. Discipline that  
55 was proposed but was not implemented, was dismissed or was overturned on  
56 appeal shall not appear in the student's permanent record. When a



1 student has been suspended and reinstated to school, the record of the  
2 suspension shall be automatically expunged at the time agreed upon in  
3 the conference upon return from suspension. The student may request that  
4 the school expunge permanently the student's record of discipline soon-  
5 er, and the school shall not refuse to expunge a record except upon a  
6 showing of good cause. Records of suspensions and removals shall be  
7 maintained as necessary for purposes of evaluating the requirement for a  
8 manifestation determination review, but these records shall not be part  
9 of the student's permanent record. Student disciplinary records shall  
10 be subject to article two of this chapter and other applicable federal  
11 and state laws; and

12 t. require pre-service and annual training regarding the code of  
13 conduct and the intervention and positive school climate practices  
14 adopted pursuant to this section for maintaining order, addressing  
15 student conduct and misbehavior, minimizing the use of suspension, and  
16 addressing disparities in discipline. Training shall also ensure that  
17 relevant policies and procedures are equitably applied, and that alter-  
18 native interventions, such as restorative practices and graduated and  
19 proportionate discipline are utilized in accordance with this section  
20 for all school personnel, students and law enforcement, public or  
21 private security personnel employed, retained or used by the school  
22 district. A school district may use training programs including in  
23 person and on-line programs approved by the commissioner; provided,  
24 however, that such training includes the school district's own code of  
25 conduct. At the beginning of each school year, each school shall  
26 distribute and explain its code of conduct to students in one or more  
27 general assemblies.

28 3. The district code of conduct shall be developed in collaboration  
29 with [~~student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school~~  
30 ~~safety personnel and other school personnel~~] representatives from all  
31 segments of the school community including students, teachers, adminis-  
32 trators, parents, school safety personnel, support services personnel,  
33 parent and student organizations, and others as identified by the school  
34 district and shall be approved by the board of education, or other  
35 governing body, or by the chancellor of the city school district in the  
36 case of the city school district of the city of New York. In the city  
37 school district of the city of New York, each community district educa-  
38 tion council shall be authorized to adopt and implement additional poli-  
39 cies, which are consistent with and no more restrictive than the city  
40 district's district-wide code of conduct, to reflect the individual  
41 needs of each community school district provided that such additional  
42 policies shall require the approval of the chancellor.

43 4. [~~The board of education, chancellor or other governing body shall~~  
44 ~~provide copies of a summary of the code of conduct to all students at a~~  
45 ~~general assembly held at the beginning of the school year and shall make~~  
46 ~~copies of the code available to persons in parental relation to students~~  
47 ~~at the beginning of each school year, and shall mail a plain language~~  
48 ~~summary of such code to all persons in parental relation to students~~  
49 ~~before the beginning of each school year, and make it available there-~~  
50 ~~after upon request. The board of education, chancellor or other govern-~~  
51 ~~ing body shall take reasonable steps to ensure community awareness of~~  
52 ~~the code provisions.~~

53 5.-a.] The board of education, board of directors or other governing  
54 body, or the chancellor of the city school district in the case of the  
55 city school district of the city of New York shall hold at least one  
56 public hearing about the proposed code of conduct before its adoption or

1 amendment. The school district shall notify the school community and  
2 general public about the hearing at least thirty days prior to the date  
3 of the hearing. Such notice shall include the date, time and place of  
4 the hearing, the agenda, a copy of the proposed code of conduct and  
5 information about an opportunity, as determined by the school district,  
6 for comment from the school community and the general public about the  
7 proposed code of conduct. The school district shall take necessary steps  
8 to notify families who do not speak English and whose children attend  
9 schools in the district.

10 5. Upon adoption or amendment of the code of conduct, the school  
11 district shall: (i) file a copy of its code of conduct and any amend-  
12 ments to such code with the commissioner no later than thirty days after  
13 their adoption; (ii) translate the code of conduct into those languages  
14 spoken by three percent or more of the families whose children attend  
15 schools in the school district; (iii) at the beginning of each school  
16 year, post the code of conduct on the school district and school web  
17 sites, if any and mail a copy of the code to persons in parental  
18 relationship to students in the district's schools; and (iv) distribute  
19 the code to all students in school at one or more general assemblies  
20 dedicated to the provisions of the code of conduct. The school district  
21 shall also make the code of conduct available upon request.

22 6. The board of education, chancellor or other governing body shall  
23 annually review and update the district's codes of conduct if necessary,  
24 taking into consideration the effectiveness of code provisions and the  
25 fairness and consistency of its administration. Each school district is  
26 authorized to establish a committee and to facilitate the review of the  
27 code of conduct and the district's response to code of conduct  
28 violations. Any such committee shall be comprised of similar individuals  
29 described in subdivision three of this section. [~~The school board, chan-~~  
30 ~~eeller, or other governing body shall reapprove any such updated code~~  
31 ~~only after at least one public hearing that provides for the partic-~~  
32 ~~ipation of school personnel, parents, students and any other interested~~  
33 ~~parties.~~

34 ~~b. Each district shall file a copy of its codes of conduct with the~~  
35 ~~commissioner and all amendments to such code shall be filed with the~~  
36 ~~commissioner no later than thirty days after their adoption.]~~

37 7. The department shall collect and school districts shall report to  
38 the department data about the implementation of student codes of conduct  
39 as required by federal law. On or before November first of each year,  
40 the department shall make available to the public by school district the  
41 data regarding student discipline from the preceding year. On or before  
42 December first of each year the department shall submit to the governor,  
43 the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly and  
44 the chairs of the assembly and senate education committees a report that  
45 summarizes and analyzes the data collected about student discipline  
46 including a review and evaluation of school application of codes of  
47 conduct for fair and consistent application and other accountability  
48 criteria as determined by the department and make recommendations about  
49 policy and practices for school codes of conduct and the department's  
50 technical assistance about student discipline.

51 § 2. Subdivision 3 of section 2801 of the education law, as added by  
52 chapter 181 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

53 3. The district code of conduct shall be developed in collaboration  
54 with [~~student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school~~  
55 ~~safety personnel and other school personnel] representatives from all~~  
56 segments of the school community including students, teachers, adminis-

trators, parents, school safety personnel, support services personnel, parent and student organizations, and others as identified by the school district and shall be approved by the board of education, or other governing body, or by the chancellor of the city school district in the case of the city school district of the city of New York. In the city school district of the city of New York, each community school district board shall be authorized to adopt and implement additional policies, which are consistent with the city district's district-wide code of conduct, to reflect the individual needs of each community school district provided that such additional policies shall require the approval of the chancellor.

§ 3. Section 3214 of the education law, as amended by chapter 181 of the laws of 2000, subparagraph 1 of paragraph c of subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 430 of the laws of 2006, paragraphs d and f of subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 425 of the laws of 2002, paragraph e of subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 170 of the laws of 2006, paragraph g of subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 352 of the laws of 2005, clause (v) of subparagraph 3 of paragraph g of subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 378 of the laws of 2007, paragraphs a, b and c of subdivision 3-a as amended by chapter 147 of the laws of 2001, and subdivision 7 as added by chapter 101 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

§ 3214. Student interventions, placement, suspensions and transfers.

~~1. [School delinquent. A minor under seventeen years of age, required by any of the provisions of part one of this article to attend upon instruction, who is an habitual truant from such instruction or is irregular in such attendance or insubordinate or disorderly or disruptive or violent during such attendance, is a school delinquent.~~

~~2.]~~ Special day schools. The school authorities of any city or school district may establish schools or set apart rooms in public school buildings for the instruction of ~~[school delinquents]~~ students disciplined in violation of the code of conduct, and fix the number of days per week and the hours per day of required attendance, which shall not be less than is required of minors attending the full time day schools.

~~[2-a. a. Violent pupil. For the purposes of this section, a violent pupil is an elementary or secondary student under twenty-one years of age who:~~

~~(1) commits an act of violence upon a teacher, administrator or other school employee;~~

~~(2) commits, while on school district property, an act of violence upon another student or any other person lawfully upon said property;~~

~~(3) possesses, while on school district property, a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other dangerous instrument capable of causing physical injury or death;~~

~~(4) displays, while on school district property, what appears to be a gun, knife, explosive or incendiary bomb or other dangerous instrument capable of causing death or physical injury;~~

~~(5) threatens, while on school district property, to use any instrument that appears capable of causing physical injury or death;~~

~~(6) knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other school district employee or any person lawfully upon school district property; or~~

~~(7) knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys school district property.~~

~~b. Disruptive pupil. For the purposes of this section, a disruptive pupil is an elementary or secondary student under twenty-one years of age who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or~~



~~substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom.~~

~~3.]~~ 2. Determination of student misconduct. Decisions about appropriate discipline and interventions in response to student behavior that violates a school's code of conduct shall be based on the likelihood that a lesser intervention would adequately address the student's misconduct, redress any harm or damage, and prevent future behavior that violates the code of conduct. Furthermore, disciplinary responses shall be based on the facts of each case as determined including, but not limited to:

- a. the nature of the student's alleged misconduct;
- b. the impact of the student's alleged misconduct including, but not limited to the harm to the student or other persons; damage to personal or school property; and threat to the safety and welfare of the school community;
- c. the ability of the student to understand and participate in the student's disciplinary process including, but not limited to, consideration of the student's age, ability to speak English, physical health, mental health, disabilities and provisions of an individual education program;
- d. the student's willingness to resolve the conflict and repair the harm or damage;
- e. the student's record of behavior and discipline; and
- f. such other factors as determined by school personnel and the student to be relevant including a review of the student's academic placement and program for its relationship, if any, to the student's behavior and alleged violation of the code of conduct.

3. Unless prohibited by law, restorative practices such as conflict resolution, mediation, peer counseling, facilitated discussion and other restorative interventions that can effectively address student misconduct, hold students accountable for their behavior, repair harm to persons and property caused by misconduct and foster healthy relationships within the school community, may be used at the discretion of the school to respond to student misconduct pursuant to the code of conduct.

a. Restorative practices that require the participation of a person or persons affected by a student's alleged misconduct may be used only with the consent of such person or persons. In the case of an incident where another student has been injured, restorative practices that require the participation of a person or persons injured by a student's alleged misconduct may be used only with the consent of such student's parent or person in parental relationship to the student and the consent of the student who is alleged to have behaved inappropriately and such student's parent.

b. The commissioner shall issue rules and regulations and identify best practices about the process and procedures for the use of restorative practices in response to student behavior that allegedly violates the code of conduct.

4. Suspension of a pupil for a period not to exceed five school days.  
~~[a. The board of education, board of trustees or sole trustee, the superintendent of schools, district superintendent of schools or principal of a school may suspend the following pupils from required attendance upon instruction:~~

~~A pupil who is insubordinate or disorderly or violent or disruptive, or whose conduct otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.~~

1 ~~b. (1)~~ The board of education, board of trustees, or sole trustee,  
2 superintendent of schools, district superintendent of schools and the  
3 principal of the school where the pupil attends shall have the ~~[power]~~  
4 authority to suspend a pupil for a period not to exceed five school days  
5 if a pupil engages in behavior that violates the code of conduct for  
6 which such suspension may be warranted and no alternative intervention  
7 is appropriate to address the alleged misconduct. In the case of such a  
8 suspension, the suspending authority shall ~~[provide the pupil with~~  
9 ~~notice of the charged misconduct. If the pupil denies the misconduct,~~  
10 ~~the suspending authority shall provide an explanation of the basis for~~  
11 ~~the suspension. The pupil and the person in parental relation to the~~  
12 ~~pupil shall, on request, be given an opportunity for an informal confer-~~  
13 ~~ence with the principal at which the pupil and/or person in parental~~  
14 ~~relation shall be authorized to present the pupil's version of the event~~  
15 ~~and to ask questions of the complaining witnesses. The aforesaid notice~~  
16 ~~and opportunity for an informal conference shall take place prior to~~  
17 ~~suspension of the pupil unless the pupil's presence in the school poses~~  
18 ~~a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of~~  
19 ~~disruption to the academic process, in which case the pupil's notice and~~  
20 ~~opportunity for an informal conference shall take place as soon after~~  
21 ~~the suspension as is reasonably practicable.]~~ interview any alleged  
22 victim and the witnesses to the incident and obtain their signed, writ-  
23 ten statements; identify and review documentary, photographic, video and  
24 other evidence, and make a determination whether the student violated  
25 the code of conduct and, if so, possible discipline including suspension  
26 of five or fewer school days is warranted. The principal or the princi-  
27 pal's designee shall take into account all of the factors listed in  
28 subdivision two of this section. The suspending authority shall also:  
29 a. inform the pupil accused of misconduct and a person in parental  
30 relationship to the pupil in writing about the determination to seek a  
31 suspension on the same day as such determination, describe the miscon-  
32 duct of which the student is accused, and provide an explanation of the  
33 evidence;  
34 b. provide the pupil and the person in parental relation to the pupil  
35 an opportunity for an informal conference with the principal at which  
36 the pupil or person in parental relationship shall be authorized to  
37 present the pupil's version of the event. The aforesaid notice and  
38 opportunity for an informal conference shall take place prior to the  
39 suspension of the pupil. The student shall be allowed to attend classes  
40 and otherwise remain in school, pending the outcome of the informal  
41 conference with the principal, unless paragraph g of this subdivision  
42 applies. The suspending authority shall take reasonable steps to  
43 provide the written notice described in paragraph a of this subdivision  
44 in the first language of a parent or person in parental relation who  
45 does not read or speak English. The written notice shall include:  
46 (1) a description of the circumstances upon which allegations of  
47 misconduct are based, including the date, time and location of the  
48 alleged incident, the section of the code of conduct that the pupil  
49 allegedly violated and disciplinary action that may be warranted,  
50 including the length of a possible suspension;  
51 (2) the date, time and place for the informal conference;  
52 (3) a statement including the positive interventions and practice  
53 used, or if none were used, why they were not, and explaining why the  
54 use of exclusionary discipline may be justified;  
55 (4) a copy of all documentary evidence related to the incident of  
56 behavior that allegedly violates the code of conduct including, but not

1 limited to, incident reports and audio or video recordings that the  
2 school possesses regarding the incident and a list of witnesses and  
3 their statements. If any of the documentary evidence required by this  
4 subparagraph is not available at the time the notice is provided, the  
5 notice must include a list of the missing documentary evidence. Any  
6 missing documentary evidence must be provided no later than twenty-four  
7 hours before the conference;

8 (5) a statement of pupil and parent rights pursuant to the code of  
9 conduct including the right to call and question witnesses, the right to  
10 legal representation or an advocate, the right to interpretation at the  
11 conference by a qualified interpreter and the right to appeal any  
12 suspension imposed to the superintendent, the school board or the  
13 commissioner and the procedures for such an appeal;

14 (6) a statement that once the length of time of the student's suspen-  
15 sion concludes, the student is automatically reinstated to school;

16 (7) The notice shall also state to the person in parental relationship  
17 to the pupil that if the child has been arrested or if a criminal inves-  
18 tigation is pending, a pupil may choose not to make a written or oral  
19 statement concerning the incident, and any statement made by the pupil,  
20 written or oral, might be used against the pupil in a criminal, immi-  
21 gration, or juvenile delinquency investigation and/or proceeding, and/or  
22 in a court of law.

23 c. At the informal conference, the pupil and person in parental  
24 relation to the pupil shall have the right to request the presence of  
25 witnesses, including witnesses who are students, school employees, or  
26 safety or law enforcement personnel on campus. The school shall take all  
27 reasonable steps to ensure the presence of such witnesses, with the  
28 understanding that the principal cannot control the actions of those  
29 outside his or her school community.

30 d. At the informal conference participants shall assess the facts of  
31 the incident of alleged misconduct, determine whether the student  
32 violated the code of conduct and, if so, whether suspension is  
33 warranted, establish an education plan for the pupil, including academic  
34 and support services, and a plan for the pupil's reinstatement to  
35 school.

36 e. The suspending authority shall issue a written decision about any  
37 disciplinary action within two days of the conference. If the principal  
38 determines that a suspension of five school days or less is warranted,  
39 the written decision shall state the length of the suspension, findings  
40 of fact, reasons for the determination, the procedures for an appeal and  
41 the date by which an appeal must be filed. The written decision shall  
42 be provided to the person in parental relation to the pupil.

43 f. A pupil suspended for inappropriate behavior and person in parental  
44 relationship may appeal a suspension of five days or less to the school  
45 district superintendent. If the superintendent participated in the deci-  
46 sion to suspend the pupil, the pupil or person in parental relationship  
47 to the pupil may appeal to the school board, board of trustees, or in  
48 the city of New York, to the chancellor. An appeal of a suspension of  
49 five or fewer days must be decided within ten days of receiving the  
50 appeal. The person deciding the appeal may uphold or reverse the suspen-  
51 sion but cannot impose a longer suspension or additional disciplinary  
52 terms or conditions. The person deciding the appeal must reverse and  
53 expunge the suspension if: (1) the suspension was imposed for behavior  
54 for which suspension is prohibited by law or not authorized by the  
55 school's code of conduct; (2) the school did not present sufficient  
56 evidence to establish that the student violated the code of conduct and

1 that a suspension was warranted for that violation; (3) the school  
2 failed to show that a lesser exclusionary intervention could not address  
3 the student misconduct; (4) the school did not follow due process proce-  
4 dures; or (5) the facts and considerations required by the school's code  
5 of conduct do not support the decision to suspend the pupil. The super-  
6 intendent or school board may reverse and expunge the suspension if the  
7 school did not impose graduated and proportionate discipline or the  
8 suspension was not appropriate given the facts as presented at the  
9 conference.

10 g. A pupil whose misconduct physically injures or poses an immediate  
11 threat of serious physical injury to the pupil or other person or  
12 persons or who damages property and such damage injures or poses an  
13 immediate threat of serious physical injury to the pupil or other person  
14 or persons, the pupil may be removed immediately and the informal  
15 conference shall follow as soon after the pupil's removal as practica-  
16 ble, but in no case more than forty-eight hours after such removal. If  
17 immediate removal from school is necessary, the school shall immediately  
18 notify a person in parental relationship to the pupil to determine how  
19 to transfer the pupil to the person in parental relationship to the  
20 pupil.

21 ~~[(2) A teacher shall immediately report and refer a violent pupil to~~  
22 ~~the principal or superintendent for a violation of the code of conduct~~  
23 ~~and a minimum suspension period pursuant to section twenty-eight hundred~~  
24 ~~one of this chapter.~~

25 ~~e. (1) No pupil may be suspended for a period in excess of five school~~  
26 ~~days unless such pupil and the person in parental relation to such pupil~~  
27 ~~shall have had an opportunity for a fair hearing, upon reasonable~~  
28 ~~notice, at which such pupil shall have the right of representation by~~  
29 ~~counsel, with the right to question witnesses against such pupil and to~~  
30 ~~present witnesses and other evidence on his or her behalf. Where the~~  
31 ~~pupil is a student with a disability or a student presumed to have a~~  
32 ~~disability, the provisions of paragraph g of this subdivision shall also~~  
33 ~~apply. Where a pupil has been suspended in accordance with this subpara-~~  
34 ~~graph by a superintendent of schools, district superintendent of~~  
35 ~~schools, or community superintendent, the superintendent shall~~  
36 ~~personally hear and determine the proceeding or may, in his or her~~  
37 ~~discretion, designate a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The~~  
38 ~~hearing officer shall be authorized to administer oaths and to issue~~  
39 ~~subpoenas in conjunction with the proceeding before him or her. A record~~  
40 ~~of the hearing shall be maintained, but no stenographic transcript shall~~  
41 ~~be required and a tape recording shall be deemed a satisfactory record.~~  
42 ~~The hearing officer shall make findings of fact and recommendations as~~  
43 ~~to the appropriate measure of discipline to the superintendent. The~~  
44 ~~report of the hearing officer shall be advisory only, and the super-~~  
45 ~~intendent may accept all or any part thereof. An appeal will lie from~~  
46 ~~the decision of the superintendent to the board of education who shall~~  
47 ~~make its decision solely upon the record before it. The board may adopt~~  
48 ~~in whole or in part the decision of the superintendent of schools.~~  
49 ~~Where the basis for the suspension is, in whole or in part, the~~  
50 ~~possession on school grounds or school property by the student of any~~  
51 ~~firearm, rifle, shotgun, dagger, dangerous knife, dirk, razor, stiletto~~  
52 ~~or any of the weapons, instruments or appliances specified in subdivi-~~  
53 ~~sion one of section 265.01 of the penal law, the hearing officer or~~  
54 ~~superintendent shall not be barred from considering the admissibility of~~  
55 ~~such weapon, instrument or appliance as evidence, notwithstanding a~~  
56 ~~determination by a court in a criminal or juvenile delinquency proceed-~~

~~ing that the recovery of such weapon, instrument or appliance was the result of an unlawful search or seizure.~~

~~(2) Where a pupil has been suspended in accordance with this section by a board of education, the board may in its discretion hear and determine the proceeding or appoint a hearing officer who shall have the same powers and duties with respect to the board that a hearing officer has with respect to a superintendent where the suspension was ordered by him. The findings and recommendations of the hearing officer conducting the proceeding shall be advisory and subject to final action by the board of education, each member of which shall before voting review the testimony and acquaint himself with the evidence in the case. The board may reject, confirm or modify the conclusions of the hearing officer.]~~

5. Suspension of a pupil for six to twenty days. The board of education, board of trustees, or sole trustee, superintendent of schools, district superintendent of schools and the principal of the school where the pupil attends shall have the authority to suspend a pupil for a period of between six to twenty days if a pupil violates the code of conduct for which such suspension may be warranted, no restorative practice is adequate to address the misconduct, and a suspension of fewer than six days cannot address the misconduct. The suspending authority shall take the following steps before determining that a suspension for a period of between six to twenty days is proposed:

a. interview any alleged victim and witnesses to the incident and obtain their signed, written statements; identify and review documentary photographic, video, and other evidence; determine whether appropriate interventions, including restorative practices can address the alleged violation of the code of conduct; and if not, make a determination about possible discipline including suspension for a period of between six to twenty school days if warranted. The principal or the principal's designee shall take into account all of the factors listed in subdivision two of this section;

b. shall send immediate written notice to the pupil and the person in parental relationship to the pupil about the determination to suspend the pupil and the hearing. The suspending authority shall take reasonable steps to provide such written notice in the first language of a parent or person in parental relation who does not read or speak English. The written notice shall include:

(1) a description of the facts and circumstances upon which the alleged violations of the code of conduct are based, the section of the code of conduct that the pupil allegedly violated and disciplinary action that may be warranted including the length of a possible suspension;

(2) the date, time and place for the hearing to determine whether the proposed suspension is warranted;

(3) a statement including the positive interventions and practices used, or if none were used, why they were not, and explaining why the use of exclusionary discipline may be justified.

(4) a copy of all documentary evidence related to the incident of the behavior that is alleged to violate the code of conduct including but not limited to incident reports, witness statements, and audio or video recordings that the school possesses regarding the incident and a list of witnesses who may appear at the hearing. If any of the documentary evidence required by this paragraph is not available at the time the notice is provided, the notice must include a list of the missing documentary evidence. Any missing documentary evidence must be provided no later than twenty-four hours before the hearing;



1 (5) a statement of pupil and parent rights pursuant to the code of  
2 conduct including the right to call and question witnesses at the hear-  
3 ing, the right to legal representation or an advocate during the suspen-  
4 sion process, the right to interpretation at the hearing by a qualified  
5 interpreter and the right to appeal to the superintendent, the board of  
6 trustees, the school board or the commissioner and the procedures for  
7 such an appeal;

8 (6) The notice shall also state to the person in parental relationship  
9 to the pupil that any statement by the pupil, written or oral, might be  
10 used against the pupil in a criminal, immigration, or juvenile delin-  
11 quency investigation and/or proceeding, and/or in a court of law.

12 c. Hearing. The suspending authority shall convene a hearing within  
13 five days of the written notice to the pupil and person in parental  
14 relationship to the pupil about the suspension unless the person in  
15 parental relationship to the pupil requests a later date. The suspend-  
16 ing authority shall confirm the date, time and place of the hearing with  
17 all hearing participants and document such confirmation. If it is  
18 requested, the school board shall appoint a hearing officer who is inde-  
19 pendent of the suspending authority, to hear the case. The hearing  
20 shall be conducted as follows:

21 (1) The hearing officer is authorized to administer oaths and issue  
22 subpoenas in conjunction with the proceedings;

23 (2) The school must prove that the pupil violated the code of conduct  
24 by a preponderance of the evidence;

25 (3) The school cannot rely exclusively on hearsay evidence to meet its  
26 burden of proof.

27 (4) The pupil and person in parental relationship to the pupil shall  
28 have the right to request the presence and testimony of the following  
29 persons and subject such testimony to question and the school shall take  
30 reasonable steps to secure the attendance of such persons:

31 (i) witnesses including pupils and visitors;

32 (ii) school employees and the school shall make the requested school  
33 employees available at the hearing; and

34 (iii) law enforcement and private or public security retained by the  
35 school district pursuant to contract or memorandum of understanding  
36 required by section twenty-eight hundred one of this chapter.

37 (5) The pupil and person in parental relationship to the pupil shall  
38 have the right to present documentary evidence including, but not limit-  
39 ed to, witness statements, incident reports, and audio and video  
40 recordings;

41 (6) The pupil and person in parental relationship to the pupil shall  
42 have the right to representation by an attorney or an advocate;

43 (7) The hearing officer shall consider only the evidence presented at  
44 the hearing and may uphold, reduce or dismiss the proposed suspension.  
45 The hearing officer must dismiss the proposed suspension if the hearing  
46 officer determines that:

47 (i) the suspension was imposed for a behavior for which suspension is  
48 not authorized or prohibited by law or the school's code of conduct;

49 (ii) the school did not meet its burden of proof that a suspension for  
50 a period of between six to twenty days is warranted;

51 (iii) the school did not follow the due process procedures in this  
52 subsection; or

53 (iv) facts and considerations required by the school's code of conduct  
54 do not support the decision to suspend the pupil.

55 (8) The hearing officer may dismiss or reduce the proposed suspension  
56 if the hearing officer determines:

1 (i) the school did not impose graduated and proportionate discipline;  
2 or  
3 (ii) the suspension was not appropriate given the facts as presented  
4 at the hearing.

5 (9) Upon request of the pupil or person in parental relationship to  
6 the pupil, the school shall provide interpretation services in the first  
7 language of the pupil or person in parental relationship to the pupil;

8 (10) An accurate and complete record of the hearing shall be main-  
9 tained by the school, but no stenographic record shall be required and  
10 an audio or video recording shall be deemed a satisfactory record. When  
11 requested, the suspending authority shall provide to the pupil or person  
12 in parental relationship this record as well as any transcript of the  
13 record at no cost;

14 (11) The hearing officer shall issue a written decision to the school  
15 and the pupil and person in parental relationship to the pupil about any  
16 disciplinary action within three days of the hearing. If the hearing  
17 officer determines that a suspension of between six to twenty school  
18 days is warranted, the written decision shall state the length of the  
19 suspension, findings of fact, reasons for the determination, the proce-  
20 dures for an appeal and the date by which an appeal must be filed.

21 d. Appeal. The pupil or person in parental relationship to the pupil  
22 shall have a right to appeal the decision of the hearing officer as  
23 follows:

24 (1) the appeal shall be filed within thirty days of the date when the  
25 pupil and person in parental relationship to the pupil receive the deci-  
26 sion about a suspension of six or more school days;

27 (2) the school's code of conduct must identify the procedures for  
28 appeal of suspensions for periods of more than twenty days. The appeal  
29 shall be heard only by a person who was not involved in the initial  
30 determination or hearing about the suspension of the pupil;

31 (3) the decision on appeal must be based solely on the hearing record  
32 except to the extent that the pupil's rights were violated during the  
33 investigation, hearing, or appeal process;

34 (4) the person hearing the appeal shall issue a written decision with-  
35 in ten days of the filing of the appeal. The suspension may be upheld,  
36 reduced or overturned. The person deciding the appeal must reverse the  
37 suspension if: (i) the suspension was imposed for behavior for which  
38 suspension is prohibited by law or not authorized by the code of  
39 conduct; (ii) the school did not present sufficient evidence to meet its  
40 burden of proof; (iii) the school did not follow due process procedures;  
41 or (iv) the facts and considerations required by the school's code of  
42 conduct do not support the decision to suspend the pupil for a period  
43 between six to twenty days. The person deciding the appeal may overturn  
44 or reduce the suspension if the school did not impose graduated and  
45 proportionate discipline or the suspension was not appropriate given the  
46 facts as presented at the hearing;

47 (5) The pupil or person in parental relationship to the student may  
48 appeal any adverse determination on the appeal to the commissioner  
49 pursuant to the regulations of the commissioner; and

50 (6) The pupil or person in parental relationship to the pupil may  
51 appeal an adverse decision of the commissioner to the state supreme  
52 court within ninety days of receipt of the decision by the commissioner.

53 [~~d.-(1)~~] 6. a. Consistent with the federal gun-free schools act, any  
54 public school pupil who is determined under this subdivision to have  
55 brought a firearm to or possessed a firearm at a public school shall be  
56 suspended for a period of not less than one calendar year and any

1 nonpublic school pupil participating in a program operated by a public  
2 school district using funds from the elementary and secondary education  
3 act of nineteen hundred sixty-five who is determined under this subdivi-  
4 sion to have brought a firearm to or possessed a firearm at a public  
5 school or other premises used by the school district to provide such  
6 programs shall be suspended for a period of not less than one calendar  
7 year from participation in such program. The procedures of this subdivi-  
8 sion shall apply to such a suspension of a nonpublic school pupil. A  
9 superintendent of schools, district superintendent of schools or commu-  
10 nity superintendent shall have the authority to modify this suspension  
11 requirement for each student on a case-by-case basis. The determination  
12 of a superintendent shall be subject to review by the board of education  
13 pursuant to ~~[paragraph c of this]~~ subdivision five of this section and  
14 the commissioner pursuant to section three hundred ten of this chapter.  
15 Nothing in this subdivision shall be deemed to authorize the suspension  
16 of a student with a disability in violation of the individuals with  
17 disabilities education act or article eighty-nine of this chapter. A  
18 superintendent shall refer the pupil under the age of sixteen who has  
19 been determined to have brought a weapon or firearm to school in  
20 violation of this subdivision to a presentment agency for a juvenile  
21 delinquency proceeding consistent with article three of the family court  
22 act except a student fourteen or fifteen years of age who qualifies for  
23 juvenile offender status under subdivision forty-two of section 1.20 of  
24 the criminal procedure law. A superintendent shall refer any pupil  
25 sixteen years of age or older or a student fourteen or fifteen years of  
26 age who qualifies for juvenile offender status under subdivision forty-  
27 two of section 1.20 of the criminal procedure law, who has been deter-  
28 mined to have brought a weapon or firearm to school in violation of this  
29 subdivision to the appropriate law enforcement officials.

30 ~~[(2)]~~ b. Nothing in this paragraph shall be deemed to mandate such  
31 action by a school district pursuant to paragraph a of this subdivision  
32 ~~[one of this section]~~ where such weapon or firearm is possessed or  
33 brought to school with the written authorization of such educational  
34 institution in a manner authorized by article two hundred sixty-five of  
35 the penal law for activities approved and authorized by the trustees or  
36 board of education or other governing body of the public school and such  
37 governing body adopts appropriate safeguards to ensure student safety.

38 ~~[(3)]~~ c. As used in this paragraph:

39 (i) "firearm" shall mean a firearm as defined in subsection a of  
40 section nine hundred twenty-one of title eighteen of the United States  
41 Code; and

42 (ii) "weapon" shall be as defined in paragraph 2 of subsection g of  
43 section nine hundred thirty of title eighteen of the United States Code.

44 ~~[e-]~~ 7. Procedure after suspension. Where a pupil has been suspended  
45 pursuant to this subdivision and said pupil ~~[is of compulsory attendance~~  
46 age] has the right to attend school, immediate steps shall be taken for  
47 his or her attendance upon instruction elsewhere ~~[or for supervision or~~  
48 detention of said pupil pursuant to the provisions of article seven of  
49 the family court act]. Where a pupil has been suspended for cause, the  
50 suspension may be revoked by the board of education whenever it appears  
51 to be for the best interest of the school and the pupil to do so. The  
52 board of education may also condition a student's early return to school  
53 and suspension revocation on the pupil's voluntary participation in  
54 counseling or specialized classes, including anger management or dispute  
55 resolution, where applicable.

1   ~~[f-]~~ 8. Whenever the term "board of education or superintendent of  
2 schools" is used in this subdivision, it shall be deemed to include  
3 community boards of education and community superintendents governing  
4 community districts in accordance with the provisions of article fifty-  
5 two-A of this chapter.

6   ~~[g-]~~ 9. Discipline of students with disabilities and students presumed  
7 to have a disability for discipline purposes. ~~[(1-)]~~ a. Notwithstanding  
8 any other provision of this subdivision to the contrary, a student with  
9 a disability as such term is defined in section forty-four hundred one  
10 of this chapter and a student presumed to have a disability for disci-  
11 pline purposes, may be suspended or removed from his or her current  
12 educational placement for violation of ~~[school rules]~~ the code of  
13 conduct only in accordance with the procedures established in this  
14 section, the regulations of the commissioner implementing this para-  
15 graph, and subsection (k) of section fourteen hundred fifteen of title  
16 twenty of the United States code and the federal regulations implement-  
17 ing such statute, as such federal law and regulations are from time to  
18 time amended. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to confer  
19 greater rights on such students than are conferred under applicable  
20 federal law and regulations, or to limit the ability of a school  
21 district to change the educational placement of a student with a disa-  
22 bility in accordance with the procedures in article eighty-nine of this  
23 chapter.

24   ~~[(2-)]~~ b. As used in this paragraph:

25   ~~[(1-)]~~ (i) a "student presumed to have a disability for discipline  
26 purposes" shall mean a student who the school district is deemed to have  
27 knowledge was a student with a disability before the behavior that  
28 precipitated disciplinary action under the criteria in subsection (k)  
29 (5) of section fourteen hundred fifteen of title twenty of the United  
30 States code and the federal regulations implementing such statute; and  
31 (ii) a "manifestation team" means a representative of the school  
32 district, the parent or person in parental relation, and relevant  
33 members of the committee on special education, as determined by the  
34 parent or person in parental relation and the district.

35   ~~[(3-)]~~ c. In applying the federal law consistent with this section:

36   (i) in the event of a conflict between the procedures established in  
37 this section and those established in subsection (k) of section fourteen  
38 hundred fifteen of title twenty of the United States code and the feder-  
39 al regulations implementing such statute, such federal statute and regu-  
40 lations shall govern.

41   (ii) the trustees or board of education of any school district, a  
42 district superintendent of schools or a building principal shall have  
43 authority to order the placement of a student with a disability into an  
44 appropriate interim alternative educational setting, another setting or  
45 suspension for a period not to exceed five consecutive school days where  
46 such student is suspended pursuant to this subdivision and, except as  
47 otherwise provided in ~~[clause (vi-)]~~ paragraph f of this ~~[subparagraph]~~  
48 subdivision, the suspension does not result in a change in placement  
49 under federal law.

50   (iii) the superintendent of schools of a school district, either  
51 directly or upon recommendation of a hearing officer designated pursuant  
52 to paragraph ~~[e]~~ d of ~~[this]~~ subdivision five of this section, may order  
53 the placement of a student with a disability into an interim alternative  
54 educational setting, another setting or suspension for up to ten consec-  
55 utive school days, inclusive of any period in which the student is  
56 placed in an appropriate interim alternative educational setting, anoth-

er setting or suspension pursuant to clause (ii) of this subparagraph for the behavior, where the superintendent determines in accordance with the procedures set forth in this subdivision that the student has engaged in behavior that violates the code of conduct and warrants a suspension, and, except as otherwise provided in ~~[clause (vi) of this subparagraph]~~ paragraph d of this subparagraph, the suspension does not result in a change in placement under federal law.

~~[(iv)]~~ d. the superintendent of schools of a school district, either directly or upon recommendation of a hearing officer designated pursuant to paragraph c of ~~[this]~~ five of this section, may order the change in placement of a student with a disability to an interim alternative educational setting for up to forty-five school days under the circumstances specified in subsection (k)(1)(G) of section fourteen hundred fifteen of title twenty of the United States code and the federal regulations implementing such statute or a longer period where authorized by federal law under the circumstances specified in subsection (k)(1)(C) of section fourteen hundred fifteen of title twenty of the United States code and the federal regulations implementing such statute, but in neither case shall such period exceed the period of suspension ordered by a superintendent in accordance with this subdivision.

~~[(v)]~~ e. the terms "day," "business day," and "school day" shall be as defined in section 300.11 of title thirty-four of the code of federal regulations.

~~[(vi)]~~ f. notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision to the contrary, upon a determination by a manifestation team that the behavior of a student with a disability was not a manifestation of the student's disability, such student may be disciplined pursuant to this section in the same manner and for the same duration as a nondisabled student, except that such student shall continue to receive services to the extent required under federal law and regulations, and such services may be provided in an interim alternative educational setting.

~~[(vii)]~~ g. an impartial hearing officer appointed pursuant to subdivision one of section forty-four hundred four of this chapter may order a change in placement of a student with a disability to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than forty-five school days under the circumstances specified in subsections (k)(3) and (k)(4) of section fourteen hundred fifteen of title twenty of the United States code and the federal regulations implementing such statutes, provided that such procedure may be repeated, as necessary.

~~[(viii)]~~ h. nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the suspension or removal of a student with a disability from his or her current educational placement ~~[for violation of school rules]~~ following a determination by a manifestation team that the behavior is a manifestation of the student's disability, except as authorized under federal law and regulations.

~~[(ix)]~~ i. the commissioner shall implement this paragraph by adopting regulations which coordinate the procedures required for discipline of students with disabilities, and students presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes, pursuant to subsection (k) of section fourteen hundred fifteen of title twenty of the United States code and the federal regulations implementing such statute, with the general procedures for student discipline under this section.

~~[3-a.]~~ 10. Teacher removal of a ~~[disruptive pupil. In addition, any]~~ student for misconduct in violation of the code of conduct. A teacher shall have the power and authority to remove a ~~[disruptive]~~ pupil~~[, as~~



1 ~~defined in subdivision two a of this section,~~ from such teacher's  
2 classroom consistent with discipline and intervention measures contained  
3 in the code of conduct adopted by the board pursuant to section twenty-  
4 eight hundred one of this chapter. Such classroom removal may not  
5 exceed half of one school day. The school authorities of any school  
6 district shall establish policies and procedures to ensure the provision  
7 of continued educational programming and activities for students removed  
8 from the classroom pursuant to this subdivision and provided further  
9 that nothing in this subdivision shall authorize the removal of a pupil  
10 in violation of any state or federal law or regulation. No pupil shall  
11 return to the classroom until the principal makes a final determination  
12 pursuant to paragraph c of this subdivision, or the period of removal  
13 expires, whichever is less.

14 a. Such teacher shall inform the pupil and the person in parental  
15 relation and the school principal of the reasons for the removal. If the  
16 teacher finds that the pupil's continued presence in the classroom does  
17 not pose a continuing danger to persons or property and does not present  
18 an ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process, the teacher  
19 shall, prior to removing the student from the classroom, provide the  
20 student with an explanation of the basis for the removal and allow the  
21 pupil to informally present the pupil's version of relevant events. In  
22 all other cases, the teacher shall provide the pupil with an explanation  
23 of the basis for the removal and an informal opportunity to be heard  
24 within twenty-four hours of the pupil's removal, provided that if such  
25 twenty-four hour period does not end on a school day, it shall be  
26 extended to the corresponding time on the next school day.

27 b. The principal shall inform the person in parental relation to such  
28 pupil of the removal and the reasons therefor within twenty-four hours  
29 of the pupil's removal, provided that if such twenty-four hour period  
30 does not end on a school day, it shall be extended to the corresponding  
31 time on the next school day. The pupil and the person in parental  
32 relation shall, upon request, be given an opportunity for an informal  
33 conference with the principal to discuss the reasons for the removal.  
34 ~~[If the pupil denies the charges, the]~~ The principal shall provide an  
35 explanation of the basis for the removal and allow the pupil and/or  
36 person in parental relation to the pupil an opportunity to present the  
37 pupil's version of relevant events. Such informal ~~[hearing]~~ conference  
38 shall be held within forty-eight hours of the pupil's removal, provided  
39 that if such forty-eight hour period does not end on a school day, it  
40 shall be extended to the corresponding time on the second school day  
41 next following the pupil's removal. A person in parental relationship to  
42 the student may request that the informal conference take place later  
43 than forty-eight hours after the student's removal. For purposes of this  
44 subdivision, "school day" shall mean a school day as defined pursuant to  
45 ~~[clause (v) of subparagraph three of paragraph g of subdivision three]~~  
46 paragraph e of subdivision nine of this section.

47 c. The principal shall not set aside the discipline imposed by the  
48 teacher unless the principal finds that the charges against the pupil  
49 are not supported by substantial evidence or that the pupil's removal is  
50 otherwise in violation of law or that the conduct warrants suspension  
51 from school pursuant to this section and a suspension will be imposed.  
52 The principal's determination made pursuant to this paragraph shall be  
53 made by the close of business on the school day next succeeding the end  
54 of the forty-eight hour period for an informal ~~[hearing]~~ conference  
55 contained in paragraph b of this subdivision.

d. The principal may, in his or her discretion, designate a school district administrator, to carry out the functions required of the principal under this subdivision.

[4-] 11. Expense. a. The expense attending the commitment and costs of maintenance of [~~any school delinquent~~] a student disciplined for violation of the code of conduct shall be a charge against the city or district where he resides, if such city or district employs a superintendent of schools; otherwise it shall be a county charge.

b. The school authorities may institute proceedings before a court having jurisdiction to determine the liability of a person in parental relation to contribute towards the maintenance of a [~~school delinquent~~] student under sixteen years of age ordered to attend upon instruction under confinement. If the court shall find the person in parental relation able to contribute towards the maintenance of such a minor, it may issue an order fixing the amount to be paid weekly.

[5-] 12. Involuntary transfers of pupils who have not been determined to be a student with a disability or a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes.

a. The board of education, board of trustees or sole trustee, the superintendent of schools, or district superintendent of schools may transfer a pupil who has not been determined to be a student with a disability as defined in section forty-four hundred one of this chapter, or a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes as defined in [~~paragraph g of~~] subdivision [~~three~~] nine of this section from regular classroom instruction to an appropriate educational setting in another school upon the written recommendation of the school principal and following independent review thereof. For purposes of this section of the law, "involuntary transfer" does not include a transfer made by a school district as part of a plan to reduce racial imbalance within the schools or as a change in school attendance zones or geographical boundaries.

b. A school principal may initiate a non-requested transfer where it is believed that such a pupil would benefit from the transfer, or when the pupil would receive an adequate and appropriate education in another school program or facility.

No recommendation for pupil transfer shall be initiated by the principal until such pupil and a person in parental relation has been sent written notification of the consideration of transfer recommendation. Such notice shall set a time and place of an informal conference with the principal and shall inform such person in parental relation and such pupil of their right to be accompanied by counsel or an individual of their choice.

c. After the conference and if the principal concludes that the pupil would benefit from a transfer or that the pupil would receive an adequate and appropriate education in another school program or facility, the principal may issue a recommendation of transfer to the superintendent. Such recommendation shall include a description of behavior and/or academic problems indicative of the need for transfer; a description of alternatives explored and prior action taken to resolve the problem. A copy of that letter shall be sent to the person in parental relation and to the pupil.

d. Upon receipt of the principal's recommendation for transfer and a determination to consider that recommendation, the superintendent shall notify the person in parental relation and the pupil of the proposed transfer and of their right to a fair hearing as provided in paragraph c of subdivision [~~three~~] five of this section and shall list community

1 agencies and free legal assistance which may be of assistance. The writ-  
2 ten notice shall include a statement that the pupil or person in  
3 parental relation has ten days to request a hearing and that the  
4 proposed transfer shall not take effect, except upon written parental  
5 consent, until the ten day period has elapsed, or, if a fair hearing is  
6 requested, until after a formal decision following the hearing is  
7 rendered, whichever is later.

8 Parental consent to a transfer shall not constitute a waiver of the  
9 right to a fair hearing.

10 ~~[6-]~~ 13. Transfer of a pupil. Where a suspended pupil is to be trans-  
11 ferred pursuant to subdivision ~~[five]~~ twelve of this section, he or she  
12 shall remain on the register of the original school for two school days  
13 following transmittal of his or her records to the school to which he or  
14 she is to be transferred. The receiving school shall immediately upon  
15 receiving those records transmitted by the original school, review them  
16 to insure proper placement of the pupil. Staff members who are involved  
17 in the pupil's education must be provided with pertinent records and  
18 information relating to the background and problems of the pupil before  
19 the pupil is placed in a classroom.

20 ~~[7-]~~ 14. Transfer of disciplinary records. Notwithstanding any other  
21 provision of law to the contrary, each local educational agency, as such  
22 term is defined in subsection twenty-six of section ninety-one hundred  
23 one of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended,  
24 shall establish procedures in accordance with section forty-one hundred  
25 fifty-five of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as  
26 amended, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, to  
27 facilitate the transfer of disciplinary records relating to the suspen-  
28 sion ~~[or expulsion]~~ of a student to any public or nonpublic elementary  
29 or secondary school in which such student enrolls or seeks, intends or  
30 is instructed to enroll, on a full-time or part-time basis.

31 § 4. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding three new  
32 subdivisions 56, 57 and 58 to read as follows:

33 56. The commissioner shall provide technical assistance to school  
34 districts about the development, implementation and evaluation of school  
35 district codes of conduct including:

36 (a) one or more model codes of conduct, designed to reduce the use of  
37 suspensions, that meet the requirements of sections twenty-eight hundred  
38 one and thirty-two hundred fourteen of this chapter;

39 (b) best practices for age-appropriate, graduated and proportionate  
40 discipline as set out in section twenty-eight hundred one of this chap-  
41 ter;

42 (c) a matrix of student misconduct and the interventions and discipli-  
43 nary measures that provide age appropriate, graduated and proportionate  
44 intervention designed to reduce reliance on suspensions and referrals to  
45 law enforcement;

46 (d) guidelines for appropriate and school-wide implementation of  
47 restorative practices;

48 (e) forms necessary to implement student notification and due process  
49 requirements of section twenty-eight hundred one and thirty-two hundred  
50 fourteen of this chapter.

51 57. The commissioner shall, pursuant to an appropriation in the state  
52 budget, provide funds to local school districts for implementation of a  
53 school's code of conduct including mandatory pre-service and in-service  
54 training of school personnel about prevention, restorative practices and  
55 other intervention and disciplinary measures to respond to student

1 misconduct as required by section twenty-eight hundred one of this chap-  
2 ter.

3 58. The commissioner shall be authorized to provide funds for training  
4 school personnel included in section twenty-eight hundred one of this  
5 chapter only to the extent that the state budget includes an appropri-  
6 ation for such training.

7 § 5. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that  
8 the amendments to subdivision 3 of section 2801 of the education law  
9 made by section one of this act shall be subject to the expiration and  
10 reversion of such subdivision pursuant to section 34 of chapter 91 of  
11 the laws of 2002, as amended, when upon such date the provisions of  
12 section two of this act shall take effect; provided further, however,  
13 that the amendments to subparagraph (1) of paragraph c, paragraphs d, e,  
14 f and g of subdivision 3 and paragraphs a, b and c of subdivision 3-a of  
15 section 3214 of the education law made by section three of this act  
16 shall be subject to the expiration of such subparagraph and paragraphs  
17 and shall be deemed expired therewith; and provided further, however,  
18 that the amendments to subdivision 7 of section 3214 of the education  
19 law made by section three of this act shall not affect the repeal of  
20 such subdivision and shall be deemed repealed therewith.