

**LONG-TERM SUSPENSION EXPULSION FOR SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES  
UNDER MGL c. 71 §37H:**

ANNEX B  
gb #9-189  
Page 1

The long-term suspension or expulsion of a student from school will be in accordance with MGL c. 71 §37H. The grounds for long-term suspension or expulsion include but are not limited to the following:

- I. Any student who is found on school premises or at school-sponsored or school-related events, including athletic games, in possession of a dangerous weapon, including, but not limited to, a gun, a knife, or their facsimile, or anything used in the commission of assault and battery; or a controlled substance as defined in Chapter 94 C, including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, and heroin, may be subject to long-term suspension or expulsion from the school by the principal or his/her designee.
- II. Any student who assaults a principal, assistant principal, teacher, teacher's aide, or other educational staff on school premises or at school-sponsored or school-related events, including athletic games, may be subject to long-term suspension or expulsion from the school or school district by the principal or his/her designee.
- III. Due process for a student who is subject to an expulsion or a long-term suspension as a result of possessing drugs/weapons or assaulting school staff includes:
  - a. A student shall receive written notice before the expulsion or a long-term suspension takes place and written notice of the right to appeal.
  - b. The student shall be given an opportunity for a hearing and the opportunity to present witnesses and evidence. The student may have an attorney at their own expense.
  - c. Following the hearing, the principal or his/her designee may, in his/her discretion, decide to suspend rather than expel the student.
  - d. The student may appeal the expulsion or long-term suspension to the superintendent provided the appeal is requested in writing, within ten (10) calendar days following the long-term suspension or expulsion.
  - e. At the appeal hearing, the student may be represented by an attorney and may present oral and written testimony.
  - f. The subject matter of the appeal shall not be limited solely to a factual determination of whether the student has violated any provisions of MGL c. 71 §37H.
  - g. The superintendent's decision is final.
  - h. Any student who is suspended or expelled for more than ten (10) consecutive days shall have the opportunity to receive education services and make academic progress toward meeting state and local requirements, through the school-wide education service plan.

**PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS WITH FELONY COMPLAINT OR CONVICTION UNDER  
MGL c. 71 §37H ½:**

In accordance with MGL c. 71 §37 H ½, principals have the authority to suspend students charged with a felony and expel or issue a long-term suspension to students convicted or adjudicated of committing a felony if the principal has