

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections  
5 10-20.14 and 10-22.6 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.14) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.14)

7 Sec. 10-20.14. Student discipline policies; parent-teacher  
8 advisory committee.

9 (a) To establish and maintain a parent-teacher advisory  
10 committee to develop with the school board or governing body  
11 of a charter school policy guidelines on student ~~pupil~~  
12 discipline, including school searches and bullying prevention  
13 as set forth in Section 27-23.7 of this Code. School  
14 authorities shall furnish a copy of the policy to the parents  
15 or guardian of each student ~~pupil~~ within 15 days after the  
16 beginning of the school year, or within 15 days after starting  
17 classes for a student ~~pupil~~ who transfers into the district  
18 during the school year, and the school board or governing body  
19 of a charter school shall require that a school inform its  
20 students ~~pupils~~ of the contents of the policy. School boards  
21 and the governing bodies of charter schools, along with the  
22 parent-teacher advisory committee, must annually review their  
23 student ~~pupil~~ discipline policies ~~and~~ the implementation of

1 those policies, and any other factors related to the safety of  
2 their schools, students ~~pupils~~, and school personnel ~~staff~~.

3 (a-5) On or before September 15, 2016, each elementary and  
4 secondary school and charter school shall, at a minimum, adopt  
5 student ~~pupil~~ discipline policies that fulfill the  
6 requirements set forth in this Section, subsections (a) and  
7 (b) of Section 10-22.6 of this Code, Section 34-19 of this Code  
8 if applicable, and federal and State laws that provide special  
9 requirements for the discipline of students with disabilities.

10 (b) The parent-teacher advisory committee in cooperation  
11 with local law enforcement agencies shall develop, with the  
12 school board, policy guideline procedures to establish and  
13 maintain a reciprocal reporting system between the school  
14 district and local law enforcement agencies regarding criminal  
15 offenses committed by students. School districts are  
16 encouraged to create memoranda of understanding with local law  
17 enforcement agencies that clearly define law enforcement's  
18 role in schools, in accordance with Section 10-22.6 of this  
19 Code. In consultation with stakeholders deemed appropriate by  
20 the State Board of Education, the State Board of Education  
21 shall draft and publish guidance for the development of  
22 reciprocal reporting systems in accordance with this Section  
23 on or before July 1, 2025.

24 (c) The parent-teacher advisory committee, in cooperation  
25 with school bus personnel, shall develop, with the school  
26 board, policy guideline procedures to establish and maintain

1 school bus safety procedures. These procedures shall be  
2 incorporated into the district's student ~~pupil~~ discipline  
3 policy. In consultation with stakeholders deemed appropriate  
4 by the State Board of Education, the State Board of Education  
5 shall draft and publish guidance for school bus safety  
6 procedures in accordance with this Section on or before July  
7 1, 2025.

8 (d) As used in this subsection (d), "evidence-based  
9 intervention" means intervention that has demonstrated a  
10 statistically significant effect on improving student outcomes  
11 as documented in peer-reviewed scholarly journals.

12 The school board, in consultation with the parent-teacher  
13 advisory committee and other community-based organizations,  
14 must include provisions in the student discipline policy to  
15 address students who have demonstrated behaviors that put them  
16 at risk for aggressive behavior, including without limitation  
17 bullying, as defined in the policy. These provisions must  
18 include procedures for notifying parents or legal guardians  
19 and ~~early~~ intervention procedures based upon available  
20 community-based and district resources.

21 In consultation with behavioral health experts, the State  
22 Board of Education shall draft and publish guidance for  
23 evidence-based intervention procedures, including examples, in  
24 accordance with this Section on or before July 1, 2025.

25 (Source: P.A. 99-456, eff. 9-15-16.)

1 (105 ILCS 5/10-22.6) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-22.6)

2 (Text of Section before amendment by P.A. 102-466)

3 Sec. 10-22.6. Suspension or expulsion of students ~~pupils~~;  
4 school searches.

5 (a) To expel students ~~pupils~~ guilty of gross disobedience  
6 or misconduct, including gross disobedience or misconduct  
7 perpetuated by electronic means, pursuant to subsection (b-20)  
8 of this Section, and no action shall lie against them for such  
9 expulsion. Expulsion shall take place only after the parents  
10 have been requested to appear at a meeting of the board, or  
11 with a hearing officer appointed by it, to discuss their  
12 child's behavior. Such request shall be made by registered or  
13 certified mail and shall state the time, place and purpose of  
14 the meeting. The board, or a hearing officer appointed by it,  
15 at such meeting shall state the reasons for dismissal and the  
16 date on which the expulsion is to become effective. If a  
17 hearing officer is appointed by the board, the hearing officer  
18 ~~he~~ shall report to the board a written summary of the evidence  
19 heard at the meeting and the board may take such action thereon  
20 as it finds appropriate. If the board acts to expel a student  
21 ~~pupil~~, the written expulsion decision shall detail the  
22 specific reasons why removing the student ~~pupil~~ from the  
23 learning environment is in the best interest of the school.  
24 The expulsion decision shall also include a rationale as to  
25 the specific duration of the expulsion. An expelled student  
26 ~~pupil~~ may be immediately transferred to an alternative program

1 in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of this Code. A  
2 student ~~pupil~~ must not be denied transfer because of the  
3 expulsion, except in cases in which such transfer is deemed to  
4 cause a threat to the safety of students or staff in the  
5 alternative program.

6 (b) To suspend or by policy to authorize the  
7 superintendent of the district or the principal, assistant  
8 principal, or dean of students of any school to suspend  
9 students ~~pupils~~ guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct, or  
10 to suspend students ~~pupils~~ guilty of gross disobedience or  
11 misconduct on the school bus from riding the school bus,  
12 pursuant to subsections (b-15) and (b-20) of this Section, and  
13 no action shall lie against them for such suspension. The  
14 board may by policy authorize the superintendent of the  
15 district or the principal, assistant principal, or dean of  
16 students of any school to suspend students ~~pupils~~ guilty of  
17 such acts for a period not to exceed 10 school days. If a  
18 student ~~pupil~~ is suspended due to gross disobedience or  
19 misconduct on a school bus, the board may suspend the student  
20 ~~pupil~~ in excess of 10 school days for safety reasons.

21 Any suspension shall be reported immediately to the  
22 parents or guardian of a student ~~pupil~~ along with a full  
23 statement of the reasons for such suspension and a notice of  
24 their right to a review. The school board must be given a  
25 summary of the notice, including the reason for the suspension  
26 and the suspension length. Upon request of the parents or

1 guardian, the school board or a hearing officer appointed by  
2 it shall review such action of the superintendent or  
3 principal, assistant principal, or dean of students. At such  
4 review, the parents or guardian of the student ~~pupil~~ may  
5 appear and discuss the suspension with the board or its  
6 hearing officer. If a hearing officer is appointed by the  
7 board, he shall report to the board a written summary of the  
8 evidence heard at the meeting. After its hearing or upon  
9 receipt of the written report of its hearing officer, the  
10 board may take such action as it finds appropriate. If a  
11 student is suspended pursuant to this subsection (b), the  
12 board shall, in the written suspension decision, detail the  
13 specific act of gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in  
14 the decision to suspend. The suspension decision shall also  
15 include a rationale as to the specific duration of the  
16 suspension. ~~A pupil who is suspended in excess of 20 school~~  
17 ~~days may be immediately transferred to an alternative program~~  
18 ~~in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of this Code. A~~  
19 ~~pupil must not be denied transfer because of the suspension,~~  
20 ~~except in cases in which such transfer is deemed to cause a~~  
21 ~~threat to the safety of students or staff in the alternative~~  
22 ~~program.~~

23 (b-5) Among the many possible disciplinary interventions  
24 and consequences available to school officials, school  
25 exclusions, such as out-of-school suspensions and expulsions,  
26 are the most serious. School officials shall limit the number

1 and duration of expulsions and suspensions to the greatest  
2 extent practicable, and it is recommended that they use them  
3 only for legitimate educational purposes. To ensure that  
4 students are not excluded from school unnecessarily, it is  
5 recommended that school officials consider forms of  
6 non-exclusionary discipline prior to using out-of-school  
7 suspensions or expulsions.

8 (b-10) Unless otherwise required by federal law or this  
9 Code, school boards may not institute zero-tolerance policies  
10 by which school administrators are required to suspend or  
11 expel students for particular behaviors.

12 (b-15) Out-of-school suspensions of 3 days or less may be  
13 used only if the student's continuing presence in school would  
14 pose a threat to school safety or a disruption to other  
15 students' learning opportunities. For purposes of this  
16 subsection (b-15), "threat to school safety or a disruption to  
17 other students' learning opportunities" shall be determined on  
18 a case-by-case basis by the school board or its designee.  
19 School officials shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve  
20 such threats, address such disruptions, and minimize the  
21 length of suspensions to the greatest extent practicable.

22 (b-20) Unless otherwise required by this Code,  
23 out-of-school suspensions of longer than 3 days, expulsions,  
24 and disciplinary removals to alternative schools may be used  
25 only if other appropriate and available behavioral and  
26 disciplinary interventions have been exhausted and the

1 student's continuing presence in school would either (i) pose  
2 a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of  
3 the school community or (ii) substantially disrupt, impede, or  
4 interfere with the operation of the school. For purposes of  
5 this subsection (b-20), "threat to the safety of other  
6 students, staff, or members of the school community" and  
7 "substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the  
8 operation of the school" shall be determined on a case-by-case  
9 basis by school officials. For purposes of this subsection  
10 (b-20), the determination of whether "appropriate and  
11 available behavioral and disciplinary interventions have been  
12 exhausted" shall be made by school officials. School officials  
13 shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve such threats,  
14 address such disruptions, and minimize the length of student  
15 exclusions to the greatest extent practicable. Within the  
16 suspension decision described in subsection (b) of this  
17 Section or the expulsion decision described in subsection (a)  
18 of this Section, it shall be documented whether other  
19 interventions were attempted or whether it was determined that  
20 there were no other appropriate and available interventions.

21 (b-25) Students who are suspended out-of-school for longer  
22 than 3 4 school days shall be provided appropriate and  
23 available support services during the period of their  
24 suspension. For purposes of this subsection (b-25),  
25 "appropriate and available support services" shall be  
26 determined by school authorities. Within the suspension



1 decision described in subsection (b) of this Section, it shall  
2 be documented whether such services are to be provided or  
3 whether it was determined that there are no such appropriate  
4 and available services.

5 A school district may refer students who are expelled to  
6 appropriate and available support services.

7 A school district shall create a policy to facilitate the  
8 re-engagement of students who are suspended out-of-school,  
9 expelled, or returning from an alternative school setting. In  
10 consultation with stakeholders deemed appropriate by the State  
11 Board of Education, the State Board of Education shall draft  
12 and publish guidance for the re-engagement of students who are  
13 suspended out-of-school, expelled, or returning from an  
14 alternative school setting in accordance with this Section and  
15 Section 13A-4 on or before July 1, 2025.

16 (b-30) A school district shall create a policy by which  
17 suspended students ~~pupils~~, including those students ~~pupils~~  
18 suspended from the school bus who do not have alternate  
19 transportation to school, shall have the opportunity to make  
20 up work for equivalent academic credit. It shall be the  
21 responsibility of a student's ~~pupil's~~ parent or guardian to  
22 notify school officials that a student ~~pupil~~ suspended from  
23 the school bus does not have alternate transportation to  
24 school.

25 (c) A school board must invite a representative from a  
26 local mental health agency to consult with the board at the

1 meeting whenever there is evidence that mental illness may be  
2 the cause of a student's expulsion or suspension.

3 (c-5) School districts shall make reasonable efforts to  
4 provide ongoing professional development to all school  
5 personnel ~~teachers, administrators,~~ school board members, and  
6 school resource officers, ~~and staff~~ on the requirements of  
7 this Section and Section 10-20.14, the adverse consequences of  
8 school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective  
9 classroom management strategies, culturally responsive  
10 discipline, trauma-responsive learning environments, as  
11 defined in subsection (b) of Section 3-11, the appropriate and  
12 available supportive services for the promotion of student  
13 attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate  
14 disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school  
15 climates.

16 (d) The board may expel a student for a definite period of  
17 time not to exceed 2 calendar years, as determined on a  
18 case-by-case basis. A student who is determined to have  
19 brought one of the following objects to school, any  
20 school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event  
21 that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be  
22 expelled for a period of not less than one year:

23 (1) A firearm. For the purposes of this Section,  
24 "firearm" means any gun, rifle, shotgun, weapon as defined  
25 by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code,  
26 firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners

1 Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section  
2 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012. The expulsion period  
3 under this subdivision (1) may be modified by the  
4 superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may  
5 be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

6 (2) A knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon  
7 regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other  
8 object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily  
9 harm, including "look alike" of any firearm as defined in  
10 subdivision (1) of this subsection (d). The expulsion  
11 requirement under this subdivision (2) may be modified by  
12 the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination  
13 may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

14 Expulsion or suspension shall be construed in a manner  
15 consistent with the federal Individuals with Disabilities  
16 Education Act. A student who is subject to suspension or  
17 expulsion as provided in this Section may be eligible for a  
18 transfer to an alternative school program in accordance with  
19 Article 13A of the School Code.

20 (d-5) The board may suspend or by regulation authorize the  
21 superintendent of the district or the principal, assistant  
22 principal, or dean of students of any school to suspend a  
23 student for a period not to exceed 10 school days or may expel  
24 a student for a definite period of time not to exceed 2  
25 calendar years, as determined on a case-by-case basis, if (i)  
26 that student has been determined to have made an explicit

1 threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a  
2 student, or any school-related personnel, (ii) the Internet  
3 website through which the threat was made is a site that was  
4 accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or  
5 was available to third parties who worked or studied within  
6 the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and (iii)  
7 the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to  
8 the safety and security of the threatened individual because  
9 of the individual's ~~his or her~~ duties or employment status or  
10 status as a student inside the school.

11 (e) To maintain order and security in the schools, school  
12 authorities may inspect and search places and areas such as  
13 lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and  
14 equipment owned or controlled by the school, as well as  
15 personal effects left in those places and areas by students,  
16 without notice to or the consent of the student, and without a  
17 search warrant. As a matter of public policy, the General  
18 Assembly finds that students have no reasonable expectation of  
19 privacy in these places and areas or in their personal effects  
20 left in these places and areas. School authorities may request  
21 the assistance of law enforcement officials for the purpose of  
22 conducting inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking  
23 lots, and other school property and equipment owned or  
24 controlled by the school for illegal drugs, weapons, or other  
25 illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including  
26 searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

1 If a search conducted in accordance with this Section produces  
2 evidence that the student has violated or is violating either  
3 the law, local ordinance, or the school's policies or rules,  
4 such evidence may be seized by school authorities, and  
5 disciplinary action may be taken. School authorities may also  
6 turn over such evidence to law enforcement authorities.

7 (f) Suspension or expulsion may include suspension or  
8 expulsion from school and all school activities and a  
9 prohibition from being present on school grounds.

10 (g) A school district may adopt a policy providing that if  
11 a student is suspended or expelled for any reason from any  
12 public or private school in this or any other state, the  
13 student must complete the entire term of the suspension or  
14 expulsion in an alternative school program under Article 13A  
15 of this Code or an alternative learning opportunities program  
16 under Article 13B of this Code before being admitted into the  
17 school district if there is no threat to the safety of students  
18 or staff in the alternative program.

19 (h) School officials shall not advise or encourage  
20 students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic  
21 difficulties.

22 (i) A student may not be issued a monetary fine or fee as a  
23 disciplinary consequence, though this shall not preclude  
24 requiring a student to provide restitution for lost, stolen,  
25 or damaged property.

26 (j) Subsections (a) through (i) of this Section shall

1 apply to elementary and secondary schools, charter schools,  
2 special charter districts, and school districts organized  
3 under Article 34 of this Code.

4 (k) The expulsion of students ~~children~~ enrolled in  
5 programs funded under Section 1C-2 of this Code is subject to  
6 the requirements under paragraph (7) of subsection (a) of  
7 Section 2-3.71 of this Code.

8 (l) ~~An~~ ~~Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year,~~ an  
9 in-school suspension program provided by a school district for  
10 any students in kindergarten through grade 12 may focus on  
11 promoting non-violent conflict resolution and positive  
12 interaction with other students and school personnel. A school  
13 district may employ a school social worker or a licensed  
14 mental health professional to oversee an in-school suspension  
15 program in kindergarten through grade 12.

16 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 102-539, eff. 8-20-21;  
17 102-813, eff. 5-13-22.)

18 (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 102-466)

19 Sec. 10-22.6. Suspension or expulsion of students ~~pupils~~;  
20 school searches.

21 (a) To expel students ~~pupils~~ guilty of gross disobedience  
22 or misconduct, including gross disobedience or misconduct  
23 perpetuated by electronic means, pursuant to subsection (b-20)  
24 of this Section, and no action shall lie against them for such  
25 expulsion. Expulsion shall take place only after the parents

1 or guardians have been requested to appear at a meeting of the  
2 board, or with a hearing officer appointed by it, to discuss  
3 their child's behavior. Such request shall be made by  
4 registered or certified mail and shall state the time, place  
5 and purpose of the meeting. The board, or a hearing officer  
6 appointed by it, at such meeting shall state the reasons for  
7 dismissal and the date on which the expulsion is to become  
8 effective. If a hearing officer is appointed by the board, the  
9 hearing officer ~~he~~ shall report to the board a written summary  
10 of the evidence heard at the meeting and the board may take  
11 such action thereon as it finds appropriate. If the board acts  
12 to expel a student pupil, the written expulsion decision shall  
13 detail the specific reasons why removing the student pupil  
14 from the learning environment is in the best interest of the  
15 school. The expulsion decision shall also include a rationale  
16 as to the specific duration of the expulsion. An expelled  
17 student pupil may be immediately transferred to an alternative  
18 program in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of this  
19 Code. A student pupil must not be denied transfer because of  
20 the expulsion, except in cases in which such transfer is  
21 deemed to cause a threat to the safety of students or staff in  
22 the alternative program.

23 (b) To suspend or by policy to authorize the  
24 superintendent of the district or the principal, assistant  
25 principal, or dean of students of any school to suspend  
26 students pupils guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct, or

1 to suspend students ~~pupils~~ guilty of gross disobedience or  
2 misconduct on the school bus from riding the school bus,  
3 pursuant to subsections (b-15) and (b-20) of this Section, and  
4 no action shall lie against them for such suspension. The  
5 board may by policy authorize the superintendent of the  
6 district or the principal, assistant principal, or dean of  
7 students of any school to suspend students ~~pupils~~ guilty of  
8 such acts for a period not to exceed 10 school days. If a  
9 student ~~pupil~~ is suspended due to gross disobedience or  
10 misconduct on a school bus, the board may suspend the student  
11 ~~pupil~~ in excess of 10 school days for safety reasons.

12 Any suspension shall be reported immediately to the  
13 parents or guardians of a student ~~pupil~~ along with a full  
14 statement of the reasons for such suspension and a notice of  
15 their right to a review. The school board must be given a  
16 summary of the notice, including the reason for the suspension  
17 and the suspension length. Upon request of the parents or  
18 guardians, the school board or a hearing officer appointed by  
19 it shall review such action of the superintendent or  
20 principal, assistant principal, or dean of students. At such  
21 review, the parents or guardians of the student ~~pupil~~ may  
22 appear and discuss the suspension with the board or its  
23 hearing officer. If a hearing officer is appointed by the  
24 board, he shall report to the board a written summary of the  
25 evidence heard at the meeting. After its hearing or upon  
26 receipt of the written report of its hearing officer, the



1 board may take such action as it finds appropriate. If a  
2 student is suspended pursuant to this subsection (b), the  
3 board shall, in the written suspension decision, detail the  
4 specific act of gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in  
5 the decision to suspend. The suspension decision shall also  
6 include a rationale as to the specific duration of the  
7 suspension. ~~A pupil who is suspended in excess of 20 school~~  
8 ~~days may be immediately transferred to an alternative program~~  
9 ~~in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of this Code. A~~  
10 ~~pupil must not be denied transfer because of the suspension,~~  
11 ~~except in cases in which such transfer is deemed to cause a~~  
12 ~~threat to the safety of students or staff in the alternative~~  
13 ~~program.~~

14 (b-5) Among the many possible disciplinary interventions  
15 and consequences available to school officials, school  
16 exclusions, such as out-of-school suspensions and expulsions,  
17 are the most serious. School officials shall limit the number  
18 and duration of expulsions and suspensions to the greatest  
19 extent practicable, and it is recommended that they use them  
20 only for legitimate educational purposes. To ensure that  
21 students are not excluded from school unnecessarily, it is  
22 recommended that school officials consider forms of  
23 non-exclusionary discipline prior to using out-of-school  
24 suspensions or expulsions.

25 (b-10) Unless otherwise required by federal law or this  
26 Code, school boards may not institute zero-tolerance policies

1 by which school administrators are required to suspend or  
2 expel students for particular behaviors.

3 (b-15) Out-of-school suspensions of 3 days or less may be  
4 used only if the student's continuing presence in school would  
5 pose a threat to school safety or a disruption to other  
6 students' learning opportunities. For purposes of this  
7 subsection (b-15), "threat to school safety or a disruption to  
8 other students' learning opportunities" shall be determined on  
9 a case-by-case basis by the school board or its designee.  
10 School officials shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve  
11 such threats, address such disruptions, and minimize the  
12 length of suspensions to the greatest extent practicable.

13 (b-20) Unless otherwise required by this Code,  
14 out-of-school suspensions of longer than 3 days, expulsions,  
15 and disciplinary removals to alternative schools may be used  
16 only if other appropriate and available behavioral and  
17 disciplinary interventions have been exhausted and the  
18 student's continuing presence in school would either (i) pose  
19 a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of  
20 the school community or (ii) substantially disrupt, impede, or  
21 interfere with the operation of the school. For purposes of  
22 this subsection (b-20), "threat to the safety of other  
23 students, staff, or members of the school community" and  
24 "substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the  
25 operation of the school" shall be determined on a case-by-case  
26 basis by school officials. For purposes of this subsection

1 (b-20), the determination of whether "appropriate and  
2 available behavioral and disciplinary interventions have been  
3 exhausted" shall be made by school officials. School officials  
4 shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve such threats,  
5 address such disruptions, and minimize the length of student  
6 exclusions to the greatest extent practicable. Within the  
7 suspension decision described in subsection (b) of this  
8 Section or the expulsion decision described in subsection (a)  
9 of this Section, it shall be documented whether other  
10 interventions were attempted or whether it was determined that  
11 there were no other appropriate and available interventions.

12 (b-25) Students who are suspended out-of-school for longer  
13 than 3 4 school days shall be provided appropriate and  
14 available support services during the period of their  
15 suspension. For purposes of this subsection (b-25),  
16 "appropriate and available support services" shall be  
17 determined by school authorities. Within the suspension  
18 decision described in subsection (b) of this Section, it shall  
19 be documented whether such services are to be provided or  
20 whether it was determined that there are no such appropriate  
21 and available services.

22 A school district may refer students who are expelled to  
23 appropriate and available support services.

24 A school district shall create a policy to facilitate the  
25 re-engagement of students who are suspended out-of-school,  
26 expelled, or returning from an alternative school setting. In

1 consultation with stakeholders deemed appropriate by the State  
2 Board of Education, the State Board of Education shall draft  
3 and publish guidance for the re-engagement of students who are  
4 suspended out-of-school, expelled, or returning from an  
5 alternative school setting in accordance with this Section and  
6 Section 13A-4 on or before July 1, 2025.

7 (b-30) A school district shall create a policy by which  
8 suspended students ~~pupils~~, including those students ~~pupils~~  
9 suspended from the school bus who do not have alternate  
10 transportation to school, shall have the opportunity to make  
11 up work for equivalent academic credit. It shall be the  
12 responsibility of a student's ~~pupil's~~ parents or guardians to  
13 notify school officials that a student ~~pupil~~ suspended from  
14 the school bus does not have alternate transportation to  
15 school.

16 (b-35) In all suspension review hearings conducted under  
17 subsection (b) or expulsion hearings conducted under  
18 subsection (a), a student may disclose any factor to be  
19 considered in mitigation, including his or her status as a  
20 parent, expectant parent, or victim of domestic or sexual  
21 violence, as defined in Article 26A. A representative of the  
22 parent's or guardian's choice, or of the student's choice if  
23 emancipated, must be permitted to represent the student  
24 throughout the proceedings and to address the school board or  
25 its appointed hearing officer. With the approval of the  
26 student's parent or guardian, or of the student if

1 emancipated, a support person must be permitted to accompany  
2 the student to any disciplinary hearings or proceedings. The  
3 representative or support person must comply with any rules of  
4 the school district's hearing process. If the representative  
5 or support person violates the rules or engages in behavior or  
6 advocacy that harasses, abuses, or intimidates either party, a  
7 witness, or anyone else in attendance at the hearing, the  
8 representative or support person may be prohibited from  
9 further participation in the hearing or proceeding. A  
10 suspension or expulsion proceeding under this subsection  
11 (b-35) must be conducted independently from any ongoing  
12 criminal investigation or proceeding, and an absence of  
13 pending or possible criminal charges, criminal investigations,  
14 or proceedings may not be a factor in school disciplinary  
15 decisions.

16 (b-40) During a suspension review hearing conducted under  
17 subsection (b) or an expulsion hearing conducted under  
18 subsection (a) that involves allegations of sexual violence by  
19 the student who is subject to discipline, neither the student  
20 nor his or her representative shall directly question nor have  
21 direct contact with the alleged victim. The student who is  
22 subject to discipline or his or her representative may, at the  
23 discretion and direction of the school board or its appointed  
24 hearing officer, suggest questions to be posed by the school  
25 board or its appointed hearing officer to the alleged victim.

26 (c) A school board must invite a representative from a

1 local mental health agency to consult with the board at the  
2 meeting whenever there is evidence that mental illness may be  
3 the cause of a student's expulsion or suspension.

4 (c-5) School districts shall make reasonable efforts to  
5 provide ongoing professional development to all school  
6 personnel ~~teachers, administrators,~~ school board members, and  
7 school resource officers, ~~and staff~~ on the requirements of  
8 this Section and Section 10-20.14, the adverse consequences of  
9 school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective  
10 classroom management strategies, culturally responsive  
11 discipline, trauma-responsive learning environments, as  
12 defined in subsection (b) of Section 3-11, the appropriate and  
13 available supportive services for the promotion of student  
14 attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate  
15 disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school  
16 climates.

17 (d) The board may expel a student for a definite period of  
18 time not to exceed 2 calendar years, as determined on a  
19 case-by-case basis. A student who is determined to have  
20 brought one of the following objects to school, any  
21 school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event  
22 that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be  
23 expelled for a period of not less than one year:

24 (1) A firearm. For the purposes of this Section,  
25 "firearm" means any gun, rifle, shotgun, weapon as defined  
26 by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code,

1 firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners  
2 Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section  
3 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012. The expulsion period  
4 under this subdivision (1) may be modified by the  
5 superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may  
6 be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

7 (2) A knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon  
8 regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other  
9 object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily  
10 harm, including "look alike" of any firearm as defined in  
11 subdivision (1) of this subsection (d). The expulsion  
12 requirement under this subdivision (2) may be modified by  
13 the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination  
14 may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

15 Expulsion or suspension shall be construed in a manner  
16 consistent with the federal Individuals with Disabilities  
17 Education Act. A student who is subject to suspension or  
18 expulsion as provided in this Section may be eligible for a  
19 transfer to an alternative school program in accordance with  
20 Article 13A of the School Code.

21 (d-5) The board may suspend or by regulation authorize the  
22 superintendent of the district or the principal, assistant  
23 principal, or dean of students of any school to suspend a  
24 student for a period not to exceed 10 school days or may expel  
25 a student for a definite period of time not to exceed 2  
26 calendar years, as determined on a case-by-case basis, if (i)

1 that student has been determined to have made an explicit  
2 threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a  
3 student, or any school-related personnel, (ii) the Internet  
4 website through which the threat was made is a site that was  
5 accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or  
6 was available to third parties who worked or studied within  
7 the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and (iii)  
8 the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to  
9 the safety and security of the threatened individual because  
10 of the individual's ~~his or her~~ duties or employment status or  
11 status as a student inside the school.

12 (e) To maintain order and security in the schools, school  
13 authorities may inspect and search places and areas such as  
14 lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and  
15 equipment owned or controlled by the school, as well as  
16 personal effects left in those places and areas by students,  
17 without notice to or the consent of the student, and without a  
18 search warrant. As a matter of public policy, the General  
19 Assembly finds that students have no reasonable expectation of  
20 privacy in these places and areas or in their personal effects  
21 left in these places and areas. School authorities may request  
22 the assistance of law enforcement officials for the purpose of  
23 conducting inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking  
24 lots, and other school property and equipment owned or  
25 controlled by the school for illegal drugs, weapons, or other  
26 illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including



1 searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.  
2 If a search conducted in accordance with this Section produces  
3 evidence that the student has violated or is violating either  
4 the law, local ordinance, or the school's policies or rules,  
5 such evidence may be seized by school authorities, and  
6 disciplinary action may be taken. School authorities may also  
7 turn over such evidence to law enforcement authorities.

8 (f) Suspension or expulsion may include suspension or  
9 expulsion from school and all school activities and a  
10 prohibition from being present on school grounds.

11 (g) A school district may adopt a policy providing that if  
12 a student is suspended or expelled for any reason from any  
13 public or private school in this or any other state, the  
14 student must complete the entire term of the suspension or  
15 expulsion in an alternative school program under Article 13A  
16 of this Code or an alternative learning opportunities program  
17 under Article 13B of this Code before being admitted into the  
18 school district if there is no threat to the safety of students  
19 or staff in the alternative program. A school district that  
20 adopts a policy under this subsection (g) must include a  
21 provision allowing for consideration of any mitigating  
22 factors, including, but not limited to, a student's status as  
23 a parent, expectant parent, or victim of domestic or sexual  
24 violence, as defined in Article 26A.

25 (h) School officials shall not advise or encourage  
26 students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic

1 difficulties.

2 (i) A student may not be issued a monetary fine or fee as a  
3 disciplinary consequence, though this shall not preclude  
4 requiring a student to provide restitution for lost, stolen,  
5 or damaged property.

6 (j) Subsections (a) through (i) of this Section shall  
7 apply to elementary and secondary schools, charter schools,  
8 special charter districts, and school districts organized  
9 under Article 34 of this Code.

10 (k) The expulsion of students ~~children~~ enrolled in  
11 programs funded under Section 1C-2 of this Code is subject to  
12 the requirements under paragraph (7) of subsection (a) of  
13 Section 2-3.71 of this Code.

14 (l) ~~An Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, an~~  
15 in-school suspension program provided by a school district for  
16 any students in kindergarten through grade 12 may focus on  
17 promoting non-violent conflict resolution and positive  
18 interaction with other students and school personnel. A school  
19 district may employ a school social worker or a licensed  
20 mental health professional to oversee an in-school suspension  
21 program in kindergarten through grade 12.

22 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 102-466, eff. 7-1-25;  
23 102-539, eff. 8-20-21; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22.)

24 Section 95. No acceleration or delay. Where this Act makes  
25 changes in a statute that is represented in this Act by text

1 that is not yet or no longer in effect (for example, a Section  
2 represented by multiple versions), the use of that text does  
3 not accelerate or delay the taking effect of (i) the changes  
4 made by this Act or (ii) provisions derived from any other  
5 Public Act.

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
7 becoming law.