

Suspension Process Summary

1. Written notice sent from school

2. Request suspension packet

3. Review packet and discuss with child

4. Decide what to do

(3 options)

NO CONTEST

Accept the charges without challenge by contacting the hearing officer prior to the hearing. If pleading “no contest” on the same day you can still request the hearing to discuss length of suspension.

ADJOURN

Postpone to gather witnesses or hire an attorney by contacting superintendent, hearing officer, or visiting school prior to the scheduled hearing.

HEARING

- ⇒ Call witnesses
- ⇒ Question District’s witnesses
- ⇒ Audio recorded
- ⇒ Testimony is under oath

Bring an advocate and have a translator

After Your “No Contest” Plea

- ⇒ Informed giving up rights
- ⇒ Receive letter confirming plea and informing of suspension length
- ⇒ You can change your mind within 7 days of the date on the letter OR 3 days from receiving the letter, whichever is later

AT YOUR HEARING

1. Opening Statement
2. School’s case
 - * You may object
 - * You may request to have charges dismissed if no witnesses are called
3. Your Case
4. Closing Statement
5. Disposition
 - * Hearing Officer decides on suspension. You may make requests.

AFTER YOUR HEARING

- Within 2 days—notice of outcome
- Within 5 days—written letter explaining the decision

AFTER THE HEARING

TURN OVER →

Does your child have a disability

If your child has a disability, there is an extra step after the hearing to determine whether your child's conduct was a manifestation of their disability (i.e. did they engage in misconduct BECAUSE of their disability)

