

APPEAL PROCEDURE FOR EXPULSION

Parents/guardians have the right to appeal the expulsion of their student to a special Review Board.

A written notice of the expulsion shall inform the parents/guardians and the student that the decision of expulsion may be appealed to the Review Board and how the appeal is to be made.

For interparochial schools, the Review Board shall consist of a committee of the Board of Education of the school. In a single parish school, the Review Board shall consist of a committee of the Board of Education. If the parish operates in one of the optional modes of governance, a committee for this purpose may be formed from the Parish Pastoral Council's Education Committee, or the Review Board may be designated in the Parent-Student Handbook.

Members of the Review Board shall not have any direct involvement in the case; e.g., the Pastor, Principal, teacher, or relative of the student.

The task of the Review Board is to hear both sides of the case, viz., the administration's and the student's, and to render an impartial judgment whether or not the proper procedures and policies were followed.

The following points should be noted regarding an appeal of expulsion:

1. The parents/guardians have ten days from the receipt of the expulsion notice to request an appeal.
2. The request must be made in writing and is to be addressed to the Principal, who shall advise the Superintendent of Schools of the request for an appeal.
3. The hearing is to be held as soon as conveniently possible for all parties concerned.
4. The hearing is conducted for the purpose of ascertaining the facts in the case and rendering an impartial judgment that proper procedures and policy were followed.
 - a. Only those persons involved in some pertinent way may be present at the hearing. Legal counsel, or other support personnel are not admitted to an appeal before the Review Board.
 - b. The Review Board is to allow each party to present their case. The Review Board members may ask any questions they deem appropriate. The Review Board will discuss their findings in private, and come to a decision in the appeal.
 - c. The Review Board may determine that the Principal has followed the

appropriate policies and procedures, and confirm the expulsion. The Review Board may, however, determine that the policies and procedures employed do not sustain the decision to expel the student, and recommend that the Principal rescind the expulsion. The recommendation of the Review Board is to be communicated by the Principal to the Superintendent of Schools.

Policy

Revised: July 1, 2001

NCD/Bishop of Harrisburg