

All students are expected to meet the requirements for behavior as set forth in the student handbooks. Chapter 71B of the Massachusetts General Laws, known as Chapter 766, requires that additional provisions be made for students who have been found by an evaluation Team to have special needs and whose program is described in an Individualized Educational Plan (I.E.P.). The following additional requirements apply to the discipline of special needs students:

1. The Principal or designee will notify the Special Education Office of any suspendable offense of a special needs student and a record will be kept of such notices.
2. When it appears that the suspension(s) of a special needs student will accumulate to ten (10) days in a school year, a review of the I.E.P. as provided in Section 333 of the Chapter 766 Regulations will be held to determine the appropriateness of the student's placement or program. The Team will make a finding as to the relationship between the student's misconduct and his/her handicapping condition and either:
 - a. Design a modified program for the student or;
 - b. Write an amendment to provide for the delivery of special education services during the suspension and any needed modifications of the I.E.P. relative to discipline code expectations.

In addition, the Department of Education will be notified as required by law, and the procedures promulgated by the Department of Education for requesting approval of the alternative plan will be followed.

Massachusetts General Law References:

M.G.L. 71B – Children with Special Needs

Other References:

Massachusetts Department of Education Regulations 603 CMR 28.00 –
Special Education (September 26, 2000)

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WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Westford, Massachusetts 01886