

IS THERE HELP? YES

1) Interpretation Assistance

- ◆ If you require the assistance of an interpreter to understand the appeal process; please contact my office.

2) Representation

- ◆ While not required; you do have the **RIGHT** of representation should you desire to have it. A representative may be a lawyer, a friend, a religious advisor or another trusted person who you wish to have attend with you to assist you at the appeal.

3) Where Can I Find a Lawyer?

- ◆ A short lawyer referral list to assist you in obtaining representation can be found at the website address that is provided at the back of this document. In addition, you may wish to contact any of the following:

- ◆ Justice for Children & Youth
1-866-999-5329
www.jfcy.org

- ◆ Pro Bono Law Ontario
1-866-466-7256
www.probononet.ca

- ◆ Legal Aid Ontario
1-800-668-8258
www.legalaid.on.ca

- ◆ Lawyer Referral Service-FREE
416-947-3330
Provides referrals to lawyers in various areas of practice; and a 30 minute free legal consultation.

MORE INFORMATION

Suspensions can be anywhere between 1 and 20 days. During that time, you are not allowed to attend classes or participate in any school-related activities.

If you believe you have been suspended unfairly, there is an opportunity to appeal the suspension.

WHY BOTHER—WHAT CAN EVEN HAPPEN IF I APPEAL?

After hearing an appeal the school Board Discipline Committee has the power to decide that:

- 1) You should not have been suspended and expunge it from your record. Expunge means your record is cleared and there is no future record that remains of you ever having been suspended.
- 2) The length of the suspension you were given is too long and order it be amended. This means that your record will be changed to show your suspension was amended (shortened).
- 3) Your suspension was imposed appropriately, and that it should remain as originally given.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

An audio podcast with helpful information about the student discipline committee process is available and can be accessed at the following link:

<https://anchor.fm/SDC-TDSB>

New and informative podcasts are updated periodically; listen in.

I DISAGREE WITH THIS SUSPENSION—WHAT CAN I DO?

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND SUPPORTS FOR PARENTS

STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE
Daniel Nortes, Coordinator
5050 Yonge Street - 2nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 5N8

Phone: 416-996-6601
Fax: 416-204-5471
E-mail: SDC-TDSB@tdsb.on.ca

CAN YOU TELL ME HOW TO APPEAL?

YES —THIS IS HOW

You are required to give written notice of your intention to appeal to the Superintendent of Education c/o [Dan Nortes](#), Coordinator, Student Discipline Committee, within 10 school days of the start of the suspension.

You can submit your appeal in any of the following methods:

ONLINE: <https://forms.gle/mWVDvU2ifxKCxW9D6>

EMAIL: daniel.nortes@tdsb.on.ca

You may contact [Mr. Nortes](#) to talk about anything regarding the appeal process at [\(416\) 996-6601](tel:416-996-6601).

You can also access information and resources related to the appeal process by accessing this link: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Student-Discipline-Committee>

Please be advised that an appeal of the suspension does not delay the suspension. However, an appeal does ensure that the Suspension will be reviewed by an independent 3-member school Board Discipline Committee.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE APPEAL MEETING?

A committee of 3 school board Trustees will listen to any evidence you provide about why the suspension is unfair and will also listen to the Principal about why they gave the suspension.

Parents, the pupil and the Principal have the following rights during this process, including the right to:

- 1) Have a lawyer with you (if you wish to do so);
- 2) Prior to the appeal; receive full disclosure of any materials the other side plans to present to the Trustees at the appeal;
- 3) Have an opportunity to present your side of the story;
- 4) Reply to information presented by the other side;
- 5) Explain why you believe there are mitigating circumstances.

WHERE WILL MY APPEAL BE HELD?

All appeal meetings are held at the headquarters of the Toronto District School Board (5050 Yonge Street—1st Floor in Committee Room “B”).

DIRECTIONS

By Car: North of Sheppard at Mel Lastman Square (Limited parking is available).

By TTC: By subway, exit at North York Centre subway. Exit to Yonge Street West & walk south toward North York Boulevard.



STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

If you still have questions about this important process after reading this material; please contact the Office of the Student Discipline Committee.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Daniel Nortes, Coordinator
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