



**Expulsion Policy for:
MATCH CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL**

Expulsion Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, §37H and §37H½

Students are subject to expulsion (i.e. permanent exclusion from school) pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, §37 and §37H½ by the Principal, as set forth in detail below.

Expulsion under M.G.L. c. 71, §37H

Students are subject to expulsion for the following offenses:

- Possession of a dangerous weapon
- Possession of a controlled substance
- Assault on staff member or other educational personnel

Expulsion under M.G.L. c. 71, §37H½

Students are subject to expulsion when convicted of a felony or upon an adjudication or admission in court of guilt with respect to such a felony or felony delinquency if the Principal determines that the student's continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school.

Due Process Procedures M.G.L. c. 71, §37H and §37H½

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, §37H, when considering expulsion of a student from school for possession of a dangerous weapon, possession of a controlled substance, or assault on a staff member, the student may be initially removed from school for up to ten (10) school days pending a hearing before the Principal to consider additional discipline, up to and including expulsion from school.

The following Due Process Procedures apply to M.G.L. c. 71, §37H and/or §37H½:

1. First, the Principal or his/her designee will have an informal meeting with the student. At this informal meeting, the student (1) shall be informed of the allegations, (2) shall be given the opportunity to present his or her side of the story, and (3) shall be informed if a formal hearing will take place to consider additional discipline, up to and including expulsion from school.
2. Following the informal meeting, the Principal or his/her designee shall make reasonable efforts to inform the student's parent/guardian, first orally and then in writing, of the suspension and the scheduling of a formal hearing with the Principal. The written notice shall be provided in English and in the primary language spoken in the student's home if other than

English, or other means of communication where appropriate. The notice shall include the following:

- Charges and a brief statement of the evidence;
 - Date, time, and place of a hearing;
 - Notice of the right at the hearing to:
 - Be represented by their parents, legal or other representative (at the student's/parent's own expense);
 - Present evidence; and
 - Confront and cross-examine witnesses.
 - The hearing will be conducted by the Principal.
 - A written decision shall be sent to the student and parents/guardians following the hearing.
3. Following the hearing, the Principal may, in his or her discretion, decide to suspend rather than expel a student who has committed the misconduct detailed above. If under §37H½, the determination shall be based on whether the principal determines that the student's continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school. The written determination will be sent to the student and parent/guardian in English and in the primary language spoken in the student's home if other than English, or other means of communication where appropriate, and will include the following:
- Identify the disciplinary offense, the date on which the hearing took place, and the participants at the hearing;
 - Set out the key facts and conclusions reached;
 - Identify the length and effective date of the expulsion;
 - Include notice of the student's opportunity to receive education services to make academic progress during the period of removal from school as well as the available options for such educational services. If the student will be removed from school for more than 10 consecutive days, the student will be offered at least two educational service options under the school wide education service plan; and
 - Inform the student of the right to appeal the Principal's decision to the Executive Director and the process for such appeal (see below).

Appeals to Expulsions under §37H

Any student who has received expulsion pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71 §37H shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Executive Director. The expelled student or their parent/guardian shall have ten (10) days from the date of the expulsion during which to notify the Executive Director, in writing, of his/her request for an appeal. An appeal hearing will be scheduled before the Executive Director with the student and the student's parent/guardian. At the appeal hearing, the student shall have the right to present oral and written testimony on his/her behalf, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses presented by the school and the right to counsel at his/her own expense. The subject matter of the appeal shall not be limited solely to a factual determination of whether the student has violated any provisions of this section. The Executive Director shall have the authority to overturn or alter the decision of the Principal, including recommending an alternate educational program for the student. The Executive Director shall

render a written decision on the appeal within five (5) calendar days of the hearing. Such decision shall be the final decision of the school.

Appeals to Expulsions under §37H1/2

Any student who has received expulsion pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71 §37H½ shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Executive Director. The expelled student shall have five (5) days from the date of the expulsion during which to notify the Executive Director, in writing, of his/her request for an appeal. An appeal hearing will be scheduled before the Executive Director with the student and the student's parent/guardian within three (3) calendar days of the student's request for an appeal. At the appeal hearing, the student shall have the right to present oral and written testimony on his/her behalf, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses presented by the school and the right to counsel at his/her own expense. The Executive Director shall have the authority to overturn or alter the decision of the Principal, including recommending an alternate educational program for the student. The Executive Director shall render a written decision on the appeal within five (5) calendar days of the hearing. Such decision shall be the final decision of the school.

Continuation of Educational Services under M.G.L. c. 71, §37H and §37H½

Any student who is expelled from school for a disciplinary offense under M.G.L. c. 71, §37H or §37H½ will have an opportunity to receive educational services and make academic progress during the period of removal under a school-wide education service plan, and will be so informed of all available options in writing at the time of the expulsion. Notice shall be provided in English and in the primary language spoken in the student's home if other than English, or other means of communication where appropriate. The notice shall include a list of the specific education services that are available to the student and contact information for a specific school district staff member to arrange services.

If the student withdraws from the charter school and/or moves to another school district during the period of expulsion, the new school/district of residence shall either admit the student to its schools or provide educational services to the student under the new school or district's education service plan.

Approved: May 19, 2026