

Student Conduct Review Committee

WHAT IS S.C.R.C.?

The Student Conduct Review Committee or S.C.R.C. meets to hear about serious breaches of District and School Codes of Student Conduct and, when appropriate, impose more serious consequences or conditions for a student's return to school. S.C.R.C. is governed by Board of Education Policy 5131.2 (In any case where this pamphlet differs from Policy 5131.2, the provisions of the Policy apply).

WHY WAS S.C.R.C. FORMED?

S.C.R.C. was formed in response to two needs:

1. Consistent treatment of similar situations from school to school across the district.
2. Increased penalties for serious misbehavior beyond the five-day suspension limit open to principals.

The goal is to ensure that schools remain safe and healthy places in which to learn and work.

WHEN DOES S.C.R.C. MEET?

Meetings are held in the School District Office, 2100 Ferry Avenue on Wednesday afternoon, between 3:00 pm. and 5:30 pm. In extraordinary circumstances, meetings are convened at other times and on other days.

WHO ATTENDS S.C.R.C. MEETINGS?

In addition to three committee members, S.C.R.C. meetings are attended by:

- The student.
- One or both parents (or guardians).
- The principal or vice-principal from the student's school.
- Others that are requested or required by the S.C.R.C. chair to attend.

HOW ARE CASES FROM SCHOOLS DISTANT FROM PRINCE GEORGE HANDLED?

This is done in one of the following ways depending upon the seriousness of the case:

- A meeting in the outlying community with the regular S.C.R.C.
- A meeting in the outlying community with an Assistant Superintendent and one or two school-based administrators from that zone.
- A conference call or video conference involving S.C.R.C., the administrator, parent and student.
- A meeting in Prince George with S.C.R.C.

CAN A PARENT BRING A FRIEND FOR SUPPORT TO THE S.C.R.C. MEETING?

Yes, a friend or an advocate or other supportive person may attend the meeting

DO ALL REFERRALS AND REPORTS TO S.C.R.C. RESULT IN A MEETING?

Referrals to S.C.R.C. result in a meeting, while reports to S.C.R.C. may result in a meeting but most cases are handled with a written response warning of all future consequences. The student is put on notice that a repetition of inappropriate conduct will result in a hearing before the committee.

WHAT CONSEQUENCES CAN S.C.R.C. IMPOSE?

S.C.R.C. may:

- Increase the period of suspension for up to an additional 20 days.
- Reassign the student to a different school or to another program.
- Direct that the student's program be offered in a non-school setting.
- Remove the student from school (if 16 years or older.)
- Impose conditions to be met before school re-entry or to be followed upon return to school.
- Limit a student's return to school to a partial day.

WHAT CONDITIONS MAY BE PUT IN PLACE?

Sample conditions include:

- Counselling help – drug, anger, educational.
- Research paper on an assigned topic.
- Restitution e.g. - pay for damaged property.
- Restricted hours of attendance.
- Exclusion from certain school activities.

WHAT OFFENCES MUST BE REPORTED OR MAY BE REFERRED TO S.C.R.C.?

- Possession of a life-threatening weapon.
- Threatening with reference to a life- threatening weapon.
- Possession, use, transmittal and/or sale of alcohol and/or drugs.
- Involvement with fire, fire alarms, fireworks and/or explosives.
- Possession and/or use of toxic or noxious substances.

WHAT OFFENCES MAY BE REPORTED OR MAY BE REFERRED TO S.C.R.C.?

- Abusive behaviour (depending upon severity or repetitive nature).
- Vandalism and/or theft.
- Disruptive behaviour or disobedience.
- Serious or repeated infractions of the School Code of Student Conduct.
- Cyber Bullying
- Inappropriate use of cellular telephones & other portable electronic devices.

The Principal and Assistant Superintendent will determine if a report should progress to a Referral to SCRC

CAN A PARENT APPEAL A DECISION OF THE S.C.R.C.?

Yes. The appeal is heard by the Board of Education in a private session. This is governed by Board Bylaw No. 4. To initiate an appeal, a parent would call the Superintendent of Schools.

HOW DOES A PARENT FIND OUT THE DECISION OF S.C.R.C.?

It is normal for the committee decisions to be conveyed verbally at the end of the hearing. A formal letter will be mailed following the hearing.