

## **Cape Fear Center for Inquiry**

### **Long-Term Suspension Hearing Process**

The following is the procedure to be followed for students being considered for a long-term suspension from Cape Fear Center for Inquiry along with the process for requesting a hearing to contest the Director's recommendation.

1. The student is given an opportunity to respond to the charges and offer any defense prior to suspension.
2. Student is informed of recommendation for long-term suspension.
3. Written notice is provided to the student's parents or guardians informing them of the Director's recommendation as well as their right to request a hearing to contest the recommendation.
4. The parent may request a hearing, in writing, before the school board to contest the long-term suspension, within 3 business days of receipt of the written notice of the Director's recommendation.
5. A Hearing board will be convened within a reasonable amount of time of receipt of the written request for a hearing from the parent or guardian.
6. The parent has the right to retain an attorney or non-attorney advocate to represent the student.
7. The hearing board will consist of voting school board members
  - a. The Hearing board members will make one of three decisions
    - i. Uphold the recommendation for long-term suspension
    - ii. Deny the recommendation of the long-term suspension
    - iii. Modify the recommendation of the long-term suspension
8. The hearing board will consist of:
  - a. Opportunity for school to present evidence and ask questions of the student
  - b. Opportunity for student and parent to present evidence and ask questions of school as well as present any character witnesses.
  - c. Opportunity for hearing board to ask questions of school/student/parent
9. Once the decision has been made by the hearing board, a written copy of the decision will be sent to the parent.
10. If the parent wishes to contest the decision of the hearing board, the parent may appeal the decision (within 30 days of written receipt of the decision) following the judicial review process (N.C.G.S. §150B- 43 et seq.).