

(2) Before removing an individual, the county board shall send the individual a copy of the charges against him and give him an opportunity within 10 days to request a hearing.

(3) If the individual requests a hearing within the 10 day period:

(i) The county board promptly shall hold a hearing, but a hearing may not be set within 10 days after the county board sends the individual a notice of the hearing; and

(ii) The individual shall have an opportunity to be heard before the county board, in person or by counsel, and to bring witnesses to the hearing.

(4) The individual may appeal from the decision of the county board to the State Board. In Baltimore City, this paragraph does not apply to the suspension and removal of assistant superintendents and higher levels.

(5) In Baltimore City the suspension and removal of assistant superintendents and higher levels shall be as provided by the city charter.

(b) Except for personnel of the Baltimore City public schools at the level of assistant superintendent or above, this section does not prohibit the State Board from adopting bylaws to provide for a probationary period of employment of 2 years or less.

6-203.

(b) (1) For all proceedings before a county board under §§ 4-205(c) [and], 6-202, AND 7-305 of this article, the county board may have the proceedings heard first by a hearing examiner.

(2) In Baltimore City the Board of School Commissioners may have proceedings under § 6-202 heard first by a hearing examiner except as otherwise provided by the city charter.

7-305.

(a) (1) In accordance with the rules and regulations of the county board, each principal of a public school may suspend for cause, for not more than 10 school days, any student in the school who is under the direction of the principal.

(2) The student or his parent or guardian promptly shall be given a conference with the principal and any other appropriate personnel during the suspension period.

(b) At the request of a principal, a county superintendent may suspend a student for more than 10 school days or expel him.

(c) (1) If a principal finds that a suspension of more than 10 school days or expulsion is warranted, he immediately shall report the matter in writing to the county superintendent.

(2) The county superintendent or his designated representative promptly shall make a thorough investigation of the matter.