



NOTICE OF HEARING UNDER M.G.L. Ch. 71, § 37H½

VIA

Date

Parent/Guardian:

Address:

Re:

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This correspondence is to inform you that your child has been charged with:

[☐] A. Possession of a Dangerous Weapon, including, but not limited to, a gun or a knife, on school premises or at a school-sponsored or school-related event, including an athletic game.

[☐] B. Possession of a Controlled Substance, as defined by M.G.L. Ch. 94C, including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine and heroin, on school premises or at a school-sponsored or school-related event, including an athletic game.

[☐] C. Assault on a Member of the Educational Staff, including, but not limited to, a principal, assistant principal, teacher, teacher's aide, on school premises or at a school-sponsored or school-related event, including an athletic game.

This is a violation of state law, M.G.L. Chapter 71, §37H, and the Springfield International Charter School Code of Conduct, which is available at <https://www.sics.org/students-families/handbook>.

Under Massachusetts General Laws Ch. 71, §37H, I am authorized to suspend or expel the student if I find that he/she committed the above-indicated offense.

Your child is entitled to a hearing before me, as Principal, prior to my making any determination under the statute. At that hearing, the student may be represented by counsel at your own expense. In addition, the student will be afforded the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses on their behalf. After this hearing, I will render a decision orally on the day of the hearing and in writing no later than the following school day, outlining the basis for this action and appeal rights if applicable. Under the law, I have the authority to issue a long-term suspension or expulsion of the student. During the period of long-term suspension or expulsion, the student is entitled to continue to receive educational services pursuant to state law.

I have scheduled a hearing to determine these matters on _____ at _____. Please inform my office as soon as possible if you intend to have an attorney accompany you. If so, counsel for the District will attend this hearing. Additionally, if you or the student needs an interpreter, please let us know at least 48 hours before the hearing so that we can arrange for an interpreter. Please call my office at _____ to confirm this hearing time. If the hearing must be rescheduled to accommodate attorneys, we will set a new time as soon as possible.



Please be advised that the investigation in this matter is ongoing and the school department reserves the right to amend this notice and to supplement the charges as appropriate.

[] If this box is checked, your child is a student who receives educational services pursuant to an IEP or 504 Plan and the Special Education Department will contact you to arrange for a manifestation determination meeting if appropriate.

Sincerely,

School Principal

cc: Justin Baker, Director
 Cynthia Miller, Special Services Director