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Schools to confine suspended students

United Press International
INDIANAPOLIS — A student caught using alcohol or drugs in Indiana schools no longer can count on the "reward" of being sent home. Suspensions nowadays may take place inside the school.

"In-school suspension programs range from intensive tutoring and counseling programs to confinement in an unconverted mop closet," says Jon Bailey, a lawyer and legal consultant with the Indiana Department of Public Instruction.

At Wawasee High School in Syracuse, for example, students may be isolated for 10 days or more from their peers.

Bailey mentions the mop closet in a paper on in-school suspensions, but admits it's only a report he has heard and he can't pinpoint the

school involved.

His article advises school officials in-school suspensions may legally be considered punishments equal to conventional suspensions — so they ought to be imposed following due process of law.

Isolating children in school for more than five days, he said in an interview, may amount legally to expulsion, requiring even more attention to proper legal procedures. Some educators have tried to make in-school suspensions especially unpleasant to deter further misbehavior, he said.

"Where such efforts include forced confinement to a darkened or locked room," Bailey wrote, "repeated intensive interrogation about other disciplinary infractions or elimination of lunch and restroom privileges, the potential legal problems are too numerous to list."

Bailey urged administrators to "avoid conditions that are more punitive than educational."

East Noble High at Kendallville is one of the schools using short, one-period suspensions. Indianapolis' 10 high schools use in-school suspension usually for no more than a day, said Kenneth M. Smartz, assistant superintendent for secondary education.

Suspensions out of school are used less frequently than they used to be, he adds. The in-school discipline sends students to a guidance learning center — GLC for short.

Near South Bend, Wawasee High extensively uses what officials call In-School Supervision.

The program, completing its first year, has been extended for two more years. The state has granted the school funds to run the program and report on it.

"We no longer suspend students out of school except in very rare occasions," usually involving emotional or physical problems, said Wawasee Vice Principal Donn Kesler. An example is a boy who took a pill on the bus to school and arrived incoherent.

No suspension is for less than a day at Wawasee. There is an automatic 10-day term for drug or alcohol offenses, but the program supervisor, Mike Jones, may lengthen or shorten anybody's term.

Offenses that can get a student sent to ISS also include smoking, truancy, fighting, vandalism or attitude.

Past winters boost snowthrower sales

United Press International
MINNEAPOLIS — While most people have been tanning on beaches or mowing the yard this summer, Toro Co. has been making snowthrowers — and selling them.

Mountains of snow have hit one part of the country after another in recent years and booming snowthrower sales have followed each erable winter.

"We've had early snows, and heavy snows, and we've had a lot of snow in metropolitan markets. And the heavy snow has been spreading around the country. God has been good to us," one Toro spokesman explains.

So good, Toro officials say, that this winter will mark the year of "two snowthrower families."

People already are buying snowthrowers in Chicago, which was belted with a record 89.2 inches of snow last winter. Heavy snow soaked the whole Lake Michigan area. Snowthrowers sold like hotcakes last winter and Toro, which makes more than half the snowthrowers, expects hotter sales this fall.

Some models, particularly big, heavy-duty machines, likely will be sold out there before Thanksgiving. Matter of fact, some dealers already are sold out of the big machines," the Toro spokesman says.

In addition to Chicago, sellouts of heavy-duty snowthrowers have hit other Lake Michigan cities, like Milwaukee, which had 96 inches of snow last winter, and Grand Rapids, which had 96 inches.

"We're also having heavy sales in St. Louis, Southern Illinois, Kansas City and Iowa. All these places had more snow than usual this winter."

A rumor got going that Farmer's Almanac was predicting 200 inches of snow for Chicago next winter. The Almanac doesn't predict exact amounts, and its projections have not yet been released.

Even the Toro spokesman admits "there's no way they could get 200 inches."

"But," he notes with elan, "the rumor may have affected sales."

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Cleveland busing plan called model for U.S.

United Press International
CLEVELAND — Public school desegregation — bitterly opposed for years by school administrators, parents and students — has become a source of community pride and a basis for educational reform in three major Ohio cities.

In Cleveland, Board of Education President John Gallagher said the tranquil start of a court-ordered racial balancing plan last week "re-establishing the image of the land."

In Columbus, the uneven beginning of desegregation was described by history teacher Krider as "a model for the rest of the state."

In Dayton, School Superintendent John Maxwell said at the start of a fourth straight peaceful racial balancing this fall that "desegregation had restored a fashioned enthusiasm for the city."

But the harmony that has characterized the busing of 62,000 students in Ohio this fall was sharply with events that led to the start of racial balancing. Anti-busing advocates could make a stand.

Schools boards hired lawyers law firms and spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees to fight the NAACP's effort to force desegregation on them.

Cleveland, Ohio's largest district, was typical. The board filed its original desegregation plan at U.S. District Court in 1971. A federal judge issued his ruling against the school board in 1974. But it wasn't until this fall that desegregation actually got underway.

Delaying tactics by the board actually lasted until well before the start of the 1979-80 academic year. But a last-minute scramble by administrators to pare the 91,000-pupil system's racial balancing proved adequate.

Desegregation was implemented in piecemeal fashion on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was the first day in which students at desegregated schools due to report for classes. 10,000 students were slated to cross-town busing, in a program designed to racially balance one-fourth of Cleveland's schools.

"No news is good news," Gallagher declared. "The people of Cleveland have gone a long way toward playing a leadership role in the nation in the area of school desegregation."

Anti-busing forces, meanwhile, kept a low profile during the week of desegregation.

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