

Students

Student Discipline

Prohibited Student Conduct

The school administration and/or designee are authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco materials.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling and/or under the influence of alcoholic beverages.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling and or under the influence of:
 - a. Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana and hashish) and/or residue.
 - b. Any anabolic steroid not administered under a physician's care and supervision.
 - c. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a licensed physician or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's instructions.
 - d. Look-alike or counterfeit drugs, including a substance not containing an illegal drug or controlled substance, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug or controlled substance; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug or controlled substance.
 - e. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of alcohol or any prohibited substances are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the alcohol or prohibited substance in their possession.

4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a weapon or ammunition in violation of the "weapons" section of this policy. (See page 3 of 6)
5. Using or having in their possession cellular telephones, personal digital assistants and other wireless electronic devices. All such devices shall be kept off and locked in lockers **during all school hours** both inside and outside of the school building unless, (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's I.E.P.; (c) specific written permission is given by the building principal; or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of the students, staff or other individuals. While riding the school bus, all devices must remain off and out of sight. Violation of this policy will subject students to normal disciplinary measures and/or confiscation of the device. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistance (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat or otherwise violate student conduct rules is prohibited.

6. Possessing, selling, or transmitting pornographic materials. This includes but is not limited to "Sexting" which is the act of sending, receiving or forwarding sexually explicit messages, photos, or images via cell phone, computer, or any other digital device. If there is suspicion of these actions, the Principal and/or Administrators reserve the right to confiscate the device and call the appropriate authorities for further investigation.
7. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
8. Insubordination: Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a School staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
9. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
10. Engaging in any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to another or any urging of other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct includes any use of violence, fighting, assault and battery, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, harassment, bullying, extortion, hazing, or other comparable conduct.
11. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property or in possession of stolen property.
12. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Board policy on truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
13. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by:
 - Being a member;
 - Promising to join;
 - Pledging to become a member; or
 - Soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
14. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia. A "gang" as defined in this policy is any group of two or more persons whose purposes include the commission of illegal acts. No student:
 - a. Shall wear, possess, use, distribute, display or sell clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other things which are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang.
 - b. Shall commit any act or omission, or use any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, hand-shakes, etc.) showing membership or affiliation in a gang.
 - c. Shall use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interest of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to:
 1. Soliciting others for membership in any gangs; requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person;
 2. Committing any other illegal act or other violation of school policies;
 3. Inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

Violation of this policy shall be deemed gross disobedience or misconduct for disciplinary purposes.

15. Violating any criminal law, such as, but not limited to, assault and battery, arson, theft, gambling, and hazing, reckless conduct, aiding and abetting.
16. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that: (a) poses a threat or danger to the safety of other students, staff, or school property; (b) constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function; or (c) is disruptive to the school environment.
17. Failing to comply with the mandatory uniform policy.
18. Indecent exposure of body or engaging in an act of sexual conduct with another, or sexual harassment.
19. Accumulating four (4) suspensions during a school year may result in a recommendation for expulsion.
20. Gross disrespect, gross insubordination or gross verbal abuse of another. Gross verbal abuse includes a threat and racial or religious slur.
21. Any misrepresentation communicated to a teacher or staff member in verbal or written format such as forgery/falsifying information.

Definition of Possession

For purposes of this policy, the term "possession" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations where the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; or (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psycho stimulant medication to the student.

The grounds for disciplinary action, including those described more thoroughly later in this policy, apply whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any other time when the school is being used by a school group;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, or event, or any activity or event which bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or

4. Anywhere, if: (a) the conduct may reasonably be considered to be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; (b) the conduct may reasonably be considered to be an interference with school purposes or an educational function; or (c) the student's presence at school may reasonably be considered to create an interference with school purposes or an educational function.

Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures may include:

1. Removal from classroom.
2. Notifying parent/guardians.
3. Disciplinary conference.
4. Withholding of privileges.
5. Supervised in-school intervention or suspension for a period not to exceed 5 consecutive school days. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
6. Supervised after-school intervention or Saturday intervention, provided the student's parent/guardian(s) have been notified. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher, Building Principal or designee.
7. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhance community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The School will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure giving the student and/or parent/guardian(s) the choice.
8. Seizure of contraband, electronic device or any other items in violation of Board Policy.
9. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days, provided that appropriate procedures are followed. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds or attending school activities.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges, provided that appropriate procedures are followed.
11. Alternative Probation Agreement (at the school level).
12. Board Probation Agreement.

13. Expulsion from school and all school-sponsored activities and events for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years, provided that the appropriate procedures are followed. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement, whenever the conduct involves illegal drugs (controlled substances), look-alikes, alcohol, assault, or weapons, or any other violation(s) of the law.

A student who is subject to suspension or expulsion may be eligible for an alternative school program. Parent/guardian(s) have a right to a suspension review hearing.

Corporal punishment shall not be used. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

Weapons

A student, who uses, possesses, controls, or transfers a weapon, or ammunition, or any other object that can reasonably be considered, or looks like, a weapon, shall be expelled for at least one calendar year, but no more than two calendar years. The Principal may modify the expulsion period and the Board may modify the Principal's determination, on a case-by-case basis. A weapon means possession, use, control, or transfer of: (1) any gun, rifle, shotgun, a weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18, United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Act, or use of a weapon as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code; (2) any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including but not limited to, knives, brass knuckles, billy clubs; or (3) "look-alikes" of any weapon as defined above. Any item, such as a baseball bat, pipe, bottle, lock, stick, pencil, and pen, is considered to be a weapon if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm. The Principal or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the Building Principal in the event that he or she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member. Upon receiving such a report, the Building Principal or designee shall, if appropriate, immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, (Peoria Police Department) and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). "School grounds" includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school, school property itself, and location of school activities.

Efforts, including the use of early intervention and progressive discipline, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or physiological harm to someone else. The Principal or designee shall ensure that the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student who engages in aggressive behavior are notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board's authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other non-administrative school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment or in-school suspension, which is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other certified educational employees and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Building Principal, Dean of Students, or Dean of Academics is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The PCSI Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 days for safety reasons.

Student Handbook

The Principal shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the School's disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval.

A student handbook including the School disciplinary policies and rules, shall be discussed and distributed to the students' parents/guardians within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

Approved: 9/13/11