



Pulaski County Public Schools
Code of Student Conduct 2019-2020

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Preface

The development, implementation, and enforcement of the student conduct policy is intended to ensure a safe, non-disruptive environment for effective teaching and learning.

1. Standards of student conduct are designed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of students.
2. It is the belief of Pulaski County Public Schools that all students have the right to an environment that is safe, drug-free, and conducive to learning. To that end, the student conduct policy sets forth standards for student conduct.
3. The primary objectives of the standards of student conduct are (1) to provide standards and guidelines for student behavior; (2) to assist the student in becoming a responsible, productive, and self-disciplined citizen; and (3) to maintain a safe and orderly environment in the classroom and all other areas of the school.
4. The standards of student conduct cite those acts, actions, and behaviors that run contrary to acceptable, prudent, and responsible conduct on the part of students. When incidents occur, possible (resulting) dispositions are described.
5. An annual evaluation of the *Standards of Student Conduct* will be conducted within a month of the close of school. Revision, if necessary, will be completed prior to the opening of the next school year.

Attendance

All children and youth have the right to a free public education from age 5 to 20 (up to age 22 if IDEA-eligible), and to attend the public school where they are a bona fide resident. In Virginia, the law also requires children to attend school from kindergarten through their 18th birthday, unless the student reaches completion before age 18 or falls into one of a few limited exemptions, such as home-schooling, certified health or safety concerns, and conscientious religious objection.

- A. Excessive and Unexcused Tardies or Absences to School or Class-** Students are required to attend school every day that school is in session, from the time school begins in the morning until the time school is officially dismissed. Students who are absent from school for all or part of any school day must furnish a signed note from a parent or legal guardian explaining each absence. Unexcused tardies and/or skipping classes are considered a violation of compulsory attendance. *In order to help students be successful, an attendance success plan will be developed upon the fourth (4th) absence and reviewed every 9 weeks.*
- B. Compulsory Attendance-** Once a student misses seven (7) unverified or unexcused days of school in any given year, the students and parents may be subject to legal action by the school in accordance with the compulsory attendance laws. An absence is considered unverified or unexcused when the parent/guardian has not notified the school of their child's absence. Students with five unverified or unexcused absences will have their record reviewed and an Attendance Improvement Plan will be jointly developed between the school, student, and the parent/guardian with the intention of improving attendance. At the sixth unverified absence, the student and his/her parent/guardian will be referred to the Pulaski County Public Schools' Truancy Team. Continued absences after the Truancy Team meeting could lead to involvement in the judicial system. Legal action can and often does include filing a petition against the parents if the school determines that the parents are not making a reasonable effort to get the student to school regularly and/or against the student if the school determines that the student is refusing to attend school daily.
- C. Leaving School without Permission-** Once a student arrives on school property, he or she may not leave without administrative permission prior to the end of the regularly scheduled day. Students with early dismissals must sign out prior to leaving school. All students must be signed out by a parent or legal guardian. Exceptions are granted for approved programs at the high school level including, but not limited to, internships and service learning when parental permission has been obtained.
- D. Truancy-** Daily Absences from school, including all-day absences as well as late arrivals and early departures, are considered truant unless they fall into one of these categories:
- 1) Personal illness which can be verified
 - 2) Death in the immediate family
 - 3) Court appearance documented by summons or subpoena
 - 4) Doctor or dentist visit which can be verified
 - 5) Approved school related activity
 - 6) Special and recognized religious holiday

Substance Abuse

Students will not use, have in their possession, or be under the influence of any **alcoholic beverages** on school property, at any school-sponsored event, or while going to and from school.

Students will not use, have in their possession, or be under the influence of **illegal drugs, marijuana, drug paraphernalia, controlled substances, or imitation controlled substances** on school property, at any school-sponsored event, or while going to and from school.

Students shall not manufacture, distribute, or bring onto school property or to a school-sponsored event with the intent to distribute any of the following: Drugs (including anabolic Steroids), Chemicals or Look-Alike/Imitation Drugs or Chemicals.

First Offense

Parent/guardian(s) will be contacted immediately upon verification of the violation, and the student is referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The student will receive an out-of-school suspension for ten (10) days and recommended for a disciplinary hearing. The hearing officer can recommend to the Superintendent the following actions: long-term suspension or recommendation for expulsion, loss of privileges to participate in or attend all extracurricular activities for twelve (12) calendar months, loss of driving privileges, and/or participation in a substance abuse treatment program at the parent/guardians expense. The student will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

However, the building administrator may reduce the ten (10) day suspension to a five (5) day out of school suspension. Also, the twelve (12) month loss of attending or participating in extracurricular activities will be reduced to thirty (30) calendar days and the loss of parking privileges for up to thirty school days if:

- The student and parent/guardian agree to participate in counseling services provided by a school counselor.
- Upon return, the student is required to attend after-school After school improvement sessions every day until all work missed during the suspension period is made up. Returning middle school and elementary school students are required to make up all work missed during the suspension period within 15 school days, making use of all after-school and other “extra-help” sessions available to him/her.
- The returning student will be placed on a strict improvement plan upon his/her return.

Violation of these provisions or any other provisions included in the student’s improvement plan can result in a ten (10) day suspension and recommendation for a disciplinary hearing. The hearing officer can recommend to the Superintendent the following actions: long-term suspension or recommendation for expulsion, loss of privileges to participate in or attend all extracurricular activities for twelve (12) calendar months, and lose of driving privileges.

Second Offense

If the student violates the substance use policy within forty-eight (48) calendar months of the previous violation, the event will be considered a second offense. Upon verification of the violation, parents/guardians and law enforcement will be contacted, and the student will be suspended for ten (10) days. The superintendent or designee will be notified and a disciplinary hearing will be held within ten (10) school days of the incident. The hearing officer can recommend to the Superintendent any of the following actions: long-term suspension or recommendation for expulsion, loss of privileges to participate in or attend all extracurricular activities for twelve (12) calendar months, loss of driving privileges, and/or participation in a substance abuse treatment program at the parent/guardians expense. The student will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

C. Possession or use of Medication and Prescription Drugs

No student may have in his/her possession any medication or prescription drugs, even if prescribed for the student's use, unless his parent or guardian has requested and received permission from the school for the student to possess and self-administer prescribed medication, in accordance with school board policy. Examples include, but are not limited to, epinephrine, asthma inhalers, and insulin. Medication and prescription drugs shall not be taken to school by the student. A parent or guardian is required to take all such items to the school's clinic for documentation. "Medication" shall mean any drug or other substance used in treating illnesses, disorders, healing, or relieving pain, including but not limited to over-the-counter drugs, such as aspirin, cough syrups, gargles, cold tablets, and the like, including over-the-counter sports supplements.

Dangerous Objects and Firearms

Students shall not have in their possession any type of unauthorized firearm or other article may be used as a weapon, regardless of whether it is commonly accepted as such.

Carrying, bringing, using or possessing any firearm, dangerous device, or dangerous or deadly weapon in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity without the authorization of the school or the school division is prohibited, and grounds for disciplinary action.

The disciplinary sanction for bringing a firearm to school or to a school sponsored activity is expulsion for at least one year in accordance with Section 22.1-277.07 of the Code of Virginia.

Violation of this policy shall require that proceedings for the discipline of the student involved be initiated immediately by the principal.

Weapons include, but are not limited to:

1. Any pistol, shotgun, stun gun, taser, revolver, starter gun, or other firearm designed or intended to propel a projectile of any kind, including a rifle.
2. Unloaded firearms in closed containers
3. Any air rifle or BB gun
4. Ammunition
5. Toy guns and look-alike guns, any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, machete, knife or razor. **Any and all knives are prohibited on school property.**
6. Slingshots, Spring sticks, brass or metal knuckles, blackjacks
7. Nun chahka, nunchuck, nunchaku, shuriken, fighting chain, or discs such as throwing stars or oriental darts
8. Explosive, and destructive devices or dangerous articles.

A student who has possessed on school property or at a school sponsored activity as prohibited by Va. Code 18.2-308.1 or who has possessed a firearm or destructive device as defined in Va. Code 22.1-277.07 or a firearm muffler or firearm silencer or a pneumatic gun as defined in Va. Code 15.2-915.4 on school property or at a school sponsored activity may be expelled for at least one year in accordance with Policy JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion. The School Board may determine, based on the facts of a particular situation, that special circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another disciplinary action or another term of expulsion is appropriate. The School Board may promulgate guidelines for determining what constitutes special circumstances. In addition, the School Board may, by regulation, authorize the superintendent or the superintendent's designee to conduct a preliminary review of such cases to determine whether a disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate. Disciplinary proceedings for violation of this policy will be initiated promptly

Disorderly Conduct/Disruptive Behavior

Students are entitled to a learning environment free of unnecessary disruption. Any physical or verbal disturbance within the school setting or during related activities, which interrupts or interferes with teaching and orderly conduct of school activities, is prohibited.

- A. A student's dress and appearance shall not be such it causes disruption, distracts others from the educational process or creates a health or safety problem. Students must comply with dress code as defined in Regulation JFC-R.
- B. A student shall not bet money or other things of value, or knowingly play or participate in any game involving such a bet, on school property or during any school related activity.
- C. Students shall not use language, a gesture, or engage in conduct that is vulgar, profane, obscene, or disrupts the teaching and learning environment
- D. The possession or distribution of print or electronic materials which are obscene, violent, inappropriate, or significantly disruptive to the educational process is prohibited. Included are inappropriate student expression, threats, hit lists, distribution of non-authorized literature and illegal assembly.
- E. Students may possess electronic devices including, but not limited to, tablets, cell phones, data storage, and hand-held gaming devices, on school property, including school buses, provided that the student adheres to bus, school, and classroom rules related to electronic devices. If a student possesses a device other than as permitted in this policy, in addition to other disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed, the device may be confiscated from the student and returned only to the student's parent of legal guardian. The school division is not responsible for loss, damage, or theft of student owned devices.
- F. Students shall comply with any oral or written instructions made by school personnel within the scope of their authority as provided by board policies and regulations.
- G. Gang-related activity will not be tolerated. Symbols of gang membership are expressly prohibited (i.e., clothing that symbolizes association, rituals associated with, or activities by an identified group of students.)
- H. Students shall not engage in any illegal conduct involving firebombs explosive or incendiary materials or devices, or hoax explosive devices, or chemical bombs as defined in the *Code of Virginia*. Moreover, students shall not make any threats of false threats to bomb other students, school personnel, or property.
- I. In addition to those specific standards, students shall not engage in any conduct which materially and substantially disrupts the ongoing educational process or which is otherwise in violation of federal, state, or local law.
- J. Students shall not place, make, or receive any bet or wager of money or other thing of value dependent upon the result of the game, contest, or any other event with an uncertain outcome.

Fighting/Assaults/Threats

Students and school personnel are entitled to a school environment free from threat, aggression, and assault.

- A. A student shall not assault or commit battery upon another person. Voluntary fighting resulting in physical injury to another person shall be considered assault and battery. Physical Assault includes any physical confrontation that may result in no injury, minor injury, or serious injury that includes, but may not be limited to, kicking, shoving, pushing, hitting and fighting. Battery is the unlawful application of force to

the person of another. This action may extend to any aggressive action which may result in the danger of harm or injury to either party, bystanders, or school property. A student that is assaulted and retaliates by hitting, kicking, etc. may be disciplined for fighting.

- B. A student, either individually or as a part of a group, shall not harass or bully others. Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, physical intimidation, taunting, name-calling, and insults and any combination of prohibited activities.
- C. Students shall not engage in hazing. Hazing means to recklessly or intentionally endanger the health or safety of a student or students or inflict bodily harm on a student or students in connection with or for the purpose of initiation, admission into or affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a club, organization, association, fraternity, sorority, or student body regardless of whether the student or students so endangered or injured participated voluntarily in the relevant activity. Hazing is a Class 1 misdemeanor which may be punished by confinement in jail for up to 12 months and a fine of up to \$2,500, or both, in addition to any disciplinary consequences which may be imposed. In addition, any person receiving bodily injury by hazing has a right to sue, civilly, the person or persons guilty thereof, whether adults or minors. The principal of any school at which hazing causes bodily injury occurs shall report the hazing to the local Commonwealth Attorney.
- D. Students shall not make any verbal or physical threat of bodily injury or use of force directed toward another person for the purpose of extortion or for any other reason.
- E. The willful use of physical violence which is intended to result in bodily injury or the use of a dangerous object in an effort to cause bodily injury is prohibited.
- F. Assault upon a School Board employee, School Resource Officer, DARE Officer, volunteer, or any other agency providing services in the school is prohibited. Violation of this rule may result in a recommendation for expulsion.
- G. Students shall not engage in a pattern of behavior that places another person in fear of serious harm.
- H. Cursing, threatening, using abusive language, bullying, teasing, hazing, or other acts of intimidation are prohibited.
- I. Unsafe conduct which endangers either oneself or others is prohibited.

Integrity

Students are expected to perform honestly on any assigned school work or tests. The following actions are prohibited:

- A. Cheating**-includes the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving or unfair advantage on any form of academic work.
- B. Plagiarism**-is falsely claiming authorship, and it includes copying of language, structure, ideas, and/or thoughts of another and representing it as one's own original work.
- C. Falsification**-includes the verbal or written statement of any untruth, including the production of forgery or use of forged writing.

D. Attempted-completion of any act described above would constitute a violation and may be punishable to the same extent as if the act had been completed.

Students should also demonstrate respect for the belonging and rights of others, including, but not limited to, staff members and volunteers. Stealing includes acquiring another's possessions without right or permission. The possession of stolen property is considered theft.

Falsifications also includes, but is not limited to, verbal, written or electronic transmission (i.e., e-mails, images), including the production or use of forgery, or counterfeiting. In addition, the willful or malicious false accusations/reports against school personnel or other students are prohibited.

Transportation

Students are required to conduct themselves on school buses in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Students who create disciplinary issues on school buses shall be reported to the principal by the driver and may have their riding privileges suspended. In such cases the parent or guardian shall be responsible for transporting the student to school unless the student is identified under IDEA or ADA.

Students are subject to the same disciplinary action as would be prescribed had the behavior occurred at school. Students shall not behave in a disruptive manner or otherwise violate the *Standards of Student Conduct* while waiting for a school bus, while on a school bus, or after being discharged from a school bus. The driver of the bus has the authority to maintain order and the responsibility for providing a safe

environment. The school served by the driver will render discipline assistance when the driver issues a bus incident report.

It is important to note that riding a school bus is a privilege. Students who do not behave at the bus stop or on the school bus may have the privilege of riding revoked for a specified time or permanently.

Elementary and middle school students are not allowed to drive any type of motorized vehicle to school. High school students who meet the requirements and accept the responsibilities of driving to school are permitted to do so. This privilege depends on the student's willingness to follow the parking and auto usage regulations as prescribed by Pulaski County High School. Failure to adhere to these regulations could result in forfeiture of the privilege of parking a motor vehicle on school property or, in the case of a parking violation, having one's vehicle towed from the premises at the operator's expense.

Trespassing

A student shall not trespass on school property or use school facilities without proper authority or permission. A student shall not trespass on school property during a period of suspension or expulsion. All visitors to a school or its grounds shall report to the main office immediately. Persons who fail to do so may be considered trespassers and subject to legal action, and student visitors who fail to do so may be subject to disciplinary action at their home school as well as legal action. Any person whose presence or action interferes with or disrupts the operation of the school, its students, or school activities shall be prohibited from entering school or remaining on school property or remaining at a school-sponsored activity, wherever located.

Tobacco Products

The law requires all school properties and properties at school sponsored events to be tobacco products and vapor products free.

All students are PROHIBITED from the use and possession of tobacco products, matches, lighters, and vapor products on school property or at school sponsored events. Possession includes bringing the product onto school property or to a school-sponsored event. This prohibition includes all related activities (i.e., bus stops, school buses, extracurricular activities, etc.).

1. The first violation of tobacco products or nicotine vapor products shall result in confiscation of the products, notification of parents and/or guardians, and at least one of the following:
 - a. A student meeting with a school administrator to discuss tobacco use and school policy.
 - b. Student participation in tobacco education program with school counselor.
 - c. Offering student information about available cessation programs and resources.
 - d. Student is NOT in good standing until the assigned components are completed.

2. The second violation of tobacco products or nicotine vapor products shall result in confiscation of the products, notification of parents and/or guardians, and offering the student information about available cessation programs, as well as at least two of the following:
 - a. A student and parent/guardian meeting with a school administrator to discuss school policy.
 - b. A student meeting with the school nurse to discuss tobacco use and related health concerns.
 - c. Student participation in a tobacco education program with school counselor.
 - d. School based community service
 - e. After School Improvement

3. The third and any subsequent violation of tobacco products or nicotine vapor products shall result in confiscation of tobacco products, notification of parents and/or guardians, offering student information about available cessation programs, and student participation in a tobacco education program as well as at least two of the following:
 - a. A student and parent meeting and with a school administrator to discuss tobacco use and school policy.
 - b. In-School Suspension or additional days of After School Improvement; Administrator discretion to assign school based community service in lieu of In-School Suspension or additional days of After School Improvement
 - c. Loss of good standing at the school for 30 school days

Vandalism

Vandalism is the willful marring, defacing, or destruction of School Board property, including leased property or any employee's or other person's property. This section includes, but is not limited to, the buildings, both exteriors and interiors thereof, books, computer equipment and software, school buses, private automobiles, school grounds, and property as designated above. Causing, intent to cause or attempt to cause damage to school or personal property of others is prohibited.

Sexual Harassment

The Pulaski County Public Schools is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment free from sexual harassment and harassment based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or religion. Therefore, Pulaski County Public Schools prohibit sexual harassment and harassment based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or religion of any student or school personnel at school or any school sponsored activity.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student or school personnel to harass a student or school personnel sexually, or based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or religion. Further, it shall be a violation of this policy for any school personnel to tolerate sexual harassment or harassment based on a student's or employee's race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or religion by students, school personnel or third parties participating in, observing or otherwise engaged in school sponsored activities.

For the purpose of this policy, school personnel includes, school board members, school employees, agents, volunteers, contractors, or other persons subject to the supervision and control of the School Division.

School administrators shall notify the Directors of Human Resources, Curriculum, Instruction, and Administration, or Special Education immediately.

Administration shall: (1) promptly investigate all complaints, written or verbal, of sexual harassment and harassment based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or religion; (2) promptly take appropriate action to stop any harassment and (3) take appropriate action against any student or school personnel who violates this policy and take any other action reasonably calculated to end and prevent further harassment of school personnel or students.

Arson-Actual/Attempted

The use, intent to use, or threat to use an explosive, including, but not limited to, fireworks, cherry bombs, smoke/stink bombs, or any device contributing to a fire or representation of an explosive device, including a bomb threat, is prohibited. These actions include bringing the items on school property or to a school-sponsored event.

The use or intent to use any material (matches, lighters, etc.) which may result in a fire on school property or setting fire to the property of students, staff, or volunteers, is prohibited, unless specially authorized by school officials.

All items confiscated in a case of recommended expulsion should be safely and properly secured and may be turned over to the school's resource officer. Photographs and/or a descriptive statement of the confiscated items should be included in the suspension/expulsion packet.

Technology and the Internet

The Pulaski County Public School District (“School District”) provides employees, students and guests (“users”) with access to the School District’s electronic communication systems and network, which includes Internet access, whether wired or wireless, or by any other means.

Computers, network, Internet, electronic communications and information systems (collectively “IT systems”) provide vast, diverse and unique resources. The School District will provide access to the School District’s IT systems in order to access information, to conduct research, to facilitate learning and teaching, and to foster the educational purpose and mission of the School District.

For users, the School District’s IT systems shall be used primarily for education-related purposes. Students may only use the IT systems for educational purposes.

Unauthorized Use of Computer Technology: Unauthorized or illegal use of computers, software, computer networks, telecommunications and related technologies; or involvement in willful acts that cause physical, financial, or other harm, or which disrupts information technology in any manner is prohibited. Each student and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of each student shall sign an Acceptable Use Agreement developed by the Superintendent before gaining access to the Division’s System. Any student who fails to comply with the terms of this policy or the regulations developed by the Superintendent may lose system privileges, and students may be disciplined in accordance with the *Standard of Student Contact* or other School Board Policies and Regulations governing student discipline. Students may also be the subject of appropriate legal action for violation of this policy or implementing regulations.

Bullying

"Bullying" means any aggressive and unwanted behavior that is intended to harm, intimidate, or humiliate the victim; involves a real or perceived power imbalance between the aggressor or aggressors and victim; and is repeated over time or causes severe emotional trauma. "Bullying" includes cyber bullying. "Bullying" does not include ordinary teasing, horseplay, argument, or peer conflict (Va Code § 22.1-276.01).

Bullying behavior often occurs without apparent provocation, thus may be considered a form of abuse (i.e, peer abuse). Such peer abuse may be manifested both openly and directly and subtly or indirectly. Research confirms that a strong, proactive stance is the best means to address bullying in school settings.

Examples of conduct that may constitute bullying behavior include:

- **Physical Bullying:** (other than assault/fighting as defined in JFCR) hitting, punching, poking, shoving, pinching, jabbing, kicking, choking, unwanted touching, blocking, chasing and cornering, tripping, vandalizing, stealing, and writing graffiti (on both public and private property and by the use of computers or other technological devices).
- **Emotional bullying:** Name calling, threatening, taunting, malicious and incessant teasing, spreading rumors, mocking, making faces or obscene gestures, making offensive racial or sexual comments, ganging up on others, belittling, excluding others from a group activity (shunning), ignoring, and lying.

School administrators shall notify the parents or guardians of any student involved in an alleged bullying incident of the status of the investigation within 5 school days of the allegation. Administrators should also follow the bullying checklist provided by the superintendent.

For management procedures, see Board Policy JFC-R4:Bullying

Possession Cellular Phones and Electronic Devices

Students may possess cell phones or other electronic devices on school property, including school buses provided that the student adheres to bus, school, and classroom rules related to electronic devices.

Students may possess electronic audio and visual devices to include MP3 players, handheld gaming devices, cameras, and other similar electronic devices provided that the student adheres to bus, school, and classroom rules related to electronic devices. Students may use electronic audio and visual devices for pre-approved academic and extra-curricular activities. Use of these devices on school buses may be permitted if the devices are muted and headphones are used.

Pulaski County Public Schools is not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen electronic devices.

Procedures in the Disciplinary Process

Procedure for Appealing Out-Of-School Suspension of Ten Days or Less:

A decision to suspend a student may be appealed by the student's parent or legal guardian. An appeal of a suspension shall not hold the suspension in abeyance. Failure to file a written notice of appeal within the prescribed time will constitute a waiver of the right to appeal. A parent or legal guardian may appeal a suspension to the principal of the school, and then to the superintendent's designee in the following manner:

A parent or legal guardian shall submit a written letter of appeal to the principal or superintendent's designee within three (3) administrative working days of notification of the suspension. The parent or legal guardian should state specifically the reasons for appeal and consider the following before appealing a suspension: (1) whether the facts warrant the suspension, (2) if the consequences were appropriate for the behavior, and (3) whether school and county procedures were followed. The principal or superintendent's designee shall review the suspension, all the evidence, and render a written decision as soon as possible but within five (5) working days. For suspensions of ten (10) days or less, the decision of the principal or superintendent's designee shall be final.

Procedure for Appealing Out-Of-School Suspension of More than Ten Days

The Superintendent may suspend a student from school in excess of ten (10) school days after the student and the parent or legal guardian have been provided written notice of the proposed action, the reason thereof, and the right to a hearing. A decision to suspend a student in excess of ten (10) school days may be appealed by the student's parent or legal guardian. An appeal of a suspension shall not hold the suspension in abeyance.

A parent or legal guardian may appeal a suspension in excess of ten (10) days to the School Board in the following manner:

- A. When a student has been suspended more than (10) days by the Superintendent, the student and the parent or legal guardian may appeal that decision to the School Board. Such an appeal must be in writing and must be filed within seven (7) calendar days of the decision to suspend in excess of ten (10) days. The parent or legal guardian should state specifically the reasons for the appeal and consider the following before appealing a suspension: (1) Whether the facts warrant the suspension, (2) if the consequences were appropriate for the behavior, and (3) whether school and county procedures were followed. Failure to file a written appeal within the specified time will constitute a waiver of the right to appeal.
- B. The School Board shall, within thirty (30) calendar days of the decision to suspend in excess of ten (10) days, conduct a review of the record and render a written decision.

Parent Responsibility and Involvement Requirements

22.1-279.3. Parental Responsibility and Involvement Requirements:

- A. Each parent or guardian of a student enrolled in a public school has a duty to assist the school in enforcing the standards of student conduct and attendance in order that education may be conducted in an atmosphere free of disruption and threat to person or property, and supportive of individual rights.
- B. A school shall provide opportunities for parental and community involvement in every school in the school division.
- C. Within one calendar month of the opening of school, the school board shall, simultaneously with any other materials customarily distributed at that time, send to the parents of each enrolled student (i) a notice of the requirements of this section and (ii) a copy of the school board's standards of student conduct. These materials shall include a notice to the parents that by signing the statement of receipt, parents shall not be deemed to waive, but to expressly reserve, their rights protected by the constitution or laws of the United States or the Commonwealth and that a parent shall have the right to express disagreement with a school or school division's policies or decisions. Each parent or legal guardian of a student shall sign and return to the school in which the student is enrolled in a statement acknowledging the receipt of the school board's standards of student conduct and the notice of the requirements of this selection. Each school shall maintain records of such signed statements.
- D. The school principal may request the student's parent or guardian, if both parents have legal and physical custody of such student, to meet with the principal or his designee to review the school board's standards of student conduct and the parent's or guardian's responsibility to participate with the school in disciplining the student and maintaining order, and to discuss improvement of the child's behavior and educational progress.

- E. In accordance with the due process procedures set forth in this article and the guidelines required by §22.1-279.6, the school principal may notify the parents or guardians of any student who violates a school board policy when such violation could result in the student's suspension, whether or not the school administration has imposed such disciplinary action. The notice shall state (i) the date and particulars of the violation; (ii) that, if the student is suspended, the parent may be required to accompany the student to meet with school officials.
- F. **No suspended student shall be admitted to the regular school program until such student and his parent or guardian have met with school officials to discuss improvement of the student's behavior, unless the school principal or his/her designee determines that readmission, without parent conference, is appropriate for the student.**
- G. Upon the failure of a parent or guardian to comply with the provisions of this section, the school board may, by petition to the juvenile and domestic relations court, proceed against such parent for willful and unreasonable refusal to participate in efforts to improve the student's behavior, as follows: 1) If the court finds that the parent willfully and unreasonably failed to meet, pursuant to a request of the principal as set forth in subsection D of this section, to review the school board's standards of student conduct and the parent's responsibility to assist the school in disciplining the student and maintaining order, and to discuss improvement of the child's behavior and educational progress, it may order the parent to so meet; or 2) If the court finds that a parent has willfully and unreasonably failed to accompany a suspended student to meet with school officials pursuant to subsection F, or upon the student's receiving a second suspension or being expelled, it may order (i) the student or his/her parent, or both, to participate in such programs or such treatment as the court deems appropriate to improve the student's behavior, including participation in parenting counseling or a mentoring program, as appropriate or (ii) the student of his parent, or both, to be subject to such conditions and limitations as the court deems appropriate for the supervision, care, and rehabilitation of the student or his parent. In addition, the court may order the parent to pay a civil penalty not to exceed \$500.
- H. The civil penalties established pursuant to this section shall be enforceable in the juvenile and domestic relations court in which the student's school is located and shall be paid into a fund maintained by the appropriate local governing body to support programs or treatments designed to improve the behavior of students as described in subdivision G. Upon failure to pay the civil penalties imposed by this section, the attorney for the appropriate county, city, or town shall enforce the collection of such civil penalties.
- I. All references in this section to the juvenile and domestic relations court shall be also deemed to mean any successor in interest of such court. (1995, c.852; 1996, c. 771; 2000, c. 538; 2001, cc. 688, 82

Acknowledgement of Receipt Review of the Code of Student Conduct and Compulsory Attendance Law

I acknowledge:

- 1. I am aware that the Pulaski County School Board’s *Code of Student Conduct* is available on the school website at *pcva.us* and understand that printed therein are Section 22.1-279.3 of the *Code of Virginia* and the PCPS Acceptable / Safe Use of Technology and the Internet. Hard copies are available at each school, upon request.**
- 2. I am in receipt of the Pulaski County School Board’s abbreviated version of the *Code of Student Conduct*.**
- 3. I am receipt of the *code of conduct* from the school attended by my child, and I have reviewed its contents with him/her.**
- 4. I have received a letter and information from the school attended by my child outlining the Attendance policies and procedures, and I have reviewed its contents with him/her.**
- 5. That signing below only signifies receipt and review, and furthermore, that by signing this statement of receipt, I am not waiving, but expressly reserving, my rights protected by the constitution or laws of the United States or Commonwealth of Virginia, and my right to express disagreement with a school or school division’s policies or decisions.**
- 6. Should I, however, willfully and unreasonably refuse to participate in efforts to improve my child’s behavior as required by VA Code 22.1-279.3 I understand that school officials are authorized, under VA Code 22.1-279.3(G), to petition the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.**

Student’s Name and Grade

Student Signature/Date

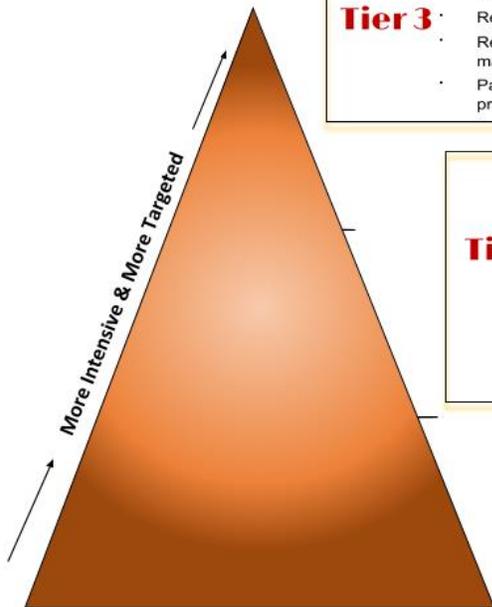
School Parent/Legal Custodian
Signature/Date

Parent/Legal Custodian

Please return this page to your child's teacher with in two (2) weeks of enrollment of each new school year.



Corrective Actions: Tiered Approach



Tier 3

- Formal Restorative Conference – required prior to student being readmitted to the regular education setting before the end of the assigned consequence.
- In-school suspension
- Out of school suspension
- Referral to alternative education program
- Recommendation for expulsion for firearms, etc. on school property or event
- Recommendation for expulsion for having a controlled substance, imitation substance, marijuana, synthetic cannabinoids on school property or event
- Participation in a drug, alcohol, or violence intervention, prevention or treatment program

Tier 2

- Office referral for Tier II discipline for disruption, disrespect, and defiance
- Formal restorative conference
- Loss of privileges, including access to the division's computer system
- Modification of student classroom assignment or schedule
- Behavior contract
- Referral to student assistance services
- Tasks or restrictions assigned by the administrator
- Before or after school detention
- Suspension from school sponsored activities/events prior to, during, or after the regular school day

Tier 1

- Classroom level restorative justice practices, including but not limited to, restorative circles, restorative chats, and formal restorative conference, level 1
- Counseling
- Admonition
- Reprimand
- Parental conferences