

PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STUDENT AND PARENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Code of Student Conduct



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DETACH SIGNATURE PAGE

Portsmouth City Schools
Documentation of Rights and Responsibilities
Handbook Review

Name: _____ School Year: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ Room: _____

Teacher: _____ Date of Review: _____

This is to acknowledge that I have received and understand a copy of the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. I understand that all rules in this handbook apply to students coming and going to school, on the bus, and at all school activities and events. In signing this document I agree to follow the rules and regulations. I further acknowledge that I have taken this handbook home to review with my parent/guardian.

(Student's Signature) (Date)

I have read the Portsmouth Public Schools Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook and agree to discuss it periodically with my child. I realize that I may contact the school for any assistance in understanding the rules and regulations. I understand that additional copies of the handbook is available on the Portsmouth Public Schools website.

My signature acknowledges receipt of this handbook. I understand that my child is expected to adhere to the rules and regulations of Portsmouth Public Schools; and therefore, I agree to support the rules and regulations in this handbook.

Parent/Guardian's Signature Date

(A copy of signed documentation shall be retained in the student's folder.)

(Legal authorization: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended. Section 22.1-253.13:7 & Section 22.1-279.3)



2018-19 Student Opt-Out Form for Student Directory Information & Photographs

If you want to allow the release of your child's directory information and photos without your prior authorization, you do not have to fill out this form. If you do not want PPS to disclose your student's directory information and photos, please fill out the attached form and return it to the Principal's Office.

Unless you opt-out, Portsmouth Public Schools (PPS) may release your student's "directory information". It includes things like name, grade level, and participation in activities, photo and other information. Refer to the Notice of Directory Information in *School Board Policy JO* for a listing of what is considered directory information. However, PPS will not release your students address, email address or telephone number unless you consent as indicated above.

The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of students in grades 9-12 will normally be released upon request to military recruiters and institutions of higher education unless you specifically opt-out of the release of this information below.

Please be advised that even if you opt-out of the release of your student's directory information there may be certain instances where we will be legally compelled to release this information, such as, to law enforcement officials or when the release of your student's directory information is otherwise specifically authorized by law. ***Please return this completed form to your child's Principal's Office prior to September 30 of each school year.***

OPT-IN FORM

☐ I consent to PPS' release of my student's address, email address, and telephone number.

OPT OUT FORM

If you fail to return this form or it otherwise does not appear in your student's record, we will assume that we are authorized to release your student's directory information and photo with the exception of address, email address, and telephone number.

I wish to opt-out of the release of my student's directory information and photos to the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ Any third parties (i.e. non-school entities, news media, businesses, persons, etc.) except as authorized by law, and to the extent that the release of these photos are within the division's reasonable control.
- ☐ School Publications (e.g. student newspapers, school websites, and school-wide social media accounts, yearbooks, calendars, newsletters, etc.)
- ☐ Military Recruiters
- ☐ Institutions of higher learning

Note: Your child's image or likeness may appear in candid photos without name identification, and the use of these photos is permissible. Additionally, this form does not apply to photographs, videos or information shared during public events, even if they occur on school property.

Child's Full Name _____
School and Grade _____
Parent / Guardian Full Name (Printed) _____
Signature of Parent / Guardian _____
Contact Telephone Number _____

ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USE AGREEMENT

Each student and his or her parent/guardian must sign this Agreement before being granted use of the School Division's computer system and/or a PPS owned electronic device (i.e. laptops, Chrome book, & tablet). Read this Agreement carefully before signing.

Prior to signing this Agreement, read Policy and Regulation IIBEA /IIBEA-R, Acceptable Computer System Use and Regulations. If you have any questions about this policy or regulation, contact your supervisor or your student's principal.

I understand and agree to abide by the School Division's Acceptable Computer System Use Policy and Regulation. I understand that the School Division may access and monitor my use of the computer system, including my use of the Internet, e-mail and downloaded material, without prior notice to me. I further understand that should I violate the Acceptable Use Policy or Regulation, my computer system privileges may be revoked and disciplinary action and/or legal action may be taken against me.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

I have read this Agreement, Policy IIBEA and Regulation IIBEA-R. I understand that access to the computer system is intended for educational purposes and the Portsmouth Public School Division has taken precautions to eliminate inappropriate material. I also recognize, however, that it is impossible for the School Division to restrict access to all inappropriate material and I will not hold the School Division responsible for information acquired on the computer system. I have discussed the terms of this agreement, policy and regulation with my student.

I grant permission for my student to use the computer system and for the School Division to issue an account for my student.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____
(Please Print)



Dr. Elie Bracy III,
Superintendent of Portsmouth Public Schools

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Portsmouth Public Schools' Code of Student Conduct is written and implemented for the benefit of all students in the school division with the expectation that they will adhere to all the requirements contained within.

A section of the vision of Portsmouth Public Schools is that our students “will be socially responsible and respected as lights of inspiration for future generations.” This vision begins with the involvement of parents and/or guardians reviewing the Code of Student Conduct with your children, and ensuring that there is an understanding of the standards of conduct when students are in school and representing Portsmouth Public Schools in the community.

Following this Code of Student Conduct will result in a positive and orderly classroom and school that will strengthen the learning of all students. Teachers also will benefit from students who take learning seriously and behave appropriately. If there are any questions about the conduct expectations, please talk with your child’s teacher or principal. Thank you for supporting our work in Portsmouth Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Elie Bracy, III, Ed.D. Division Superintendent

EB:slp



Mission Statement

The mission of the Portsmouth Public School Division is to engage all students in learning that will foster academic excellence and responsible citizenship.

Portsmouth Public Schools School Board



Ms. Angelia N.
Allen
Term Expires
12-31-2020



Ms. LaKeesha S.
"Klu" Atkinson
Term Expires
12-31-2020



Rev. Joseph A.
Fleming
Term Expires
12-31-2018



Mrs. Sarah Duncan
Hinds
Term Expires
12-31-2020



Mr. Ted J. Lamb
Term Expires
12-31-2020



Mr. Claude C.
Parent
Chairman
Term Expires
12-31-2018



Rev. Cardell C.
Patillo
Term Expires
12-31-2018



Dr. Ingrid P.
Whitaker
Term Expires
12-31-2018



Mrs. Costella B.
Williams
Vice-Chair
Term Expires
12-31-2020

Portsmouth Public Schools Administrative Phone Directory

Superintendent	<u>Dr. Elie Bracy, III</u>	(757) 393-8742
Assistant Superintendent		
Curriculum & Instruction	<u>Dr. Anita Wynn</u>	(757) 393-8556
Chiefs		
Financial Officer	<u>Ms. Brittany Dortch</u>	(757) 393-8435
Schools	<u>Dr. Michael Cromartie</u>	(757) 393-8217
Executive Director		
Human Resources	<u>Mr. Scott Ziegler</u>	(757) 393-8751
Directors		
Accounting	<u>Ms. Larisa D. Parks</u>	(757) 393-5270
Information Technology	<u>Mr. Dean Schlaepfer</u>	(757) 393-5092
Auxiliary Services	<u>VACANT</u>	(757) 393-8751
Communications	<u>Ms. Cherise M. Newsome</u>	(757) 393-8743
Research & Evaluation	<u>Mr. Derrick Nottingham</u>	(757) 393-8840
Coordinators		
Adult & Alternative Education	<u>Ms. Alice Graham(Interim)</u>	(757) 393-8822
Career & Technical Education	<u>Mr. Craig Hill</u>	(757) 822-2711
Facilities & Maintenance	<u>Mr. Herb Robinson</u>	(757) 393-8744
Food Services	<u>Mr. James Gehlhoff</u>	(757) 393-8366
Mathematics Education	<u>Dr. Fiona Nichols</u>	(757) 393-5279
Reading & English Education	<u>Mrs. Krystal Thompson</u>	(757) 393-8884
Science Education	<u>Mrs. Laura Nelson</u>	(757) 393-8535
School Improvement & Prof Dev	<u>Mr. Brian Tooley</u>	(757) 393-8885
Social Studies Education	<u>Mr. William Hicks</u>	(757) 393-8555
Special Education	<u>Dr. Susan Bechtol</u>	(757) 393-8792
Special Programs - Title I/II	<u>Mrs. Renee' Hailes</u>	(757) 393-8611
Student Services	<u>Dr. Marie Shepherd</u>	(757) 393-8354
Transportation	<u>Mr. Gary Lillie</u>	(757) 393-8269
Youth Risk Prevention	<u>Dr. Rosalynn Sanderlin</u>	(757) 393-8411

Supervisors

Accounting	<u>Ms. Pamela Foster</u>	(757) 393-8488
Athletics	<u>Mr. Vincent Pugh</u>	(757) 393-8885
Art	<u>Ms. Diana Davenport</u>	(757) 393-8884
Benefits	<u>Ms. Sharon Hobbs</u>	(757) 393-8488
Gifted & Talented/Foreign Language	<u>Mrs. Prosperanta Calhoun</u>	(757) 393-8885
Health & Physical Education	<u>Mrs. Sharon Moore</u>	(757) 393-8885
Health Services	<u>Dr. Darlene Mueller</u>	(757) 393-8661
Human Resources Supervisor	<u>Mrs. Jessica Duren</u>	(757) 393-8701
Compliance Officer	<u>Mrs. Latisha Russell</u>	(757) 393-8701
Human Resources Specialist	<u>Ms. Sonya Harrell</u>	(757) 393-8701
Human Resources Specialist	<u>Mrs. Crystal Satchell</u>	(757) 393-8701
Instructional Technology & Media	<u>Ms. Jennifer Thomas</u>	(757) 393-5092
Music	<u>Mrs. Gwendolyn Jenkins</u>	(757) 393-8885
Social Studies	<u>Dr. Marie Bittner</u>	(757) 393-8885

Managers

Database Manager	<u>Mrs. Tawana Staten</u>	(757) 393-5092
Grants Manager	<u>Mrs. Heather Hynes</u>	(757) 393-5312

DIRECTORY OF SCHOOLS

Secondary

Churchland High

4301 Cedar Ln.
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Shawn L. Millaci

(757) 686-2500

Sch#: 121-0500

Grades: 09-12

I.C. Norcom High

1801 London Blvd.
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Dr. Laguna O. Foster

(757) 393-5442

Sch#: 121-0240

Grades: 09-12

Woodrow Wilson High

1401 Elmhurst Ln.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Dr. Timothy E. Johnson

(757) 465-2907

Sch#: 121-0310

Grades: 09-12

Churchland Middle

4051 River Shore Rd.
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Barbara R. Kimzey

(757) 686-2512

Sch#: 121-0320

Grades: 07-08

Cradock Middle

21 Alden Ave.
Portsmouth, VA 23702

Shaun Howard

(757) 393-8788

Sch#: 121-1130

Grades: 07-08

W. E. Waters Middle

600 Roosevelt Blvd.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Dr. Camilla Ferebee

(757) 558-2813

Sch#: 121-0310

Grades: 07-08

Elementary

Brighton Elem.

1100 Portsmouth Blvd.
Portsmouth, VA 23704

VACANT

(757) 393-8870

Sch#: 121-0280

Grades: KG-06

Churchland Academy

4061 River Shore Rd.
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Karen D. Clark

(757) 686-2527

Sch#: 121-0321

Grades: KG-06

Churchland Elem.

5601 Michael Ln.
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Dr. Jamill Ray Jones

(757) 686-2523

Sch#: 121-0650

Grades: PK-06

Churchland Primary/Int.

5700 Hedgerow Ln.
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Rosalyn T. Exum

(757) 686-2519

Sch#: 121-0160

Grades: PK-06

Douglass Park Elem.

34 Grand St.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

VACANT

(757) 393-8646

Sch#: 121-0190

Grades: KG-06

Hodges Manor Elem.

1201 Cherokee Rd.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Dr. Faye S. Felton

(757) 465-2921

Sch#: 121-1630

Grades: PK-06

James Hurst Elem.
18 Dahlgren Ave.
Portsmouth, VA 23702

Morris L. Barco
(757) 558-2811

Sch#: 121-1400
Grades: KG-06

John Tyler Elem.
3649 Hartford St.
Portsmouth, VA 23707

Heidi M. Lewis
(757) 393-8879

Sch#: 121-0230
Grades: KG-06

Lakeview Elem.
1300 Horne Ave.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Dr. Bernadette Smith
(757) 465-2901

Sch#: 121-1650
Grades: KG-06

Park View Elem.
260 Elm Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Angela D. Flowers
(757) 393-8647

Sch#: 121-0060
Grades: PK-06

Simonsdale Elem.
4841 Clifford St.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Tammy King
(757) 465-2917

Sch#: 121-1480
Grades: KG-06

Victory Elem.
2828 Greenwood Dr.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Dr. J. Wayne Williams
(757) 393-8806

Sch#: 121-1769

Westhaven Elem.
3701 Clifford St.
Portsmouth, VA 23707

Venessa Whichard-Harris
(757) 393-8855

Sch#: 121-0210
Grades: KG-06

Preschool Centers
Churchland Preschool
4061 River Shore Rd.
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Robyn A. McIntyre
(757) 686-2533

Sch#:
Grades: PK-KG

Mount Hermon Preschool
3000 North St.
Portsmouth, VA 23707

Patricia S. Williams
(757) 393-8825

Sch#: 121-0150
Grades: PK-KG

Olive Branch Preschool
415 Mimosa Rd.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Lois J. Rieckhoff
(757) 465-2926

Sch#:
Grades: PK-KG

Alternative Centers
Adult Education
2801 Turnpike Ave.
Portsmouth, VA 23707

Alice Graham, (Interim)
(757) 393-8822

Grades: Adult

Excel Campus
1401 Elmhurst Ln.
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Timothy E. Johnson
(757) 465-2958

Sch#: 121-1764
Grades: 09-12

New Directions Center
2801 Turnpike Rd.
Portsmouth, VA 23707

Horace L. Lambert, Jr.
(757) 393-8728

Sch#: 121-1761
Grades: KG-10



2018 -2019
Instructional and Holiday Calendar for All Employees
Revised 5-10-2017

July 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2-10 +2 Employees Return
4-INDEPENDENCE DAY

January 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

1-WINTER BREAK
2-Employees & Students Return
21- Dr. Martin Luther King Day
25 Early Release (Exams-High)
28-Early Release ALL
Staff Dev. (Elem. & Middle)
29- Teacher Workday
No School for Students
30- Second Semester Begins

August 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1- 10 +1 Employees Return
21-23- New Teacher Institute
24- All 10th Employees Return

February 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

18- PRESIDENT'S DAY

September 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

3- LABOR DAY
4- All Students Return
25-Staff Development Day
Early Release - All Students

March 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

4- Parent Conference Day
Early Release - All Students

October 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

8- Parent Conference Day
Noon- 7:00pm
No School for Students
24- Staff Development Day
Early Release- All Students

April 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

4-5 Early Release
(Exams- High)
6- Early Release
Teacher Workday
(Elem & Middle)
15-18 - SPRING BREAK

November 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

6- Teacher Workday-No Students
(Elem & Middle)
Staff Development (High)
8-9 Early Release (Exams-High)
9- Staff Dev/Early Release
(Elem & Middle)
12- VETERAN'S DAY
21- Early Release ALL
22-23- Thanksgiving Holiday

May 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

27- MEMORIAL DAY

December 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

20- Early Release ALL
21-31- WINTER BREAK

June 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

12-14 Early Release All Students
13-14 Early Release
(Exam Schedule- High)
14- Student's Last Day
17- Teacher's Last Day
10 mo. Employees Last Day
21- 10+1 Employees Last Day
25- 10+2 Employees Last Day

CALENDAR NOTES

Approved March 9, 2017

- This calendar represents 192 Teacher Days and 182 Student Days.
- In cases of closings due to inclement weather or emergency conditions, makeup days will be designated by the Superintendent and may include available staff days or holidays.
- * Red Shaded areas are holidays for all employees.
- This calendar assumes the approval of the four day work schedule.

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Notes

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

STUDENTS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

*Parent is used in this handbook to include natural parent, parent by legal adoption, legal guardian, or court-appointed guardian.

STUDENT CONDUCT (JFC)

The standards of student conduct are designed to define the basic rules and major expectations of students in the public schools of Portsmouth. It is the responsibility of the Portsmouth City School Board to adopt policy and regulations and the administration to issue regulations establishing rules of conduct for student behavior in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of its students. The local school principal has the responsibility and authority to exercise reasonable judgment in enforcing this Code of Conduct. Principals are responsible for ensuring that all students, staff members and parents are provided the opportunity to become familiar with this policy.

The superintendent issues Standards of Student Conduct and a list of possible corrective actions for violation of the Standards of Conduct. Each parent of a student enrolled in a public school has a duty to assist the school in enforcing the standards of student conduct and compulsory school attendance in order that education may be conducted in an atmosphere free of disruption and threat to persons or property and supportive of individual rights. The Standards of Student Conduct, a notice of the requirements of the Virginia legal code § 22.1-279.3, and a copy of the compulsory school attendance law is also sent to all parents within one calendar month of the opening of schools simultaneously with any other materials customarily distributed at that time. A statement for the parent's signature acknowledging the receipt of the Standards of Student Conduct, the requirements of the Virginia legal code § 22.1-279.3 and the compulsory school attendance law is also sent. Parents are notified that by signing the statement of receipt, they are not deemed to waive, but expressly reserve, their rights protected by the constitution or laws of the United States or Virginia. Each school maintains records of the signed statements.

The school principal may request the student's parent or parents, if both have legal and physical custody, to meet with the principal or principal's designee to review the School Board's Standards of Student Conduct and the parent's or parents' responsibility to participate with the school in disciplining the student and maintaining order, to ensure the student's compliance with compulsory school attendance law and to discuss improvement of the child's behavior, school attendance and educational progress. The administrator of the building should exercise reasonable judgment and consider the circumstances in determining the disciplinary action to be administered.

Each student has the right to expect an educational environment in which he or she can strive to achieve his or her intellectual potential. The student is expected to attend school regularly, be diligent in his/her studies and conduct him/herself in such a way that the rights and privileges of others are not violated. The student is expected to accept and demonstrate the obligation of good citizenship to help prevent problems from happening and help solve problems if they occur.

All parents are expected to assume responsibility for the student's behavior and assist the school in enforcing the Standards of Student Conduct and compulsory school attendance. Parents are also expected to maintain regular communication with school authorities, monitor and require daily attendance, and bring to the attention of the school authorities any problem that affects the student or other children in the school. It is the parents' responsibility to notify the school of any unusual behavior pattern or medical problem that might lead to serious difficulties.

The school principal may notify the parents of any student who violates a School Board policy or the compulsory

school attendance requirements when such violation could result in the student's suspension or the filing of a court petition, whether or not the school administration has imposed such disciplinary action or filed such a petition. The notice shall state (1) the date and particulars of the violation; (2) the obligation of the parent to take actions to assist the school in improving the student's behavior and ensuring compliance with compulsory school attendance; (3) that, if the student is suspended, the parent may be required to accompany the student to meet with school officials; and (4) that a petition with the juvenile and domestic relations court may be filed under certain circumstances to declare the student a child in need of supervision.

The principal or principal's designee notifies the parent of any student involved in an incident required to be reported to the superintendent and Virginia Board of Education.

No suspended student shall be admitted to the regular school program until such student and his parent have met with school officials to discuss improvement of the student's behavior, unless the school principal or his designee determines that readmission, without parent conference, is appropriate for the student.

If a parent fails to comply with the requirements of this policy, the School Board may ask the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to proceed against the parent in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Virginia.

Students are subject to corrective action for any misconduct that occurs:

- in school or on school property;
- on a school vehicle;
- while participating in or attending any school sponsored activity or trip;
- on the way to and from school; and
- off school property, when the acts lead to: (1) notification pursuant to the Virginia legal code § 16.1-305.1 or a conviction for an offense listed in the Virginia legal code § 16.1-260, (2) a charge that would be a felony if committed by an adult, or (3) disruption of the learning environment.

Unlawful acts which will lead to police notification and may lead to suspension from classes, exclusion from activities or expulsion include but are not limited to:

- possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, including marijuana and anabolic steroids, or drug paraphernalia;
- selling drugs;
- assault/battery;
- sexual assault;
- arson;
- intentional injury (bullying, fighting);
- theft;
- bomb threats, including false threats, against school personnel or school property;
- use or possession of explosives (see Policy JFCD Weapons in School);
- possession of weapons or firearms (see Policy JFCD Weapons in School);
- extortion, blackmail or coercion;
- driving without a license on school property;
- homicide;
- burglary;
- sex offenses (indecent exposure, obscene phone calls, sodomy and child molestation);
- malicious mischief;
- shooting;
- any illegal conduct involving firebombs, explosive or incendiary devices or materials, hoax explosive

devices or chemical bombs;

- stabbing, cutting or wounding;
- unlawful interference with school authorities including threats;
- unlawful intimidation of school authorities; and
- other unlawful acts including being an accessory to any of these or other unlawful acts.

Any student involved in a reportable drug or violent incident shall participate in prevention and intervention activities deemed appropriate by the superintendent or superintendent's designee. Further, any student who has been found to be in possession of or under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school property or at a school sponsored activity may be required to (1) undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol abuse and (2) participate in a drug and/or alcohol treatment program if recommended by the evaluator and if the parent consents.

The superintendent issues regulations listing additional actions which may be cause for corrective action and if serious enough or exhibited repeatedly may lead to suspension or expulsion.

The School Board biennially reviews the model student conduct code developed by the Board of Education to incorporate into policy a range of discipline options and alternatives to preserve a safe and non-disruptive environment for effective learning and teaching.

Adopted: September 23, 2004

Legal Refs.: *Code of Virginia*, 1950, as amended, sections 16.1-305.1, 18.2-308.1, 18.2-308.7, 18.2-310, 18.2-322.1, 22.1-78, 22.1-200.1, 22.1-253.13:7.B.3., 22.1-277, 22.1-277.02, 22.1-277.2, 22.1-279.1, 22.1-279.3.

Cross Ref.: ECAB Vandalism

JFHA/GBA Sexual Harassment/Harassment Based on Race, National Origin, Disability and Religion

JGA Corporal Punishment

JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion

JGDA Disciplining Students with Disabilities

JN Student Fees, Fines and Charges

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PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (KP)

A. When parents of a student are estranged, separated, or divorced all personnel will respect the parental rights of both parents. Unless there is a court order to the contrary, both parents have the right to:

1. view the child's school records, in accordance with Policy JO Student Records;
2. receive school progress reports, the school calendar, and notices of major school events;
3. visit the school in accordance with Policies KK School Visitors, KN Sex Offender Registry Notification, and KNA Violent Sex Offenders on School Property;
4. participate in parent-teacher conferences; in the case of the noncustodial parent, after a timely request is made;
5. receive all notifications in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and
6. receive notice of the student's extended absence, as defined in and pursuant to Policy JED Student Absences/Excuses/Dismissals, if both parents have joint physical custody.

B. Parental Responsibilities

The custodial parent has the responsibility to:

1. keep the school office informed of his or her address and how he or she may be contacted at all times;
2. provide the current address and phone number of the noncustodial parent registration unless such address is unknown and the parent signs a statement to that effect, or unless a court order restricts the educational or contact rights of the noncustodial parent; and
3. provide a copy of any legal document which restricts the educational and/or contact rights of the noncustodial parent.

The noncustodial parent has the responsibility to keep the school office apprised of changes in his or her current phone number and address. Further, the noncustodial parent may make timely requests to participate in parent-teacher conferences. At the request of a noncustodial parent, such parent will be included as an emergency contact for the student's activities unless a court order has been issued to the contrary.

Adopted: September 15, 2005 Revised: September 27, 2012 File: KP

Legal Refs: 20 U.S.C. §1232g. 34 C.F.R. § 99.4.

The Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-4.3, 22.1-78, 22.1-287.

Cross Refs: JED Student Absences/Excuses/Dismissals JO Student Records KK School Visitors KN Sex Offender Registry Notification KNA Violent Sex Offenders on School Property

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Student rights and responsibilities include: The right to have rules and procedures applied equally without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, gender, social, or national origin. Additional rights and responsibilities include:

Right – To all of the rights expressed and guaranteed by the United States Constitution and by federal, state, and local laws

Responsibility - Obey all federal, state, and local laws

Right – To benefit from a school climate that provides a safe and orderly environment

Responsibility - Comply with school rules on any school property, including school buses and at school functions. Observe the rights of other students, school employees, and visitors. Make the appropriate persons aware of violations involving drugs, alcohol, weapons, or firearms

Right – To expect that school personnel will concentrate on the business of teaching and learning

Responsibility – Use all educational opportunities that are provided

Right – To expect and receive courtesy, fairness, and respect from members of the school staff and other students

Responsibility - Conduct him/herself in a responsible manner. Comply with reasonable requests and directions given by those in authority. Respect each other

Right – To review personal educational records if eighteen years of age or older

The rights listed above do not permit a student to disrupt the educational process, to break school rules, to present a health or safety hazard, or to disregard directions given by those in authority. Individual rights end when they infringe upon the rights of others.

Code of Conduct

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Level 1 OFFENSES

ATTENDANCE • Students are expected to arrive at school and report to class on time daily. Students who report to class tardy, must provide a written explanation from parents, teachers, or administrators. Parents shall refrain from picking students up early, as it interferes with the instructional school day. Students shall report to assigned/scheduled areas within the building, before, during, or after instructional hours. Developing patterns of frequent tardiness and early dismissals merit administrative and parental attention. Class cutting, loitering, leaving school grounds without permission, tardiness, and unexcused absences shall be subject to disciplinary action. (See Policy page 48)

BUS MISCONDUCT • Students are required to conduct themselves on school buses in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Students who become serious disciplinary problems on school buses shall be reported to an administrator by the driver and may have their riding privileges suspended. In such cases, the parents of the student become responsible for seeing that their children get to and from school safely. (See Policy page 52)

CHEATING • Students are expected to perform honestly on any assigned schoolwork or tests. The actions that are identified as cheating and are prohibited include, but are not limited to the following: cheating on a test or assigned work by giving, receiving, offering, and/or soliciting information; plagiarizing by copying the language, structure, idea, and/or thoughts of another; falsifying statements/signatures on any assigned school work, tests, or other school documents.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT (DEFIANCE) • Defiance is defined as any open or bold resistance to or disregard for authority, opposition, or power; a challenging attitude or behavior.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT (DISRESPECT) • Disrespect is defined as, but not limited to: teasing, taunting, sexual statements and actions, talking back, walking away, uncooperative behavior, and inappropriate language.

DRESS CODE • Students are expected to dress in accordance with the Portsmouth Public Schools Dress Code Policy. Teachers and administrators may deny class entrance to students dressed or otherwise adorned inappropriately until arrangements are made for their proper attire. (See page 54)

ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Elementary/Middle School) • Student use of portable communication devices that are not part of the instructional program is prohibited. These devices include, but are not limited to: radios, headphones, ear buds (connected or disconnected), electronic gaming devices, devices designed for digital/audio taping, MP3 players, iPods, tablets, and any device capable of receiving or transmitting messages, music, digital images, communications, and any related paraphernalia.

Students are allowed to bring cellular telephones onto school property. The device must remain off and out of sight at all times during the school day. Use is permitted after dismissal. Behaviors prohibited during the school day involving the cellular phone include, but are not limited to:

- Making calls
- Displaying it to others
- Sending messages
- Text messaging
- Taking pictures
- Making any noises
- Playing games
- Video recording
- Logging onto and posting on social networking sites
- Otherwise disrupting the learning environment for teachers, students, staff, administrators, or others on school property

ELECTRONIC DEVICES (High School) • During the school day, high school students may use personal equipment or electronic devices for instructional purposes as defined and supervised by a classroom teacher or administrator. Students shall not display or activate personal equipment during class time unless specifically given permission by a teacher or school administrator. Personal equipment or a device includes, but is not limited to: a laptop computer, net book, tablet computer, cellular phone or Smartphone e-reader, or any personal computing device. Devices can be used only in the cafeteria during breakfast/lunch, and before/after school. Using the device to misrepresent an individual, harass or bully, or promote illicit activity will be unacceptable. Improper use shall result in confiscation of the item. Any student found in violation will have them confiscated and returned to a parent. All cell phones, electronic devices and other confiscated items must be picked up by a parent/guardian. When the parent/guardian picks up the confiscated item they will be required to sign the General Confiscation Form acknowledging that if the same or similar item is confiscated a second time, it will be kept until a parent conference is held with an administrator, the third offense will result in the item being held until the student serves a minimum of one day of in-school suspension and a parent conference is held. The school must be contacted to schedule a pick-up time. Refusal to surrender a confiscated item will be considered defiance, which is found under disorderly conduct and will be consequence as such. (See page 39 - 47)

GAMBLING • Gambling is defined as illegal means of making, placing, or receiving any bet or wager of money or other thing of value dependent upon the result of a game, contest, or any other event with an uncertain outcome.

SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF GOODS • Selling or passing out goods or materials, without the school's permission, is not permitted.

The range of consequences identified below will be imposed at the discretion of the building administrator contingent upon the severity of the offense. Any student who is determined to be an accessory to a violation of the Code of Student Conduct will receive consequences specified as appropriate to the behavior.

Level 1 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION FOR K-3 and GRADES 4-6 ELEMENTARY	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
<p>1st Violation Verbal warning; time-out; conference with two or more of the following: student, parent, teacher, counselor, or administrator; or detention (school applicable).</p> <p>2nd Violation Time out; conference with two or more of the following: student, parent, teacher, counselor, or administrator; detention (school applicable); or 1 day suspension.</p> <p>3rd Violation Conference with parent; behavioral chart or contract; and/or up to 3 days suspension.</p> <p>4th Violation Conference with parent; SIT (School Intervention Team); and/or up to 5 days suspension. (*Excludes K-3)</p>	<p>1st Violation Verbal warning; conference with two or more of the following: student, parent, teacher, counselor, or administrator; up to 2 days detention (school applicable) and/or up to 2 days ISS.</p> <p>2nd Violation Conference with two or more of the following: student, parent, teacher, counselor, or administrator; up to 3 days detention (school applicable); up to 3 days ISS; or up to 3 days suspension.</p> <p>3rd Violation Conference with parent and up to 5 days suspension.</p> <p>4th Violation Conference with parent and up to 7 days suspension.</p>

*SB (Senate Bill) 170 - Prohibits, except for drug offenses, firearm offenses, and certain criminal acts, students in preschool through grade three from being suspended for more than three school days or expelled from attendance at school unless (i) the offense involves physical harm or credible threat of physical harm to others or (ii) the local school board or the division superintendent or his designee finds that aggravating circumstances exist, as defined by the Department of Education.

Non-Exclusionary Practices to Reduce OSS

[One-on-one conferences \(student-teacher, student-admin\)](#)
[Parent-teacher conference](#)
[Parent-teacher-admin conference](#)
[Conflict Mediation sessions](#)
[Reflection Sheets](#)
[Reflection time in another classroom](#)
[Phone call home \(let parent talk to student to redirect their behavior\)](#)
[Detention \(before or after school\)](#)
[Silent Lunch](#)
[Parent invited to pick student up for the day for a behavioral reset/ pop-up visits/to sit with student for the day or a period of the day](#)
[Participate with another class for the remainder of the day](#)
[Guidance sessions](#)
[Day Treatment Counseling/Restorative Practices](#)

Level 2 OFFENSES

DISORDERLY CONDUCT (DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR) • Disorderly conduct is defined as conduct that interrupts or obstructs the learning environment and /or is dangerous to the health and/or safety of other students and staff. Conduct is deemed to be disorderly when it disrupts the operation of any school or any activity conducted or sponsored by any school. Disorderly conduct may include, but is not limited to: making inappropriate noises, instigating and/or participating in a verbal or physical altercation, excessive talking, talking too loudly, moving excessively around the classroom.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT (OBSCENE/PROFANE LANGUAGE/GESTURES) • Using obscene or profane language, making obscene or profane gestures, possessing obscene or pornographic literature, selling, giving, or sending obscene or pornographic literature is considered disorderly and is prohibited.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT (MINOR INSUBORDINATION) • Minor insubordination is defined as intentionally failing or refusing to comply with the reasonable requests of staff through verbal response, gesture and/or defiant action or inaction. This also includes failing to tell the truth when questioned by staff.

FIGHTING • Fighting is defined as voluntary participation in a one-on-one fight with another person. Students are subject to disciplinary action for misconduct. Cases for which self-defense is claimed must meet the following criteria:

- Be without fault in provoking or bringing on the fight or incident.
- Have reasonably feared, under the circumstances as they appeared to him/her, that he/she was in danger of harm.
- Have used no more force than was reasonable to protect himself/herself from the threatened harm.
- Not have the need for restraint once school officials intervene. Such incidents must be reported immediately to school officials.

A student, who is assaulted and retaliates by hitting, kicking, or any other physical means, may be disciplined for fighting. Conflict is defined as a serious disagreement or argument, typically ongoing over an extended period of time. Students shall not fight or participate in behavior defined as conflict on school property or at a school sponsored event.

TECHNOLOGY USE VIOLATIONS • Students are responsible for good behavior on the schools computer network just as they are in the classroom. The Code of Student Conduct applies to all student use of technology and computer networks. The following includes but is not limited to forms of prohibited Internet/Computer System use:

1. accessing, sending, or displaying pornographic or obscene messages, pictures, or profane or abusive language
2. electronically posting messages or accessing materials that are abusive, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal
3. damaging computer networks
4. violating copyright laws
5. using another's identification or password, or trespassing in another's work
6. providing your personal username and password for others to use
7. using the network for any illegal activities as defined by state or federal law

Students and staff shall not use, attempt to use, or solicit help with using school-based technology in a manner that is not consistent with the Acceptable Use Policy (see appendices page 39).

TOBACCO • Students shall not possess, use, sell, or distribute tobacco, tobacco products, or look-a-like tobacco products (e-cigarettes, vapor sticks) on school property or at a school sponsored event. Students shall not possess, use, sell, or distribute matches or lighters on school property or at a school sponsored event.

TRESPASSING • Trespassing is defined as entering or remaining upon school property without permission, at any time including but not limited to weekends, holidays, or when school is not in session. School property means any real property (land) owned or leased by Portsmouth Public Schools and any Portsmouth Public School vehicle. Students are considered to be trespassing when permission to be at school or to ride the bus is revoked through oral or written notice of suspension or expulsion by an appropriate school official. Students shall not trespass on school property or at school sponsored events.

The range of consequences identified below will be imposed at the discretion of the building administrator contingent upon the severity of the offense. Any student who is determined to be an accessory to a violation of the Code of Student Conduct will receive consequences specified as appropriate to the behavior.

Level 2 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION FOR Pre-K 3 and GRADES 4-6 ELEMENTARY	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
<p>1st Violation Time-out; communication/conference with two or more of the following: student, parent, teacher, counselor, or administrator; detention (school applicable); or up to 3 days suspension.</p> <p>2nd Violation Communication/Conference with two or more of the following: student, parent, teacher, counselor, or administrator; detention (school applicable); or up to 5 days suspension. (*Excludes K-3)</p> <p>3rd Violation Communication with parent and up to 7 days suspension. Behavior Intervention plan may be written and a referral to the SIT (School Improvement) Team may be made. (*Excludes K-3)</p> <p>4th Violation Communication with parent and up to a 10 day suspension with a possible referral to the Discipline Hearing Committee. (*Excludes K-3)</p>	<p>1st Violation Communication with two or more of the following: student, parent, teacher, counselor, or administrator; up to 3 days detention (school applicable); up to 3 days ISS; or up to 5 days suspension.</p> <p>2nd Violation Conference with two or more of the following: student, parent, teacher, counselor, or administrator; or up to 7 days suspension.</p> <p>3rd Violation Communication with parent and up to a 10 day suspension.</p> <p>4th Violation Communication with parent and a 10 day suspension with a referral to the Discipline Hearing Committee.</p>

*SB (Senate Bill) 170 - Prohibits, except for drug offenses, firearm offenses, and certain criminal acts, students in preschool through grade three from being suspended for more than three school days or expelled from attendance at school unless (i) the offense involves physical harm or credible threat of physical harm to others or (ii) the local school board or the division superintendent or his designee finds that aggravating circumstances exist, as defined by the Department of Education.

Non-Exclusionary Practices to Reduce OSS

[One-on-one conferences \(student-teacher, student-admin\)](#)
[Parent-teacher conference](#)
[Parent-teacher-admin conference](#)
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[Parent invited to pick student up for the day for a behavioral reset/ pop-up visits/to sit with student for the day or a period of the day](#)
[Participate with another class for the remainder of the day](#)
[Guidance sessions](#)
[Day Treatment Counseling/Restorative Practices](#)

Level 3 OFFENSES

BULLYING/HARASSMENT • “Bullying” means aggressive and unwanted behavior that is intended to harm 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 behavior motivated by a real or perceived differentiating characteristic of the victim and cyber bullying. “Bullying” does not include ordinary teasing, horseplay, argument, or peer conflict.

Prohibited bullying behaviors include, but are not limited to the following:

1. physical intimidation, taunting, name calling, insults, and seizing or destroying personal property
2. comments regarding the race, gender, religion, physical abilities or characteristics of associates of the targeted person
3. falsifying statements about other persons
4. (CYBER BULLYING) use of technology such as e-mail, text messages, or websites to defame or harm others

Harassment is defined as behavior intended to disturb or upset; it is characteristically repetitive and found to be intentional, threatening, or disturbing.

Students shall not engage in behavior that can be defined as bullying or harassment on school property. (See page 59)

EXTORTION • Extortion is defined as using one’s power, authority, or position to obtain funds, property, or other tangible benefit. Students shall not commit extortion on school property.

GANG ACTIVITY • A gang – for school purposes, means any group of three or more students that has any of the following attributes: initiation practices, hand signals, names, symbols, styles of dress, geographical, political, or sociological claims, occurrences of group-sponsored or initiated violations of school rules, or any other pertinent attributes – and is not sponsored, sanctioned, or approved by the School Board, Division Superintendent, or building principal while on school property to: meet, discuss membership or activities, conduct activities, show visible representation of membership, or engage in any other conduct while on school property or at a school sponsored event.

A gang – for school purposes, is also defined as any group of three or more students who collaborate – with or without planning and commits a violation of school district or building rules on school property or at a school sponsored event.

Gang disruption – for school purposes, is defined as any gathering of three or more students for the purpose of or with the actual effect of creating fear, intimidation, or unrest on school property.

Behaviors: students shall not make identifiable physical gang signs, write/possess gang-related messages at school, wear gang-related clothing or colors, speak about gang-related activities during classes, school activities, or functions, assemble unlawfully, engage in a gang-related fight, engage in a gang-related disruption, or threaten verbally or physical any other individual on school property.

HAZING • Hazing, for school purposes, means to recklessly or intentionally endanger the health or safety of a student or students or to inflict bodily injury on a student or students in connection with or for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a club, organization, association, or student body regardless of whether the student or students so endangered or injured participated voluntarily in the relevant activity.

Hazing behaviors include, but are not limited to: physical harm, mental stress such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in embarrassment, forced calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of food or liquids of any type, branding, or forced physical activity that could adversely affect health and safety.

Students shall not participate in hazing on school property in association with any school-sponsored organization, activity, or function. Students who collaborate in acts of hazing will receive the same consequences as the actual offender. Students who voluntarily participate in hazing may be removed from the relevant activity.

Hazing unlawful; civil criminal liability

It shall be unlawful to haze so as to cause bodily injury, any student at any school, college, or university. Any person found guilty therefore shall be guilty of a class I misdemeanor and subject to confinement in jail for up to 12 months and a fine up to \$2,500.00 in addition to disciplinary consequence imposed. Code of Virginia §18.2-56.

POSSESSION OR USE OF MEDICATION AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS • Students shall not possess, sell, distribute, use, be under the influence of, give, or possess with intent to give, sell, or distribute medication (prescription or non-prescription) on school property except after complying with School Board policy.

- Unauthorized Over-the-Counter Medication Possession
- Use of Unauthorized Over-the-Counter Medication
- Over-the-Counter Medication Sale/Distribution
- Theft or Attempted Theft of Student Prescription Medication

Possession or self-administration of a non-prescription drug is prohibited by any student in grades pre-kindergarten through eight. All medications for students pre-kindergarten through eight must be given to the school nurse by the parent with proper instructions on the container for administration on school property. A student in grades nine through twelve may possess and self-administer, but not share, non-prescription medication if all of the following criteria are met:

- Written parental permission for self-administration of specific non-prescription medication is on file with the school
- The non-prescription medication is in the original container and appropriately labeled with manufacturer's directions
- The student's name is affixed to the container and
- The student possess only the amount of non-prescription medicine needed for one school day/activity

Self-Administration of Asthma Medication and/or Auto-Injectable Epinephrine: A student with a diagnosis of asthma or anaphylaxis, or both, is permitted to possess and self-administer inhaled asthma medications or auto-injectable epinephrine during the school day, at school sponsored activities, or while on a school bus or other school property

under conditions including, but not limited to the following:

- Written parental consent on file with the school
- Written notice from the primary care provider on file with the school

Please note: "Medication" shall mean any drug or other substance used in treating diseases, healing, or relieving pain, including all over-the-counter drugs such as aspirin, cough syrups, gargles, caffeine pills, and the like. Medication shall not be brought to school by the student. A parent/guardian shall take all such items to the office of a principal or his/her designee at the start of the school day for safekeeping.

THEFT • Theft (larceny) is defined as taking, without permission, the personal property of another person with the intent to steal without force and/or intimidation. Students shall not commit larceny on school property or at school sponsored events.

- Theft of School Property
- Theft of Staff Property
- Theft of Student Property
- Possession of Stolen Property

THREATS/INTIMIDATION VERBAL AND PHYSICAL • Threatening: verbal is defined as any student knowingly communicating, in writing, including an electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message, a threat to kill or do bodily injury to a person, regarding that person or any member of his/her family, and the threat places such person in reasonable apprehension of death or bodily injury to himself/herself or his/her family member.

Threatening: physical is defined as any student knowingly committing any physical act that supports, substantiates, or otherwise conveys a threat to kill or do bodily injury to a person, regarding that person or any member of his/her family, and the threat places such person in reasonable apprehension of death or bodily injury to himself/herself or his/her family member.

Students shall not threaten, whether verbally, electronically, in writing or physically any person on school property or at school sponsored events.

- Threat/Intimidation Against Staff
- Threat/Intimidation Against Student

TRESPASSING (BREACH OF SECURITY) • Breach of Security is defined as opening or allowing entrance through a locked door that is to be used as an exit during an emergency. Students shall not collectively or individually unlock/open an entry way to allow onto school property any person who has not properly signed in and been approved by appropriate PPS staff. Students shall not trespass on school property or at school sponsored events.

VANDALISM • Vandalism is defined as intentionally damaging, defacing, or destroying any real property (land, vehicles, or buildings) or personal property owned by Portsmouth Public Schools or any of its students, employees, or visitors. Students shall not commit vandalism on school property or at a school sponsored event.

- Vandalism of School Property
- Vandalism of Private Property
- Graffiti

The range of consequences identified below will be imposed at the discretion of the building administrator contingent upon the severity of the offense. Any student who is determined to be an accessory to a violation of the Code of Student Conduct will receive consequences specified as appropriate to the behavior.

Level 3 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION FOR Pre-K 3 and GRADES 4-6 ELEMENTARY	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
<p>1st Violation and 2nd Violations Conference/Communication with two or more of the following: parent, student, counselor, or administrator and up to 7 days suspension. (*Excludes K-3)</p> <p>Serious or repeated violations of any Level 3 offense may result in a 10 day suspension with a recommendation to the discipline committee for alternative placement, long-term suspension and/or a recommendation for expulsion. (*Excludes K-3)</p>	<p>1st Violation Parent-student-administrator communication/conference and a 7 day suspension.</p> <p>2nd Violation Parent-student-administrator communication/conference and a 10 day suspension.</p> <p>3rd Violation Parent-student-administrator communication/conference and a 10 day suspension with a referral to the Discipline Hearing Committee.</p> <p>Exceptions: Serious or repeated violations of any Level 3 offense may result in a recommendation to the Discipline Hearing Committee for alternative placement, long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>

*SB (Senate Bill) 170 - Prohibits, except for drug offenses, firearm offenses, and certain criminal acts, students in preschool through grade three from being suspended for more than three school days or expelled from attendance at school unless (i) the offense involves physical harm or credible threat of physical harm to others or (ii) the local school board or the division superintendent or his designee finds that aggravating circumstances exist, as defined by the Department of Education.

Non-Exclusionary Practices to Reduce OSS

[One-on-one conferences \(student-teacher, student-admin\)](#)
[Parent-teacher conference](#)
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[Silent Lunch](#)
[Parent invited to pick student up for the day for a behavioral reset/ pop-up visits/to sit with student for the day or a period of the day](#)
[Participate with another class for the remainder of the day](#)
[Guidance sessions](#)
[Day Treatment Counseling](#)
[Restorative Justice Practices](#)

Level 4 OFFENSES

ALCOHOL • Students shall not use, distribute, be under the influence of, or have in their possession on school property or at any school sponsored activities any beverage containing alcohol (including imitation alcoholic beverages). Students shall not give, sell, distribute, or possess with intent to give, sell, or distribute on school property or at school-sponsored activities alcoholic beverages of any kind (including imitation alcoholic beverages).

**An imitation alcoholic beverage is a liquid which is not an alcoholic beverage, but may have the overall appearance, color, marking, packaging and marketing, or by representations made, is intended to lead, or would tend to lead, a reasonable person to believe that such item is an alcoholic beverage.*

ARSON • Arson is defined as the intentional burning of the property of another. If a student has direct knowledge of arson and fails to report it, then that student has assisted in the commission or concealing of arson. Students shall not commit, attempt to commit, assist in the commission of, or conceal the commission of arson on school property or at school sponsored activities.

- Arson: Actual
- Arson: Attempted
- Bombs/Lighted Firecrackers/Cherry Bombs/Contributes to a Fire

ASSAULT AND BATTERY (AGGRAVATED) • Assault and Battery is defined as intentionally placing another person in reasonable fear of an immediate battery or the intentional harmful or offensive touching of another person's body without permission. Battery may be committed with or without an instrument, device, weapon, or other object. Students shall not commit, attempt to commit, assist in the commission of, or conceal the commission of aggravated assault on school property or at school sponsored activities.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY (BY MOB) • Assault and battery by mob is defined as committing assault and battery on another person with the aid of one or more persons. Students shall not commit, attempt to commit, assist in the commission of, or conceal the commission of assault and battery by mob on school property or at school sponsored activities.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY (MALICIOUS WOUNDING) • Malicious wounding is defined as intentionally harming another person with the intent to maim, disfigure, permanently injure, or cause a substantial likelihood of death. Students shall not commit, attempt to commit, assist in the commission of, or conceal the commission of malicious wounding on school property or at school sponsored activities.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY (ON STAFF) • Assault and battery on staff is defined as intentionally placing a staff member in reasonable fear of an immediate battery or the intentional harmful or offensive touching of a staff person's body without permission. Battery may be committed with or without an instrument, device, weapon, or other object. Students shall not commit, attempt to commit, assist in the commission of, or conceal the commission of assault on staff on school property or at school sponsored activities.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY (WEAPON) • Assault and battery by weapon is defined as any instrument or object actually used or created for the infliction of injury or death. Students shall not commit, attempt to commit, assist in the commission of, or conceal the commission of assault and battery by weapon on school property or at school sponsored activities.

BOMB/SCHOOL THREAT • A school threat (verbal, written, or electronic) by a person to bomb or use other substances or devices for the purpose of exploding, burning, causing damage to a school building or school property, or harming students or staff including intentionally making a false report of potential harm from dangerous chemicals or biological agents. Students shall not make, attempt to make, or assist in the making of a bomb, chemical or biological threat against a school. A student shall not conceal, or assist in the concealment of a school threat. If a student has direct knowledge of such a threat against a school and fails to report it, that student has assisted in the making or concealment of a school threat.

DRUG VIOLATIONS • Students shall not possess, sell, distribute, use, be under the influence of, give, or possess with intent to give, sell, or distribute illegal drugs on school property as defined by the laws of this Commonwealth. An imitation drug is defined as any item, substance, or product that intentionally or unintentionally looks like, is made to look like, or is represented as an illegal drug. Students shall not possess, sell distribute, or possess with the intent to give, sell, or distribute an imitation illegal drug on school property.

- Schedule I and II Drug Use/Possession/Sale/Distribution
- Synthetic Marijuana Use/Possession/Sale/Distribution (i.e. spice)
- Marijuana Use/Possession/Sale/Distribution
- Anabolic Steroid Use/Possession/Sale/Distribution
- Other Drug Possession/Paraphernalia Possession
- Other Drug Use/Drug Overdose (any kind)
- Other Drug Sale/Distribution
- Possession/Use of Inhalants
- Substances Represented as Drugs (“look-a-likes”) Use/Possession/Sale/Distribution

GANG FIGHTING • In school, a gang fight is defined as any fight between two or more groups of two, or more students on school property. When more than one student fights a single student, it shall be deemed as an assault by mob (See assault/battery).

MAJOR CRIMES • Other major law violations occurring within the school zone and not specifically listed in this code of conduct may result in expulsion. This offense shall include rape.

REPEATED VIOLATIONS • Repeated violations of any offenses in the Code of Conduct may indicate the need for a long-term suspension or expulsion depending on the seriousness of the repetitive behaviors. Chronic misbehavior may indicate the need for an alternative school placement and/or a recommendation for other services.

ROBBERY • Robbery is defined as committing a larceny with force and/or intimidation. Students shall not commit robbery on school property or at school sponsored events.

- Actual Robbery
- Attempted Robbery

SEXUAL OFFENSES • Sexual Harassment is defined as unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other physical or verbal conduct or communication of a sexual nature, including gender-based harassment that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or work environment.

Sexual Assault is defined as any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient.

Students shall not commit or act in support of any sexual offense listed above with or against any person or non-

student on school property or at a school sponsored event. They shall not take, possess, disseminate, transfer, or share obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs by electronic data transfer or otherwise while on school property or at a school sponsored event.

- Sexual Battery against Staff
- Sexual Battery against Student
- Offensive Sexual Touching Against Staff
- Sexual Touching Against Student
- Forcible Rape Against Staff
- Forcible Rape Against Student
- Attempted Rape Against Staff
- Attempted Rape Against Student
- Sexual Offenses Without Force (includes indecent exposure, lewd behavior, and consensual sexual behavior)
- Aggravated Sexual Battery
- Sexual Harassment
- Sexting (taking, possessing, disseminating, transferring, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs)

WEAPONS • A weapon is defined as any instrument or object actually used or created for the infliction of injury, threat, or death. Students shall not bring, possess, or use weapons on school property or at a school sponsored event. Students found with weapons on school property shall be prosecuted in accordance with state and federal law. Weapon related behaviors prohibited on school property or at school sponsored activities include, but are not limited to bringing or possessing:

- a handgun/rifle/shotgun
- any other weapon which is designed or may be converted to expel a projectile by the action or any explosive to include live ammunition
- a knife (with a metal blade)
- a BB gun or Pellet gun
- any representation of and or destructive bomb or explosive device
- other firearms (zip gun, starter gun, poppers, flare gun, etc.)
- other weapon (any instrument or object created or used to inflict harm on another individual)
- razor blades/box cutters
- fireworks, firecrackers or stink bombs
- taser or any device intended to transmit an electrical shock
- ammunition
- Weapon/Chemical substance (i.e. mace, tear gas, or pepper spray)
- a stun gun

****LOOK-ALIKES (TOY WEAPONS)** • Students shall not bring, possess, or use toy/look-alike weapons on school property or at school sponsored events. Toy weapons are not combustible, are not designed to expel objects that may cause harm, or do not appear to be real (i.e. plastic). Administrative discretion may be used in determining consequences.

The range of consequences identified below will be imposed at the discretion of the building administrator contingent upon the severity of the offense. Any student who is determined to be an accessory to a violation of the Code of Student Conduct will receive consequences specified as appropriate to the behavior.

Level 4 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION FOR PRE-K AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
<p>1st Violation Conference/Communication with two or more of the following: parent, student, counselor, or administrator and a 10 day suspension with a referral to the Discipline Hearing Committee for alternative placement, long term suspension, and/or expulsion.</p>	<p>1st Violation Parent-student-administrator conference/communication and a 10 day suspension with a referral to the Discipline Hearing Committee for alternative placement, long term suspension, and/or expulsion.</p>

*SB (Senate Bill) 170 - Prohibits, except for drug offenses, firearm offenses, and certain criminal acts, students in preschool through grade three from being suspended for more than three school days or expelled from attendance at school unless (i) the offense involves physical harm or credible threat of physical harm to others or (ii) the local school board or the division superintendent or his designee finds that aggravating circumstances exist, as defined by the Department of Education.

DUE PROCESS (PPS Policy JFA)

Due process requires that a student be given oral or written notice of the charges against him/her; an explanation of the evidence used to support the charges, and an opportunity to present his/her side of the story before privileges are denied. Due process also includes oral and written notification to a parent/guardian or any incident report of disruptive behavior, of any short term out of school suspension, in school suspension/detention, or after school detention and prior to suspension of a student with a recommendation to the Disciplinary Hearing Committee. The student, parent/guardian has the right to appeal a suspension.

Any student whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property, or presents an ongoing threat of disruption may be removed from school immediately.

SHORT-TERM SUSPENSIONS (JGD/JGE) A student may be suspended for not more than ten school days by either the school principal, any assistant principal, or, in their absence, any teacher. The principal, assistant principal or teacher may suspend the student after giving the pupil oral or written notice of the charges against him and, if he denies them, an explanation of the facts as known to school personnel and an opportunity to present his version of what occurred. In the case of any student whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property, or whose presence is an ongoing threat of disruption, the student may be removed from school immediately and the notice, explanation of facts and opportunity to present his version shall be given as soon as is practical thereafter. File:JGD/JGE Page 3 © 5/16 VSBA PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

Short-Term Appeal Process –Once a student is suspended, there are two options. The student or parent may remain silent and accept the suspension. The student or parent may appeal the suspension. If the student or parent appeals: The student or parent must file a written request for an appeal to the building administrator/designee within two (2) school days of the suspension. This appeal request must specifically identify the nature of the appeal, such as the number of days is too high, or the student did not engage in the behavior, etc. Statements such as “not fair” or “the Principal does not like me” are not valid reasons to appeal a suspension. Within two (2) school days of receipt of the written request the building administrator/designee will meet with the student and parent to hear the appeal. The building administrator/designee will notify the parent of the decision within two (2) school days after the appeal. A letter stating the decision will be mailed to all parties, but the parent is encouraged to contact the school by phone for the decision. The student or parent may appeal the building administrator/designee’s decision by filing a written request for an appeal to the Superintendent/designee within two (2) school days of receipt of the notice of the building administrator/designee’s decision (verbal or written).

LONG-TERM SUSPENSION (JGD/JGE) A student may be suspended from attendance at school for more than ten days after written notice is provided to the pupil and his parent of the proposed action and the reasons therefore and of the right to a hearing before the School Board or the superintendent or superintendent’s designee/hearing committee. The decision of the superintendent or superintendent’s designee may be appealed to the full School Board. Such appeal shall be decided by the School Board within thirty days. The written notice of a suspension for more than ten days includes notification of the length of the suspension and provides information concerning the availability of community-based educational, alternative education or intervention programs. Such notice also states that the student is eligible to return to regular school attendance upon the expiration of the suspension or to attend an appropriate alternative education program approved by the School Board during or upon the expiration of the suspension. The costs of any community-based educational, alternative education, or intervention program that is not a part of the educational program offered by the school division that the student may attend during his suspension is borne by the parent of the student. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the School Board from permitting or requiring students

suspended pursuant to this section to attend an alternative education program provided by the School Board for the term of such suspension.

When a building administrator/designee is considering long-term suspension, it is suggested that the Notice of Suspension specify that a recommendation for long-term suspension is being considered. The Superintendent/designee shall provide for a hearing for the student and the parent on or before day nine (9) of the suspension. The Superintendent/designee/hearing committee shall review the evidence presented at the hearing and shall determine whether to affirm, modify, or disapprove the building administrator/designee's recommendation. The Superintendent/designee shall provide a written decision on or before day ten (10) of the suspension. The parent shall have five (5) school days from the Superintendent/designee's decision to file a written request for an appeal to the School Board, if desired. The student and his/her parents shall be notified of the date when the School Board will meet and act on the recommendation. Hearings will be held in closed session.

EXPULSION (JGD/JGE) Generally Students may be expelled from attendance at school after written notice to the pupil and his parent of the proposed action and the reasons therefor and of the right to a hearing before the School Board in accordance with the regulations of the School Board. The School Board confirms or disapproves of the proposed expulsion regardless of whether the pupil has exercised the right to a hearing. The written notice given to the pupil and his parent includes notification of the length of the expulsion and provides information to the parent of the student concerning the availability of community-based educational, training and intervention programs. The notice also states whether or not the student is eligible to return to regular school attendance, or to attend an appropriate alternative education program approved by the School Board, or an adult education program offered by the school division, during or upon the expiration of the expulsion, and the terms or conditions of such readmission. The costs of any community-based educational, training, or intervention program that is not a part of the educational program offered by the school division that the student may attend during his expulsion is borne by the parent of the student. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prohibit the School Board from permitting or requiring students expelled pursuant to this Policy to attend an alternative education program provided by the School Board for the term of such expulsion. If the School Board determines that the student is ineligible to return to regular school attendance or to attend during the expulsion an alternative education program or an adult education program in the school division, the written notice also advises the parent of such student that the student may petition the School Board for readmission to be effective one calendar year from the date of his expulsion, and of the conditions, if any, under which readmission may be granted. The School Board establishes, by regulation, a schedule pursuant to which such students may apply and reapply for readmission to school. Such schedule is designed to ensure that any initial petition for readmission will be reviewed by the School Board or the superintendent, and, if granted, would enable the student to resume school attendance one calendar year from the date of the expulsion. If the superintendent denies such petition, the student may petition the School Board for review of such denial.

An expulsion recommendation follows the process for long-term suspension. The parent shall have five (5) school days from the Superintendent/designee's notice of decision to file a written request for an appeal, if desired. The School Board shall establish a date, time and place for the appeal hearing to ensure that a decision is made within thirty (30) days of the Superintendent/designee's decision. Hearings will be held in closed session.

SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION HEARING PROCEDURE SUMMARY

1. The appointed hearing administrator will bring the hearing to order, make necessary introductions, and determine who should attend the meeting. The student may be represented by a person of his or her choice. Student witnesses must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Any person wishing to use student witnesses will be responsible for providing written parent permission for the student to leave class and appear before the Hearing Administrator.
2. The appointed hearing administrator will outline the procedures to be followed and will state the purpose of the hearing.
3. The appointed hearing administrator will call for clarifying statements first from the principal or his designee and then from the student, parent/ guardian, or representative.
4. The appointed hearing administrator will hear witnesses and evidence presented first by the principal or his designee and then by the student, parent/ guardian, or representative. All testimony and evidence must be presented in front of the parties involved.
5. The parties shall have the right to ask questions of any witnesses concerning any testimony or evidence presented. It is required that all questions be addressed to the appointed administrator rather than to the witnesses directly.
6. After all the evidence has been presented and there are no further questions, the appointed hearing administrator will allow for closing statements, first from the principal or his designee and then from the student, parent/ guardian, or representative.
7. The appointed hearing administrator will adjourn the hearing.
8. The appointed hearing administrator will then prepare a written recommendation and send it to the student, parent/ guardian or representative, the principal or his designee, and the appropriate Director of Instruction.
9. Either party may appeal the recommendations of appointed hearing administrator to the Superintendent or his designee for a review of the recommendations within five (5) calendar days of the date of the written recommendation.

DISCIPLINARY HEARING PROCESS

Purpose

The disciplinary hearing is an administrative process to determine appropriate placement or further disciplinary action for students who have committed infractions that could result in alternative placement, long-term suspension or expulsion.

Format

- The school administration will present evidence that the student committed the offense(s) listed on the suspension; this evidence will include witnesses, witness statements and other school documents.
- The student will have an opportunity to present his/her side of the case, including witnesses and/or other relevant evidence.
- The student may be represented by an attorney, an advocate, or other interested party, but the student's parent/guardian must be present.
- If the parent/guardian and/or student fail to attend the hearing a decision will be rendered in their absence.
- After the evidence has been presented the committee will render a decision.
- The hearing will last approximately 30 minutes.

Outcomes

The possible outcomes are:

- return to school of origin with no further disciplinary action
- return to school of origin on a behavioral contract or other stipulations
- assignment to an age-appropriate alternative school
- a recommendation to the Division Superintendent for long-term suspension or expulsion

Appeals

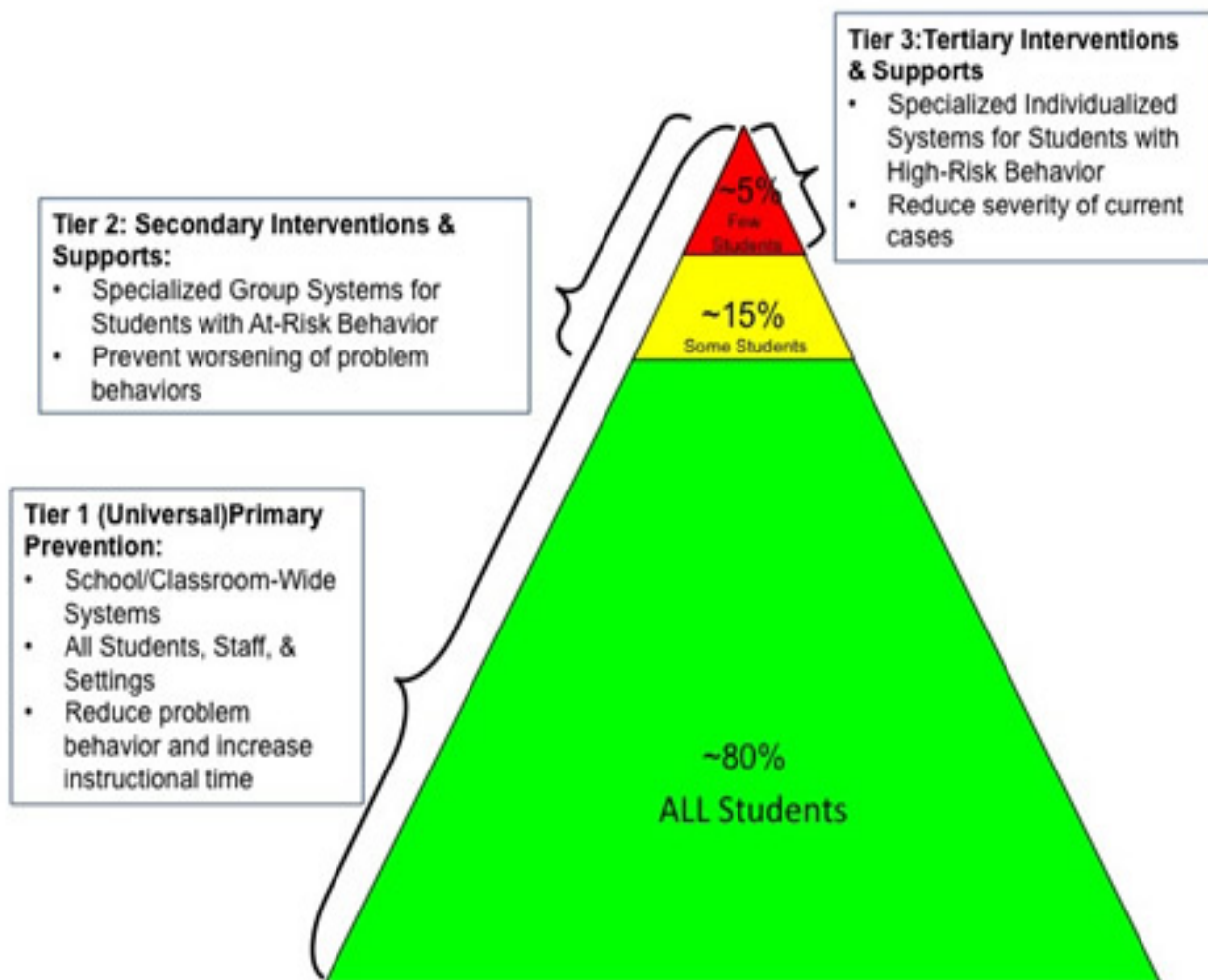
If recommended to the Division Superintendent for long-term suspension or expulsion the parent/guardian and student have a legal right to appeal the decision of the Disciplinary Hearing Committee to the School Board.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PLACEMENT FOR OFF-CAMPUS CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

Any student for whom the Division Superintendent has received a report pursuant to state law of an adjudication of delinquency or a conviction may be suspended or expelled from school attendance. Students charged or found guilty of an offense relating to the Commonwealth's laws on firearms, violent crime, drug distribution, arson, burglary, robbery, and street gang crimes are subject to removal from school and placement in an alternative educational setting.

POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS (PBIS)

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a process for establishing clear expectations and providing the behavioral supports necessary to create safe and nurturing learning environments for all students in PPS. Each school has a PBIS plan for student support and behavioral expectations.



GENERAL INFORMATION

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SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Acceptable Computer Use System

Acceptable Mobile Device Agreement

General Confiscation Form

Attendance

Bus Regulations

Conduct on School Property

Distribution of Information/Materials

Dress Code

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Freedom from Discrimination

Moment of Silence

Online Parent Access

Online Student Access

Pledge of Allegiance

Search and Seizure

Sex Offenders and Crimes against Minors Registry

Student Bullying

Student Records

Students Sexual Harassment

Tobacco Free School for Staff and Students

Acceptable Computer Use System (IIBEA/GAB)

The School Board provides a computer system, including the Internet, to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. The term computer system includes hardware, software, data, digital media, communication lines and devices, terminals, printers, CD-ROM devices, tape drives, servers, data bases, handheld touch screen technologies, personal computers, the Internet and other internal or external networks.

All use of the Division's computer system must be (1) in support of education and/or research, or (2) for legitimate school business. Use of the computer system is a privilege, not a right. Any communication or material used on the computer system, including electronic mail or other files deleted from a user's account may be monitored or read by school officials.

The Division Superintendent shall establish administrative procedures, for the School Board's approval, containing the appropriate uses, ethics and protocol for the computer system. The procedures shall include:

- (1) a prohibition against use by division employees and students of the division's computer equipment and communications services for sending, receiving, viewing or downloading illegal material via the Internet;
- (2) provisions, including the selection and operation of a technology protection measure for the division's computers having Internet access to filter or block Internet access through such computers, that seek to prevent access to:
 - (a) child pornography as set out in Va. Code § 18.2-374.1:1 or as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256;
 - (b) obscenity as defined by Va. Code § 18.2-372 or 18 U.S.C. § 1460; and
 - (c) material that the school division deems to be harmful to juveniles as defined in Va. Code § 18.2-390, material that is harmful to minors as defined in 47 U.S.C. § 254(h) (7) (G), and material that is otherwise inappropriate for minors;
- (3) provisions establishing that the technology protection measure is enforced during any use of the Division's computers by minors;
- (4) provisions establishing that the online activities of minors will be monitored;
- (5) provisions designed to protect the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- (6) provisions designed to prevent unauthorized online access by minors, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online;
- (7) provisions prohibiting the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.
- (8) a component on Internet safety for students that is integrated in the division's instructional program.

Use of the School Division's computer system shall be consistent with the educational or instructional mission or administrative function of the Division as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities and developmental levels of students. The Division's computer system is not a public forum. Each teacher, administrator, student and parent/guardian of each student shall sign then Acceptable Computer System Use Agreement, GAB-E1/IIBEA-E2, before using the Division's computer system. The failure of any student, teacher or administrator to follow the terms of the Agreement, this policy or accompanying regulation may result in loss of computer system privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action. The School Board is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged or unavailable when using the computer system or for any information retrieved via the Internet. Furthermore, the School Board will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the computer system. The Division Superintendent shall submit to the Virginia Department of Education this policy and accompanying regulation biennially.

Adopted: July 6, 2006 Legal Refs: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 18.2-372, 18.2-374.1:1, 18.2-390,

22.1-70.2, and 22.1-78. 18 U.S.C. §§ 1460, 2256. 47 U.S.C. § 254.
File: IIBEA-E2

ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USE AGREEMENT

Each student and his or her parent/guardian must sign this Agreement before being granted use of the School Division's computer system and/or a PPS owned electronic device (i.e. laptops, Chrome book, & tablet). Read this Agreement carefully before signing.

Prior to signing this Agreement, read Policy and Regulation IIBEA /IIBEA-R, Acceptable Computer System Use and Regulations. If you have any questions about this policy or regulation, contact your supervisor or your student's principal.

I understand and agree to abide by the School Division's Acceptable Computer System Use Policy and Regulation. I understand that the School Division may access and monitor my use of the computer system, including my use of the Internet, e-mail and downloaded material, without prior notice to me. I further understand that should I violate the Acceptable Use Policy or Regulation, my computer system privileges may be revoked and disciplinary action and/or legal action may be taken against me.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

I have read this Agreement, Policy IIBEA and Regulation IIBEA-R. I understand that access to the computer system is intended for educational purposes and the Portsmouth Public School Division has taken precautions to eliminate inappropriate material. I also recognize, however, that it is impossible for the School Division to restrict access to all inappropriate material and I will not hold the School Division responsible for information acquired on the computer system. I have discussed the terms of this agreement, policy and regulation with my student.

I grant permission for my student to use the computer system and for the School Division to issue an account for my student.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____
(Please Print)

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PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Computer System Use -Terms and Conditions

All use of the Portsmouth Public School Division's computer system shall be consistent with the School Board's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. The term computer system is defined as the Division's network, servers, computer workstations, telephones, printers, modems, video, fax transmissions, peripherals, applications, databases, library catalog, online resources, internet access, email, multi-media, instructional materials, and any other technology designated for use by the Division for students and staff. Personal equipment sanctioned for use on Portsmouth Public Schools property (i.e. cell phones, laptops, iPods, iPads, IvIP3 players, DVD players, cameras, etc.) is also subject to this regulation.

1. Acceptable Use: Access to the Division's computer system shall be (1) for the purposes of education or research and be consistent with the educational objectives of the Division or (2) for legitimate school business.
2. Privilege: The use of the Division's computer system is a privilege, not a right. With this educational opportunity comes responsibility. In order for the Division to make its computer network and internet access available all students and staff must take responsibility for appropriate and lawful use of internet resources.
3. Unacceptable Use: Each user is responsible for his or her actions on the computer system. Prohibited conduct includes but is not limited to:
 - Uses that violate the law or encourage others to violate the law (gambling, hacking, violation of copyright etc.)
 - Disabling, bypassing, or attempting to disable or bypass any system monitoring, filtering, or other security measures
 - Sending, receiving, viewing, or downloading illegal material via the computer system
 - Downloading copyrighted material for unauthorized use
 - Using technology to download any program, partial program or game without the express permission of the supervising teacher and Portsmouth Public Schools technology director
 - Using the computer system for private, financial or commercial gain
 - Any use of the technology that causes harm to others or their property
 - Gaining unauthorized access to resources or entities
 - Posting material authorized or created by another without his or her consent
 - Using the computer system for commercial or private advertising

- Submitting, posting, publishing or displaying any obscene, profane, threatening, illegal and other inappropriate material
 - Using the computer system while access privileges are suspended or revoked
 - Vandalizing the computer system, including destroying data by creating or spreading viruses or by other means
 - Sharing your username and/or password with others, borrowing someone else's username (i.e. teacher or student), password or account access
 - Electronically posting personal information about yourself or others (i.e., addresses, phone numbers, pictures, etc.)
 - Electronically posting messages or accessing materials that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation
 - Any activities designed to expose school district or other computers to "viruses"
 - Inappropriate cyber communication (cyber threats, cyber bullying, harassment, and/or other inappropriate communications) through open social networking websites offering an interactive, user-submitted network of friends, personal profiles, blogs, groups, photos, music and videos (MySpace, Face Book, You Tube, etc.) where students can send messages and pictures
4. Network Etiquette: Each user is expected to abide by generally accepted rules of etiquette including the following:
- Be polite
 - Users shall not forge, intercept or interfere with electronic mail messages
 - Use appropriate language: the use of obscene, lewd, profane, threatening or disrespectful language is prohibited. Do not use distribute, or redistribute jokes, stories, or other material that are based upon slurs or stereotypes relating to race, gender, ethnicity, nationality, religion, or sexual orientation
 - Do not assume that a sender of e-mail is giving his or her permission for you to forward or redistribute the message to third parties or to give his/her e-mail address to third parties. This should only be done with permission or when you know that the individual would have no objection
 - Be considerate when sending attachments with e-mail (where this is permitted). Be sure that the file is not too large (5MB or smaller) to be accommodated by the recipient's system and is in a format that the recipient can open.
 - Users shall not use the computer system to disrupt others.
 - Users shall not read, modify or delete data owned by others.

5. Liability: The School Board makes no warranties for the computer system it provides. The School Board shall not be responsible for any damages to the user from use of the computer system, including loss of data, non-delivery or missed delivery of information, or service interruptions. The School Division denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the computer system. The user agrees to indemnify the School Board for any losses, costs or damages incurred by the School Board relating to or arising out of any violation of these procedures.
6. Security: Computer system security is a high priority for the school division. If any user identifies a security problem, the user shall notify the building principal or system administrator immediately. All users shall keep their passwords confidential and shall follow computer virus protection procedures.
7. Vandalism: Intentional destruction of any part of the computer system through creating or downloading computer viruses or by any other means is prohibited.
8. Charges: The School Division assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees as a result of using the computer system, including telephone or long-distance charges.
9. Electronic Mail: The School Division's electronic mail system is owned and controlled by the School Division. The School Division may provide electronic mail to aid students and staff in fulfilling their duties and as an education tool. Electronic mail is not private. Students' electronic mail will be monitored. The electronic mail of staff may be monitored and accessed by the School Division. Unauthorized access to an electronic mail account by any student or employee is prohibited. Users shall be held personally liable for the content of any electronic message they create. Downloading any file attached to an electronic message is prohibited unless the user is certain of that message's authenticity and the nature of the file.
10. Enforcement: Software will be installed on the division's computers having Internet access to filter or block Internet access through such computers to child pornography and obscenity. The online activities of minors may also be monitored manually. Any violation of these regulations shall result in loss of computer system privileges and may also result in appropriate disciplinary action, as determined by School Board policy, or legal action.

Adopted: December 19, 1996

Revised: September 20, 2001

Revised: November 15, 2001

Legal Refs:

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 18.2-372, 18.2-374.1:1, 18.2-390, 22.1-70.2 and 22.1-78.

18 U.S.C. §§ 1460, 2256.

47 U.S.C. § 254.

Cross Refs:

JFC Student Conduct

JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct

Acceptable Mobile Device Agreement

The following policy pertains to Students assigned a PPS owned device (i.e. laptop, Chromebook, tablet etc.) for use at home.

A. General Terms and Conditions of Use

1. Students will abide by all policies outlined in the Student Code of Conduct (School Board Policy JFC and JFC-R). You and your parents are required to sign this document at the beginning of each school year.
2. Portsmouth Public Schools (PPS) provides all students access to the Internet and other digital resources as a means to enhance their education. All secondary students are provided with mobile devices/ to enhance their education. All technology resources are provided under the expectations and restrictions delineated in this document.
3. The laptop that is issued for secondary student use is the property of Portsmouth Public Schools and must be returned as follows:
 - a. At the end of the academic school year;
 - b. Within three (3) school days of withdrawal from a Portsmouth school, when transferring to another school (either within or outside the Portsmouth Public School Division); or, immediately upon the request of a teacher or administrator.
4. Transmission or creation of any material in violation of Federal, State, or local law, ordinance, School Board policy, regulation or the *Code of Student Conduct* is prohibited.
5. The Internet filtering provided through PPS exceeds the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requirements. Access to the Internet is filtered through a commercial filtering system.
6. Portsmouth Public Schools may provide students with access to online educational services and websites through contracts with educational companies and vendors. Students may be provided with a username and password to access educational content on these websites. Such websites may collect personally identifiable information from students including usernames and passwords. Specific website company/vendor privacy policies should be consulted regarding collection of information, including information for students under the age of 13. Please contact Portsmouth Public Schools at any time regarding privacy questions or concerns or to request to review what personally identifiable information has been provided by the school and/or division. As requested, Portsmouth Public Schools can also provide contact information for the educational companies and vendors for such websites for parents to contact directly. Parents can also contact Portsmouth Public Schools (and/or the website company/vendor) at any time to request that they delete the personally identifiable information of their child and disallow further access. Please note that this removal could prevent the student from having access to critical instructional materials.
7. PPS has the right to inspect any PPS-owned computer or electronic device and the contents contained therein on demand with or without notice to the user. Remote monitoring of computers on the network will occur at each school site.
8. Students will adhere to these terms and conditions of use each time the device is used, including while not on school grounds.
9. Students agree to transport their PPS-issued device in the school-approved carrying case or cover.
10. Students will bring their PPS-issued device, fully charged, with them to school each day.
11. Students will make available for inspection by any school administrator or teacher any messages or files sent or received on their PPS-issued device.

B. Acceptable Use and Internet Safety

1. Students will use technology with responsibility, integrity, and for educational purposes.
2. Students will take responsibility for the choices they make and the actions they take while using technology.
3. Students must manage the personal data on their computers. This includes backing up educational material regularly. Appropriate non-educational files are allowed, but should not negatively impact instructional use nor degrade device performance.
4. Students will report to responsible school personnel any incidents of inappropriate electronic communications transmitted in any form using PPS-owned technology.
5. Files and data on student computers must adhere to the following guidelines:
 - a. All files and data must be legally obtained and distributed under United States copyright laws.
 - b. All files and data sought, possessed, or distributed must be acceptable in a school setting. This forbidden content includes, but is not limited to: hacking tools, computer viruses, violent content, pornographic content, vulgar content, and obscene content.
6. Students will maintain the security and integrity of their usernames and passwords.
 - a. Students must keep their usernames and passwords confidential.
 - b. Students will only log in with their own usernames and passwords.
7. Students will maintain the integrity of the computer hardware and software.
 - a. Students will not dismantle or otherwise physically alter computers. This includes affixing stickers or other decorations.
 - b. Students are prohibited from altering or deleting files that are not in their 'home' directory.
 - c. Students are prohibited from installing additional software or altering existing software in any way.
8. Students are responsible for obeying all PPS standards for conduct when communicating using technology.
 - a. Students may use PPS or school approved communications mediums under teacher direction.
 - b. Communications will be clear and precise. Intentionally obscuring communication through code words or other means is not permissible.
 - c. Students will adhere to rules regarding cyber bullying, harassment, hate speech, and other forms of verbal assault.
 - d. Students must understand that content published online is public, visible, and representative of the author.
9. Students will respect the rights, privacy, property, and work of all users.
 - a. Students will neither seek nor reveal personal information about others.
 - b. Students will not attempt to access, alter, or use another user's files without their permission.
10. Students will operate within established PPS filtering and security environments.
 - a. Students will not attempt to evade or bypass PPS Internet filters.
 - b. Students will not attempt to conceal, disguise, or change their user information, nor the identity of their computer.
 - c. Students will not attempt to disable any security or monitoring software.
 - d. The use of PPS technology for commercial activities is prohibited unless explicitly permitted by the School Board. Commercial activity includes, but is not limited to, the following: Any activity that generates revenue for the user;
 - e. Product advertisement or political lobbying;
 - f. Any activity that requires entry into an area of services for which the school will be charged a fee.

C. With Teacher and/or Administrator Approval and for Instructional Purposes, Students may:

1. Use approved email, chat rooms, instant messaging, message boards, and other communication methods;
2. Publish or edit web pages;
3. Wear headphones;
4. Share files;
5. Play educational games/activities;

D. Students are PROHIBITED from:

1. Using technology for any illegal purpose;
2. Creating unauthorized networks of any kind;
3. Downloading, uploading, importing, or intentionally viewing material that promotes the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, pornography, or illegal and/or violent behavior;
4. Introducing non-approved software, hardware, or resources into the PPS network or clients. Approval can be sought through the building administrator;
5. Saving, transferring, or loading non-school related material on a school file server;
6. Running software applications from a USB device.

Failure to honor the above regulations may result in the restriction of Internet privileges and/or the restriction of other technology access in addition to disciplinary action up to and including criminal charges. Examples include: (i) Computer hacking or trespassing, (ii) harassment, threats, or cyber bullying via computer, and (iii) computer fraud (see Title 18.2 of the *Code of Virginia*).

E. Damage or Loss

If loss/stolen or damage occurs, students and their parent(s) or guardian(s) agree to any applicable charges outlined below. **The charges are intended to promote good habits and responsible handling of PPS-issued mobile devices.** Devices reported as stolen outside of school require that parents notify police and send an official police report to their school administration. Theft on school grounds is to be reported to school administration.

- I. First incident: No charge for accidental damage to mobile device; letter to parents. Full price of repair or replacement for an intentionally damaged mobile device and a parent/guardian meeting with administrator required. For stolen devices, a police report must be completed within 10 business days and a copy provided to the school administration.
- II. Second and subsequent incidents: No charge for accidental damage to mobile device; letter to parents. Full price of repair or replacement for an intentionally damaged mobile device and a parent/guardian meeting with administrator required. For stolen devices, a police report must be completed within 10 business days and a copy provided to the school administration. If school administration does not receive the police report as outlined above, a charge of \$100 will be assessed to the parent or guardian.

General Confiscation Form

Student's Name _____

Date of Confiscation _____

Person Responsible for Confiscation _____

Length of Confiscation _____

Cellular telephones are not to be visible during school hours. Students found in violation will have them confiscated and returned to a parent. All cell phones, electronic devices and other confiscated items must be picked up by a parent/guardian. When the parent/guardian picks up the confiscated item they will be required to sign the General Confiscation Form acknowledging that if the same or similar item is confiscated a second time it will be kept until a parent conference is held with an administrator, the third offense will result in the item being held until the student serves a minimum of one day of in-school suspension and a parent conference is held. The school must be contacted to schedule a pick up time.

Check which offense this confiscation represents

___ First offense - the device shall be confiscated and returned to a parent/guardian

___ Second offense - returned at parent conference

___ Third offense - one day in-school suspension and parent conference is held

Item confiscated: (check one)

___ Cellular Telephone

___ Electronic Device

___ Other items

Description of Confiscated Device:

Product Name _____

Type _____

Color _____

Serial Number/Identifying Characteristics _____

Signature Upon Receipt of Confiscated Item

Student _____

Date _____

Parent _____

Date _____

Administrator/Designee _____

Date _____

ATTENDANCE (JED)

I. Student Attendance Policy

Student attendance is a cooperative effort and the School Board shall involve parents and students in accepting the responsibility for good attendance.

Each parent/guardian or person having control or charge of a child within the compulsory attendance age shall be responsible for such child's regular and punctual attendance at school as required under provisions of the law.

A reasonable effort shall be made to contact a parent/guardian of each absent student every day, and to obtain an explanation for the student's absence, where there is no indication that the student's parent is aware of and supports the absence. A log will be kept of call attempts.

Students who are absent must bring a valid note stating the reason for absence upon returning to school. Unexcused absences shall be handled according to regulations issued by the superintendent.

The Division Superintendent's regulations will include procedures for excusing students who are absent by reason of observance of a religious holiday. Such regulations will ensure that a student is not deprived of any award or of eligibility or opportunity to compete for any award, or of the right to take an alternate test or examination, which he missed by reason of such absence, if the absence is verified in an acceptable manner.

Students shall attend school for a full day unless otherwise excused. Secondary students shall be scheduled for a full school day unless they are enrolled in a cooperative work-study program. All other exceptions to a full day schedule must be approved on an individual basis by the superintendent or designee.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit in any way the authority of any attendance officer or the division superintendent to seek immediate compliance with the compulsory school attendance law.

II. Compulsory Attendance Procedures

A. Upon Fifth Absence Without Parental Awareness and Support If (1) a student fails to report to school for a total of five scheduled school days for the school year, and (2) there is no indication that the student's parent is aware of and supports the absence; and (3) reasonable efforts to notify the parent of the absences have failed, then the Principal or his designee or the attendance officer shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that direct contact is made with the parent, either in person or through telephone conversation, to obtain an explanation for the pupil's absence and to explain to the parent the consequences of continued nonattendance. The school principal or his designee or the attendance officer, the pupil, and the pupil's parent shall jointly develop a plan to resolve the pupil's nonattendance. Such plan shall include documentation of the reasons for the pupil's nonattendance.

B. Upon Sixth Absence Without Parental Awareness and Support If the pupil is absent an additional day after direct contact with the pupil's parent and the attendance officer has received no indication that the pupil's parent is aware of and supports the pupil's absence, either the school principal or his designee or the attendance officer shall schedule a conference within ten school days, which must take place no later than the fifteenth school day after the sixth absence. At the conference, the pupil, his parent, and school personnel, shall meet to resolve issues related to the pupil's nonattendance. Other community service providers may also be included in the conference.

C. Upon Additional Absence Without Parental Awareness and Support Upon the next absence after the conference without indication to the attendance officer that the pupil's parent is aware of and supports the pupil's absence, the Principal or designee shall notify the attendance officer or Superintendent or his designee who shall enforce the compulsory attendance rules by either or both of the following: (1) filing a complaint with the juvenile and domestic relations court alleging the pupil is a child in need of supervision as defined in § 16.1-228 or (2) instituting proceedings against the parent pursuant to § 18.2-371 or § 22.1-262. In filing a complaint against the student, the attendance officer shall provide written documentation of the efforts already undertaken to resolve the pupil's absence. If the student's parents have joint physical custody of the student and the school has notice of the custody arrangement, then both parents shall be notified at their last known addresses.

D. Parental Cooperation in Remediating Excessive Unexcused Absences It is expected that parents will cooperate with the attendance officer and other school officials to remedy the student's attendance problem. Where direct contact with a parent cannot be made, despite reasonable efforts, or where parents otherwise fail to cooperate in remediating the student's attendance problem, the superintendent or the superintendent's designee may seek immediate compliance with the compulsory school attendance laws. The attendance officer, with the knowledge and approval of the Division Superintendent, shall institute proceedings against any parent who fails to comply with the requirements of the compulsory attendance laws. Where the complaint arises out of the parent's failure to comply with the requirements of § 22.1-258, the attendance officer shall document the school division's compliance with this Code section.

III. Report for Suspension of Driver's License In addition to any other actions taken pursuant to this policy, if a student who is under 18 years of age has 10 or more unexcused absences from school on consecutive school days, the principal may notify the juvenile and domestic relations court, which may take action to suspend the student's driver's license.

IV. Attendance Reporting Student attendance shall be monitored and reported as required by state law and regulations. At the end of each school year, each public school principal shall report to the Superintendent the number of students by grade level for whom a conference was scheduled pursuant to Part II (B) above. The Division Superintendent shall compile this information and provide it annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

V. Dismissal Precautions Principals shall not release a student during the school day to any person not authorized by the student's parent/guardian to assume responsibility for the pupil. Students shall be released only on request and authorization of parent or guardian. The Division Superintendent shall provide procedures for release of students who are not residing with or under the supervision of a parent/guardian. The burden of proof on the authority of the person to receive the student is on the requesting party. A formal check-out system shall be maintained in each school.

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE LEGISLATION

22.1-258. Appointment of attendance officers; notification when pupil fails to report to school.

Every school board shall have power to appoint one or more attendance officers, who shall be charged with the enforcement of the provisions of this article. Where no attendance officer is appointed by the School Board, the division superintendent shall act as Attendance Officer. Whenever any pupil fails to report to school on a regularly scheduled school day and no indication has been received by school personnel that the pupil's parent is aware of and supports the pupil's absence, a reasonable effort to notify by telephone the parent to obtain an explanation for the pupil's absence shall be made by the attendance officer, other school personnel, or volunteers organized by the school administration for this purpose. Any such volunteer shall not be liable for any civil damages for any acts or omissions resulting from making such reasonable efforts to notify parents and obtain such result of gross negligence or willful misconduct. This subsection shall not be construed to limit, withdraw, or overturn any defense or immunity already existing in statutory or common law or to affect any claim occurring prior to the effective date of this law. School divisions are encouraged to use non-instructional personnel for this notice.

Whenever any pupil fails to report to school for a total of five scheduled school days for the school year and no indication has been received by school personnel that the pupil's parent is aware of and supports the pupil's absence, and a reasonable effort to notify the parent has failed, the school principal or his designee shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that direct contact is made with the parent, either in person or through telephone conversation, by the attendance officer to obtain an explanation for the pupil's absence and to explain to the parent the consequences of continued nonattendance. The attendance officer and the pupil's parent shall jointly develop a plan to resolve the pupil's nonattendance.

If the pupil is absent an additional day after the direct contact with the pupil's parent and the attendance officer has received no indication that the pupil's parent is aware of and supports the pupil's absence, the attendance officer shall schedule a conference within ten school days with the pupil, his parent, and school personnel, which conference may include other community service providers, to resolve issues related to the pupil's nonattendance. The conference shall be held no later than fifteen school days after the sixth absence. Upon the next absence by such pupil without indication to the attendance officer that the pupil's parent is aware of and supports the pupil's absence, the school principal or his designee shall enforce the provisions of this article by either or both of the following (i) filing a complaint with the juvenile and domestic relations court alleging the pupil is a child in need of supervision as defined in 16.1-228 or (ii) instituting proceeding against the parent pursuant to 18.2-371 or 22.1-262. In filing a complaint against the student, the attendance officer shall provide written documentation of the efforts to comply with the provisions of this section. In the event that both parents have been awarded joint physical custody pursuant to 20124.2, and the school has received notice of such order, both parents shall be notified at the last known addresses of the parents.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit in any way the authority of any attendance officer or division superintendent to seek immediate compliance with the compulsory school attendance law as set forth in this article.

§ 22.1-254. Compulsory Attendance Required; Excuses and Waivers; Alternative Education Program Attendance; Exemptions from Article

A. Except as otherwise provided in this article, every parent, guardian, or other person in the Commonwealth having control or charge of any child who will have reached the fifth birthday on or before September 30 of any school year and who has not passed the eighteenth birthday shall, during the period of each year the

public schools are in session and for the same number of days and hours per day as the public schools, send such child to a public school or to a private, denominational or parochial school or have such child taught by a tutor or teacher of qualifications prescribed by the Board of Education and approved by the division superintendent or provide for home instruction of such child as described in § 22.1-254.1.

As prescribed in the regulations of the Board of Education, the requirements of this section may also be satisfied by sending a child to an alternative program of study or work/study offered by a public, private, denominational or parochial school or by a public or private degree-granting institution of higher education. Further, in the case of any five-year-old child who is subject to the provisions of this subsection, the requirements of this section may be alternatively satisfied by sending the child to any public educational pre-kindergarten program, including a Head Start program, or in a private, denominational or parochial educational pre-kindergarten program.

Instruction in the home of a child or children by the parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of such child or children shall not be classified or defined as a private, denominational or parochial school.

The requirements of this section shall apply to (i) any child in the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice or the Department of Corrections who has not passed his eighteenth birthday and (ii) any child whom the division superintendent has required to take a special program of prevention, intervention, or remediation as provided in subsection C of § 22.1-253.13:1 and in § 22.1-254.01. However, the requirements of this section shall (a) be satisfied for those persons 16 through 18 years of age who are housed in adult correctional facilities when such persons are actively pursuing a general educational development (GED) certificate but are not enrolled in an individual student alternative education plan pursuant to subsection D and (b) not apply to any child who has obtained a high school diploma, its equivalent, or a certificate of completion or who has otherwise complied with compulsory school attendance requirements as set forth in this article.

LEARNFARE AGREEMENT AND TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES – TANF

Portsmouth Department of Human Services and the Division will coordinate efforts to identify those students who are deemed truant and not in compliance with attendance requirements. When attendance problems are identified, the local Department of Human Services and designated school personnel will develop a plan to address the student's truancy.

"Learnfare" is a Virginia Welfare Reform initiative which ties welfare payments to the school attendance of students (under the age of 18) who are TANF recipients. The program provides valuable assistance to School Divisions in their efforts to reduce truancy. Local Social Service Agencies are to jointly plan for implementation of the Learnfare requirements with Local School Divisions and to develop a plan for improving students' attendance at school when truancy is identified.

Notification: Portsmouth Public Schools receives monthly updates of TANF recipients for school-age children, five (5) through seventeen (17) years of age. The information is maintained in a central attendance database.

1. The PPS Information Technology Department notifies Portsmouth Human Services bi-weekly of all TANF recipients who have three (3) or more unexcused absences.
2. Upon receipt of information that a child is truant, Portsmouth Human Services will evaluate continued eligibility of the children identified in accordance with TANF policy and procedures.
3. In cases where a child is determined to be truant, Portsmouth Human Services will consult with designated

school personnel to develop a case plan to address the truant child's needs and circumstances to achieve compliance.

Code of Virginia § 63.2-606, requires schools to report non-attendance of children receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to local departments of social services. Families receiving TANF are required to comply with compulsory school attendance laws.

Bus Conduct (JFCC)

Students are required to conduct themselves on school buses in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Students who become serious disciplinary problems on school buses shall be reported to the principal by the driver and may have their riding privileges suspended. In such cases, the parents of the student become responsible for seeing that their children get to and from school safely. Adopted: December 19, 1996 Revised: June 27, 2002 Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, sections 22.1-78, 22.1-176, 22.1-181, 22.1-293(B), (D). 8 VAC 20-70-390. Cross Ref.: EEA Student Transportation Services EEACC Student Conduct on School Buses

Regulations for Students Who Ride School Buses

Meeting the School Bus

- Students are subject to all conditions outlined in the *Code of Student Conduct* while at the bus stop, going to and from the bus stop, or riding the bus.
- Students must be on time. Students should be at the stop at least five minutes before the regular pickup time.
- Students must not stand on the traveled portion of the roadway or on private property while waiting for a bus.
- While waiting at a bus stop, students must respect the property of homeowners in the area.
- Students must not run alongside a moving bus; they must wait until it has stopped, then walk to the front door.

Riding on the School Bus

- Students must obey the driver and be courteous to him/her and to their fellow students. The driver is in charge of the bus as well as the passengers and has the authority to assign seats to maintain discipline or promote safety.
- Students must never mar or deface the bus. The student performing the act must pay for any willful or careless damage.
- Students must not extend their arms, legs, or heads out of the bus window.
- Students must not talk to the driver while the bus is in motion except in an emergency.
- Students must not tamper with the emergency door.
- Students must not wave or shout at pedestrians or passengers in other vehicles.
- Students must not throw objects inside the bus or from a window.
- Books, book bags, band instruments, or other loose objects must not be placed in the aisle or on the floor at the front of the bus. These items will be permitted aboard **ONLY** if they can be held in the student's lap and not encumber another student.
- Eating, drinking, or selling any commodity on the bus is prohibited.
- Students must not open windows without the driver's permission.

- Items prohibited at school will **not** be permitted on the bus. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: live animals, glass objects, skateboards, scooters, surf/boogie boards, and other items that do not directly support the educational process.
- Portable communication devices, including cell phones, may not be displayed, activated, or used on the bus by students while being transported to and/from school.
- The bus driver has the right to refuse transportation to any student who has an unsafe object (e.g., matches, knives, firearms, etc.) in his/her possession.
- Parents, guardians, or their designees are required to accompany children under six years of age to and from the bus stop.
- No change will be made in the location of bus stops or bus routing without the approval of the Office of Transportation Services. (757) 393-8269.
- Students must ride their assigned buses. No change in a bus may be made without the school principal's permission.
- Riding a school bus is a privilege. Should any child be reported to the school principal, the principal will be responsible for taking disciplinary action, including the loss of the privilege of bus transportation.

Leaving the School Bus

- Students must remain seated until the bus comes to a full stop.
- Students must leave the bus at their regular stops.
- If the students must cross a highway, they are to do so at the front of the bus and at a distance of at least ten feet in the front of the bus. They must not cross until the driver has signaled that it is safe to do so.

CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY (KGB)

All visitors must register at the school office on arrival. No one may possess or consume any alcoholic beverage in or on the grounds of any public school during school hours or school or student activities. In addition, no one may consume, and no organization shall serve, any alcoholic beverage in or on the grounds of any public school after school hours or school or student activities, except for religious congregations using wine for sacramental purposes only. In accordance with Policy KGC Use of Tobacco and Electronic Cigarettes on School Premises, smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes is not permitted in schools or school vehicles. Any person found to be engaged in or advocating illegal activity while on school property, including school buses, shall be reported by the principal to the local law enforcement authorities. Any person who willfully and maliciously damages, destroys or defaces any school district building, or damages or removes any school property from a school building, will be required to compensate the school division and may be prosecuted. Any person who willfully interrupts or disturbs the operation of any school or, being intoxicated, disturbs the same, whether willfully or not, may be ejected and/or prosecuted.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION/MATERIALS (KF)

The Portsmouth City School Board seeks to minimize intrusions on the time of students and employees by communications from sources other than the school division. The Division Superintendent, or his/her designee, must approve, in advance, any materials sought to be distributed or made available by non-School organizations, including parent-teacher organizations and booster clubs. Approval will be granted only for materials from governmental organizations regarding activities related to the educational mission of the Portsmouth Public School Division.

DRESS CODE POLICY (JFCAA)

Purpose

One of the fundamental purposes of school is to provide the foundation for the creation and development of a proper attitude toward education. In order to further this purpose, it is essential to create and maintain an effective teaching and learning environment. Student attire impacts the teaching and learning environment. It can either promote a more effective educational environment, or it can disrupt the educational climate and process. Student attire that is acceptable for some social settings may not be acceptable for the educational environment of school.

In order to ensure that our students' education is conducted in an environment where safety risks, disruptions, and distractions are minimized, all students in the Portsmouth City Public Schools will adhere to the following minimal standards of dress. These requirements are in addition to any requirements imposed at individual schools that, with the approval of the School Board, adopt a Uniform Policy pursuant to other provisions of this policy manual.

The superintendent is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations consistent with the provisions of this policy.

In general, students are not to wear or carry items of apparel to school (for example, clothing, accessories, cosmetics, jewelry – including body piercing) that may interfere with the instructional process or present a health or a safety hazard to the student wearing or carrying them, or to others.

The School Board urges parents and students to exercise sound judgment, based upon the standard of appropriateness for the school setting, when choosing clothing, jewelry, and accessories to wear or bring to school, and to recognize that items that might be appropriate attire on nights or weekends are not necessarily appropriate for the school day and the classroom.

Interpretation and Implementation of Policy

The building principal/designee shall use reasonable discretion in interpreting and implementing the provisions of this policy. If a conflict arises in the interpretation of this policy, the interpretation of the building principal/designee shall be final. Principals, administrators and teachers shall use reasonable discretion in enforcing this policy.

Enforcement

Teachers and administrators may deny class entrance to students dressed or otherwise adorned inappropriately until arrangements may be made for their proper attire. Students who are insubordinate or refuse to change the improper attire, or who repeat dress code violations shall be subject to disciplinary action for violating the Code of Student Conduct.

Temporary Exceptions and Waivers

The building principal/designee and superintendent shall grant waivers where required by law to protect fundamental constitutional rights. The parent(s) or guardian(s) of a student may request a waiver from a specific provision of this policy and any related regulations where the strict enforcement of a provision would violate the student's fundamental rights. Such requests shall be in writing and addressed to the building principal/designee of the student's school. If the building principal/designee denies the request, the parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal their decision in writing to the superintendent or his designee. There shall be no hearing in such appeals; the superintendent or his designee will review the written record only. The final decision of the superintendent or his designee shall be in writing. There shall be no appeal from the final decision.

In order to allow appropriate attire for a particular educational or school activity, the building principal/designee has the authority to grant temporary exceptions to specific provisions of this policy and related regulations. An example of such an exception might be where a specially scheduled school event required a group of students to dress unusually on a particular day.

Adopted: August 29, 2002

Revised: September 19, 2002 to become effective January 1, 2003

Legal Refs.: Virginia Code Sections: § 22.1-253.13:7.D.3 and § 22.1-279.3A § 22.1-79 (Powers and Duties of School Boards); § 22.1-253.13:7 (Standard's of Quality, Standard 7, Policy Manual), and § 22.1-279.3 (Parental responsibility and involvement requirements)

Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565, 95 S. Ct. 729 (1975)

Tinker v. Des Moines School District, 393 U.S. 503, 89 S. Ct. 733 (1969)

Hicks v Halifax County Bd., 93 F. Supp.2d 649 (E.D.N.C./4th Cir. 1999)

Byars v. City of Waterbury, 1999 WL 391033 (Conn. Super. Ct. 1999)

Phoenix El. School District v. Green, 943 P2d 836 (Ariz. Ct. App. 1997)

DRESS CODE REGULATION (JFCAA-R)

Portsmouth City Public School students shall not wear the following items:

- Clothing, pins, jewelry, accessories or other items of adornment displaying obscene, profane, derogatory, violent or gang-related messages, themes, designs or pictures;
- Clothing, pins, jewelry, accessories or other items of adornment conveying messages related to or promoting the use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products, or messages that promote illegal activities.
- Clothing pins, jewelry, accessories or other items of adornment depicting bawdy, salacious or sexually suggestive messages.
- Clothing that is transparent or exposes the midriff, navel or cleavage.
- Pants, skirts and/or shorts that sag below the waistline or must be held in place with the hands.
- Underwear as outer garments or clothing that exposes underwear (including, but not limited to, stretch lycra, spandex or nylon tights, leotards, biker pants, biker shorts, bathing suits, pajamas).
- Tank tops, halter tops, garments with spaghetti straps, tube tops, fishnet tops, strapless dresses, or other clothing that is not appropriate because of slits, rips or holes in the garment.
- Accessories which could in some way pose a danger to the wearer or others; and/or could be used as weapons (including, but not limited to, two-or-three finger rings, chains hanging from clothes, picks, hair chop sticks).
- Clothing that is too tight and/or is inappropriate in length as determined by the building principal/designee.
- Inappropriate footwear (including, but not limited to, shower shoes and beach shoes, such as thongs, bedroom slippers, and unfastened shoes or shoes missing appropriate closures).
- Head coverings or accessories that are not related to or required by student's bona fide religious practices (including, but not limited to, stocking caps, do rags, wave caps, scarves or bandanas).
- Items that are intended for outdoor use (including, but not limited to, hats, caps, and similar head coverings, scarves, jackets and coats).

Adopted: August 29, 2002

Revised: September 19, 2002 to become effective January 1, 2003

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) NOTICE FOR DIRECTORY INFORMATION (JO)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, requires that Portsmouth Public Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Portsmouth Public Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the Division to the contrary in accordance with Division procedures. Directory information - information contained in a student's education record that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Directory information may include information such as the student's name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, grade level, enrollment status, dates of attendance, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors, and awards received, and the most recent educational institution attended. Directory information may not include the student's social security number. Directory information may include a student identification number or other unique personal identifier used by a student for accessing or communicating in electronic systems if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user or a student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student ID badge, if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity such as a PIN or password or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.)

ANNUAL NOTIFICATION

The Division annually notifies parents and eligible students of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) including:

- the right to inspect and review the student's educational records and the procedure for exercising this right;
- the right to request amendment of the student's educational records that the parent believes to be inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's privacy rights and the procedure for exercising this right;
- the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent;
- the type of information designated as directory information and the right to opt out of release of directory information;
- that the Division releases records to other institutions that have requested the information and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer;
- the right to opt out of releasing the student's name, address, and phone number to military recruiters or institutions of higher education that request such information;
- a specification of the criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest; and
- the right to file complaints with the Family Policy Compliance Office in the United States Department of Education concerning the Division's alleged failure to comply with FERPA.

FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION (JB)

Equal educational opportunities shall be available for all students, without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, gender, ethnicity, religion, disability, ancestry, or marital or parental status. Educational programs shall be designed to meet the varying needs of all students. No student, on the basis of sex or gender, shall be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits, or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege or advantage, or be denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

TITLE IX

The Board prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in its educational programs and activities as required by Title IX. The Board has adopted a grievance procedure applicable to Title IX complaints, and copies of this procedure may be obtained in the office of each school. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be directed to the Director of Human Resources, Portsmouth City Schools, 801 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704.

MOMENT OF SILENCE (IE)

The Portsmouth City School Board recognizes that a moment of silence before each school day prepares students and staff for their respective work or school days. Therefore, each teacher shall observe a moment of silence at the beginning of the first class of each school day. The teacher responsible for each class shall make sure that each student (1) remains seated and silent and (2) does not disrupt or distract other students during the moment of silence. The moment may be used for any lawful silent activity, including personal reflection, prayer, and meditation. Teachers shall not influence, in any way, students to pray or meditate or not to pray or meditate during the moment of silence.

Adopted: August 31, 2000 Revised: September 26, 2013 Legal Ref.: The Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-203

ONLINE PARENT ACCESS

Portsmouth Public Schools offers a “Parent Portal” for parents and guardians to access their student’s grades and attendance information all in one secure, easy-to-use website. With the Parent Portal, you can:

- Access your student’s individual course assignments, and teacher information
- View your student’s grades, attendance information and student schedule
- Communicate with teachers and learn more about your student’s individual workload and responsibilities

Parent Portal startup packages are sent to parents in the fall or upon enrollment containing account credentials, instructions and helpful tips.

ONLINE STUDENT ACCESS

Portsmouth Public Schools also offers a “Student Portal” for students to access their grades and assignments all in one secure, easy-to-use website. With the Student Portal, students can:

- Access their individual course assignments and teacher information
- View their grades, attendance information and schedule
- Communicate with teachers and learn more about their individual workload and responsibilities

Students receive their assigned credentials for accessing the portal.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (IEA)

The Pledge of Allegiance, as established in 4 U.S.C. § 4, shall be recited daily in each classroom of the Portsmouth Public School Division. During the recitation of the pledge, students shall stand and recite the pledge while facing the flag with their right hands over their hearts or in an appropriate salute if in uniform. No student shall be compelled to recite the pledge if he or she, his or her parent or legal guardian objects on religious, philosophical, or other grounds to his or her participating in this exercise. Students who are exempt from reciting the Pledge shall quietly stand or sit at their desks while others recite the pledge and shall make no display that disrupts or distracts those who are reciting the pledge. Appropriate accommodations shall be made for students who are unable to comply with the procedures described herein due to disability.

Adopted: September 20, 2001 Revised: September 27, 2012 Legal Refs: The Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-202. 4 U.S.C. § 4. Cross Refs.: JFC Student Conduct JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct

SEARCH AND SEIZURE (JFG)

To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the health, safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student, student lockers or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search.

As used in this policy, the term "unauthorized" means any item dangerous to the health or safety of students or school personnel, or disruptive of any lawful function, mission or process of the school, or any item described as unauthorized in school rules available beforehand to the student.

Student desks and lockers are the property of the school, and may be used for the storage of permitted student belongings only. School officials retain locker combinations and reserve the right to search desks and lockers as well as to open lockers at any time for repairs. A general search of lockers or desks may be conducted to repossess school property or to locate illegal materials. A random, systemic, non-selective search of student classrooms, desks, lockers or automobiles may be conducted by school officials in accordance with a pre-determined search formula. Students are responsible for the content of their assigned locker at all times.

The student's individual right to privacy and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure is balanced by the school's responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all persons within the school community. Should illegal materials be found during a search, law enforcement officials should be notified.

The locations at which searches of students and student property may be conducted are not limited to the school building or school property, but may be conducted wherever the student is involved in a school-sponsored function.

PERSONAL SEARCHES

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched by a school official whenever the official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated or is about to violate the law or a school rule and that the search will yield evidence of the violation.

A personal search may include requiring a student to be scanned with a metal detector.

A pat down search of a student may only be conducted if a school administrator has established a high level of reasonable suspicion that evidence will be found to corroborate suspicion that a law or school rule has been broken. If a pat down search of a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex and with an adult witness of the same sex present.

Strip searches may only be used when an extremely serious situation exists requiring immediate action. Such a search should be used only in the context of imminent threat of death or great bodily injury to a person or persons. If a strip search is necessary the school official should contact the appropriate law enforcement official, and the search should be conducted by a sworn law enforcement officer of the same sex, in the presence of a same sex adult witness. School officials may only conduct a strip search in cases where it is necessary to avoid the imminent threat of death or great bodily injury to the student or another person. If a strip search must be conducted by a school official, it must be by a same sex official with a same sex adult witness, and the school official must have the prior approval of the superintendent or his designee, unless the health or safety of the student is endangered by the delay.

LOCKER SEARCHES

Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers and are responsible for the content of their assigned locker at all times. Periodic general inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

AUTOMOBILE SEARCHES

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student automobiles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated or is about to violate the law or a school rule and that the search will yield evidence of the violation, or that illegal or unauthorized materials or other evidence of illegal or otherwise prohibited activities are contained inside the automobile. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

SEIZURE OF ILLEGAL MATERIALS

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

COMPUTER SEARCHES

School computers, software and internet access are school property. Students are only authorized to use school computers and other similar educational technology consistent with the educational mission of the school. School officials may search school computers, software and internet access records at any time for any reason and without student consent.

CONSENT SEARCHES

If a student gives a school official consent for a search the school official does not need to demonstrate reasonable suspicion. A student's consent is only valid if given willingly and with knowledge of the meaning of consent. Students should be told of their right to refuse to be searched, and students must not perceive himself at risk of punishment for refusing to grant permission for the search.

SEIZURE OF ILLEGAL MATERIALS

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

Adopted: June 24, 2004

Legal Refs.: New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985).

Constitution of the United States, Amendment IV.

Constitution of Virginia, Article I, section 10.

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, section 22.1-279.7.

Board of Education Guidelines for Student Searches in Public Schools, (12/21/99).

Cross Refs.: IIBEA Acceptable Computer System Use © 2/04 VSBA

SEX OFFENDERS AND CRIMES AGAINST MINORS REGISTRY (KN)

The Portsmouth Public School Division recognizes the danger sex offenders pose to student safety. Therefore, to protect students while they travel to and from school, attend school or are at school-related activities, each school in the Portsmouth Public School Division shall request electronic notification of the registration or reregistration of any sex offender in the same or contiguous zip codes as the school. Such requests and notifications shall be made according to the procedure established by the Virginia Department of State Police (State Police). Annual Notification At the beginning of each school year, the Portsmouth Public School Division shall notify parents and employees of this policy. The School Board will also annually notify the parent of each student enrolled in the school division of the availability of information in the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry and the location of the Internet website.

STUDENT BULLYING (JFC-R)

A student, either individually or as a part of a group, shall not bully others either in person or by the use of any communication technology including computer systems, telephones, pagers, or instant messaging systems. Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, physical, verbal, or written intimidation, taunting, name-calling, and insults and any combination of prohibited activities. "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. § 22.1-279.6 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: Each school board shall include in its code of student conduct, ~~by July 1, 2014,~~ policies and procedures that include a prohibition against bullying. Such policies and procedures shall (i) be consistent with the standards for school board policies on bullying and the use of electronic means for purposes of bullying developed by the Board pursuant to subsection A and (ii) *direct the principal to notify the parent of any student involved in an alleged incident of bullying of the status of any investigation within 14 school days of the allegation of bullying.*

STUDENT RECORDS (JO)

The parent/legal guardian of any student enrolled in Portsmouth Public School Division may authorize the release of their student's data/records to any individual or Agency upon completion and execution of the Consent for Release of Student Data/Records form accompanying this policy. This form may be used by Community Policy and Management Teams, and the Departments of Health, Social Services, Juvenile Justice, and Behavioral Health and Development Services.

Adopted: February 6, 2014 Revised: September 24, 2015 Legal Ref.: The Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §22.1-79.3.

STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT (JFHA/GBA)

Harassment based on sex consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct or other verbal or physical conduct or communication, which may include use of cell phones or the internet, of a sexual nature when

- submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining or retaining employment or education;
- submission to or rejection of the conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's employment or education; or
- that conduct or communication substantially or unreasonably interferes with an individual's employment or education, or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive employment or educational environment (i.e. the conduct is sufficiently serious to limit a student's or employee's ability to participate in or benefit from the educational program or work environment).

Examples of conduct which may constitute harassment based on sex if it meets the immediately preceding definition include:

- unwelcome sexual physical contact
- unwelcome ongoing or repeated sexual flirtation or propositions, or remarks
- sexual slurs, leering, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments or sexually degrading descriptions
- graphic comments about an individual's body
- sexual jokes, notes, stories, drawings, gestures or pictures
- spreading sexual rumors
- touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way
- displaying sexual objects, pictures, cartoons or posters
- impeding or blocking movement in a sexually intimidating manner
- sexual violence
- display of written materials, pictures, or electronic images
- unwelcome acts of verbal, nonverbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct based on sex or sex stereotyping

TOBACCO FREE SCHOOL FOR STAFF/STUDENTS (JFCH-R/GBEC-R)

Smoking, chewing, or using any other tobacco products by staff, students, and visitors is prohibited on school property. For purposes of this policy, the following definitions are applicable:

1. "School property" means:

- a. All interior portions of any building or other structure used for instruction, administration, support services, maintenance, or storage.
- b. Any indoor facility or portion of such facility owned or leased or contracted for and used for the provision of regular or routine health care, day care, or early childhood development (Head Start) services.
- c. All vehicles used by the division for transporting students, staff, visitors, or other persons.

2. "Tobacco" includes cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such manner as to be suitable for chewing, smoking, or both. "Tobacco" includes cloves or any other product packaged for smoking.

3. "Smoking" means the carrying or holding of any lighted pipe, cigar, or cigarette of any kind, or any other lighted smoking equipment, or the lighting, inhaling, or exhaling of smoke from a pipe, cigar, or cigarette of any kind.

This policy shall be published in student and employee handbooks, posted on bulletin boards, and announced in meetings. Each principal shall post signs stating "No Smoking," or containing the international "No Smoking" symbol, consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a bar across it, clearly and conspicuously in every school cafeteria and other dining facility in the school. Staff and students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Electronic Cigarettes Students are prohibited from possessing electronic cigarettes on school buses, on school premises, and at school-sponsored activities.

HEALTH SERVICES INFORMATION

Health/Medical Policies for Portsmouth Public Schools

Portsmouth Public Schools Fever Policy: According to Medical Orders for Portsmouth Public Schools, students with fevers 100 degrees or greater are to **be fever free for at least 24 hours (without using any type of fever reducing medicine, that is Tylenol, Advil, Ibuprofen, Aleve, etc)** before returning to school. In addition, a student should stay home **for at least 24 hours after** symptoms, such as sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea or severe congestion, are completely resolved and the child is well enough to return to school.

Medication Administration: Medications are given in the school by the nurse or the person designated by the principal and trained by the school nurse to give medication in the nurse's absence. A **Request for Medication Administration** form must be completed and signed by the student's doctor/dentist and parent/guardian. The completed form and the medication, which must be in the original container with the pharmacy label intact or for over-the-counter medications that are prescribed by the doctor/dentist, in a new unopened container. All medications should be given to the school nurse or principal's medical designee by the parent/guardian of the student. **Medications cannot be transported by students.**

Tdap Immunization: All 6th grade students are required to have a tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) booster shot prior to the beginning of the school year. Shots may be obtained from your private doctor, local military clinics, or Portsmouth Health Department (free) at 383-8585. **Be sure that you take a copy of your child's immunization record with you.** Regardless of where your child receives their shot, documentation must be taken to their school nurse as soon as possible to ensure that they may begin classes in the first day of school.

Current Physical for Kindergarten (information for Pre-K student): Every Pre-K and Kindergarten student will need a **current physical examination** before he/she can be admitted to class. The physical must include the date of assessment within a calendar year of the first day of school for the year they attend Pre-K and Kindergarten. This requirement is in accordance with Code of Virginia, Sections 22.1-270. **The Code does not extend a grace period for complying with this requirement.** Therefore, any student who does not have a physical examination form in compliance with the law **will not be allowed to attend school until** their parent can present one to the school nurse.

The student who attended Pre-K the previous year before attending Kindergarten, may also need additional immunizations in order to meet State requirements for entrance into Kindergarten. If shots are needed, your school nurse will send you a letter at the end of their Pre-K year indicating which ones are required before they can attend kindergarten. Once you have the completed physical and/or proof of the shots we show are needed, take them into your school nurse. Without this documentation, the Kindergarten student will not be able to attend school.

Field Trip Medications: If your child receives medication at school and goes on a one-day field trip during school hours, the school nurse will be sending a single dose of your child's medication on the field trip. If your child uses a multi-dose inhaler at school, the one you have provided will be sent on the field trip. The teacher or instructional assistant, who has received training from the school nurse, will carry the medication and administer it to your child, if needed, while they are on the field trip. **The only medication that can be given at field trips are ones for which a permission form, signed by the doctor and parent, is on file with the school nurse.**

Medications for Before/After School Activities/Events: In regard to emergency medications a student may need available for before/after school activities, it is extremely important parents/guardians notify the

individual in charge of the activity/event about the need. Examples of emergency medications include Epi-pens, Insulin, Glucagon and Asthma inhalers. **Before/After regular schools hours, the clinic is closed and a nurse is not available.** Please note that a student may carry emergency medications when the proper procedure is followed: contact your school nurse or student's primary care physician for the form that will need to be completed by the doctor or dentist. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to **develop a plan** with the individual in charge of the before/after school activity/event so a safe environment may be maintained.

This section on Head Lice is new to be added.

Head Lice: In compliance with the positions of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American School Health Association, the National Association of School Nurses and the National Guidelines Clearinghouse, Portsmouth Public Schools will practice the following to control Pediculosis (adult lice and nits) infestation among students and staff:

Any student or staff who have live head lice OR viable nits close to the scalp visualized by the school nurse or other trained designee, will be referred for treatment at the end of the school day. Prompt treatment at home will be advised, including removal of live lice and viable nits. **Immediate removal of the person from school is unnecessary.** If the person has lice, he or she has probably been infested for weeks and prompt removal of the person could lead to embarrassment and ridicule. Following treatment, the person will be rechecked before returning to the classroom. If no live lice are found, the student may be readmitted to the classroom with a note from the school nurse. If live lice are found, the student must return home for further treatment. If nits are found on the hair shaft **greater than ½" from the scalp**, they are no longer alive and should be picked/combed out with a nit comb but they will not develop into live lice.

If ANY nits are found, either at the time of initial or return assessment, the person will be rechecked in one week or at the discretion of the school Nurse or Health Services Supervisor after the individualized assessment of the person. The parent/guardian will be advised to continue to remove the nits. Persons with nits will be monitored and NOT be referred for further treatment at this time.

The student will be placed on a screening schedule if nits are found: 3 times a week for two weeks, 2 times a week for one week and once a week after that at the discretion of the School Nurse or Health Services Supervisor. Siblings, who are felt to be in close contact with a person with live lice will be inspected for infestation and referred appropriately. If there is/are sibling/s in another school, the original nurse will notify the school nurse of that school to inspect the sibling/s for a possible infestation.

Persons outside the immediate situation will not be informed or involved, such as other parents, staff members, bus drivers/assistants or cafeteria staff. This is to prevent embarrassment and protect privacy and confidentiality.

The School Nurse or Health Services Supervisor retain the authorization to, at her discretion, exclude a student with repeated infestations of live lice/nits or with a current active infestation for which there is an apparent lack of adequate follow through by the parents/guardians.

If you have any questions in regards to any of these policies, feel free to contact the school nurse in your child's school or the Health Services Supervisor for Portsmouth Public Schools, Dr. Darlene Mueller at 393-8661

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED SCREENINGS

To Parents/Guardians:

School-based screening programs are provided for the early detection of unrecognized health problems. Through early intervention and/or treatment of any identified problems(s), potential disability and negative impact on school performance can be limited. The school nurses provide health assessments (screenings) in the areas of height, weight, vision, hearing and blood pressure at grades specified by the school district and in keeping with State mandates. Any problems found during the screening will be communicated to the student's parents/guardians in writing and sent home with the student. All results are confidential and are maintained in the student's scholastic record.

During this school year, students in your child's class will be screened based on the schedule below according to their grade level:

Kindergarten: Snellen vision (far vision), hearing, height, weight.

Grade Three: Snellen vision, hearing.

Grade Seven: Snellen vision, hearing.

Grade Ten: Snellen vision, hearing.

If you have any questions or concerns related to the above health screenings, you should contact the school nurse assigned to your child's school or the Office of Health Services at 393-8661.

Revised 4/24/17

Screenings

Written Notice of Scheduled Screenings Portsmouth Public Schools

To Parents/Guardians:

In accordance with state mandates (Code of Virginia), Portsmouth Public Schools will conduct routine screenings within 60 business days of the student's initial enrollment in the division relative to the following areas and designated grade levels:

- Speech, Language, Voice – Grade K
- Gross and Fine Motor – Grade K
- Vision and Hearing – Grades K, 3, 7, 10

Screenings from other school districts or agencies may be recognized if appropriate documentation is provided.

The screening measures or instruments employed include nondiscriminatory observational and performance techniques. Parents/guardians will be notified in writing of children who fail any of the above screenings. All results are confidential and are maintained in the student's scholastic record.

If you have any specific questions or concerns related to screenings, you should contact the school nurse or speech/language pathologist assigned to your child's school.

PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SCOLIOSIS FACT SHEET

What is scoliosis?

Everyone's spine has natural curves. These curves round our shoulders and make our lower back curve slightly inward. But some people have spines that also curve from side to side. Unlike poor posture, these curves cannot be corrected simply by learning to stand up straight.

This condition of side-to-side spinal curves is called scoliosis. On an X-ray, the spine of an individual with scoliosis looks more like an "S" or a "C" than a straight line. Some of the bones in a scoliotic spine also may have rotated slightly, making the person's waist or shoulders appear uneven.

Who gets scoliosis?

Scoliosis affects a small percentage of the population, approximately 2%. However, scoliosis runs in families. If someone in a family has scoliosis, the likelihood of an incidence is much higher—approximately 20%.

In children, the vast majority of scoliosis is "idiopathic", meaning its cause is unknown. It usually develops in middle or late childhood, before puberty, and is seen more often in girls than boys. Most scoliosis is found in otherwise healthy youngsters.

The importance of early detection—tips for parents

Idiopathic scoliosis can go unnoticed in a child because it is rarely painful in the formative years. Therefore, parents should watch for the following "tip-offs" to scoliosis beginning when their child is about 8 years old:

*Uneven shoulders

*Elevated Hips

*Uneven waist

*Prominent shoulder blade or shoulder blades

*Leaning to one side

If any of these signs are observed, an appointment should be made with the child's family doctor, pediatrician, or orthopedic doctor for a comprehensive physical exam and possibly spinal x-rays.

Treatment

In planning treatment for each child, the doctor will carefully consider a variety of factors, including the history of scoliosis in the family, the age at which the curve began, the curve's location and severity of the curve.

Most spine curves in children with scoliosis will remain small and need only to be watched by a doctor for any sign of progression. If a curve does progress, an orthopedic brace can be used to prevent it from getting worse. Children undergoing treatment with orthopedic braces can continue to participate in the full range of physical and social activities.

If a scoliosis curve is severe when it is first seen, or if treatment with a brace does not control the curve, surgery may be necessary. In these cases, surgery has been found to be a highly effective and safe treatment.

Summary

Scoliosis is a common problem that usually requires only observation with repeated examination in the growing years. Early detection is important to make sure the curve does not progress. In the relatively small number of cases that need medical intervention, advances in modern orthopedic techniques have made scoliosis a highly manageable condition.

Reference: American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons Online Service Patient Education Brochure: Scoliosis

HEALTH SERVICES AND REQUIREMENTS (JHC)

The Portsmouth City School Board may employ school nurses, physicians, physical therapists, occupational therapists and speech therapists who meet such standards as may be determined by the Board of Education. Subject to the approval of the local appropriating body, a local health department may provide personnel for health services for the school division. With the exception of school administrative personnel and employees who have the specific duty to deliver health-related services, no licensed instructional employee, instructional aide, or clerical employee shall be disciplined, placed on probation, or dismissed on the basis of such employee's refusal to (1) perform nonemergency health-related services for students or (2) obtain training in the administration of insulin and glucagon. However, instructional aides and clerical employees may not refuse to dispense oral medications. For the purposes of this policy, "health-related services" means those activities which, when performed in a health care facility, must be delivered by or under the supervision of a licensed or certified professional.

Adopted: December 19, 1996 Revised: September 22, 2011 Revised: September 27, 2012 Legal Ref.: The Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-274. Cross Refs.: EBBA First Aid/CPR Certified Personnel GCPD Professional Staff Discipline GCPF Suspension of Staff Members JHCA Physical Examinations of Students JHCB Student Immunizations JHCC Communicable Diseases JHCCA Blood Borne Contagious or Infectious Diseases JHCD Administering Medicines to Students

HEALTH SCREENINGS AND ASSESSMENTS OF STUDENTS (JHCG)

Through early intervention and treatment of health conditions, potential disabilities and negative educational impact may be reduced or avoided. A school-based screening program for the early detection of certain unrecognized health problems shall be operated as required by state and federal laws and regulations. Health screenings or assessments of students shall be administered by school health personnel and shall occur at grade levels designated by the school division. Screenings and assessments may include such areas as height, weight, vision, hearing, blood pressure, teeth/throat, and scoliosis. Nondiscriminatory observational and performance measures and instruments shall be employed in the screenings and assessments. Irregularities noted during the screenings shall be communicated to the student's parent(s) or guardian. Individual student screening results shall be maintained as confidential records and shall be available for review only by the student's parent(s) or guardian and such other individuals as may be permitted by law.

Adopted: March 20, 2003 Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, section 22.1-273 "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" 20 U.S.C. sec. 6301, et seq.

MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL (JHCD)

Medications Prescribed for Individual Students Employees of Portsmouth City School Board may give medication prescribed for individual students only pursuant to the written order of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner and with written permission from the student's parent or guardian. Such medicine must be in the original container and delivered to the principal, school nurse, or school division designee by the parent or guardian of the student. Nonprescription Medications Employees of Portsmouth City School Board may give nonprescription medication to students only with the written permission of the parent or guardian. Such permission shall include the name of the medication, the required dosage of the medication, and the time the medicine is to be given. Such medicine must be in the original container and delivered to the principal, school nurse, or school division designee by the parent or guardian of the student. Self-Administration of Medication Self-administration of any medication with the exception of asthma medication and auto-injectable epinephrine, as discussed below, is prohibited for students in grades kindergarten through eight. Students in grades nine through twelve may be allowed to possess and self-administer non-prescription medicine when the following conditions are met:

- Written parental permission for self-administration of specific non-prescription medication is on file with the school.

- The non-prescription medication is in the original container and appropriately labeled with the manufacturer's directions.
- The student's name is affixed to the container.
- The student possesses only the amount of non-prescription medicine needed for one school day/activity.

Sharing, borrowing, distributing, manufacturing or selling any medication is prohibited. Permission to self-administer non-prescription medication may be revoked if the student violates this policy and the student may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Standards of Student Conduct. Self-Administration of Asthma Medications and Auto-Injectable Epinephrine Students with a diagnosis of asthma or anaphylaxis, or both, are permitted to possess and self-administer inhaled asthma medications or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both, as the case may be, in accordance with this policy during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while on a school bus or other school property. A student may possess and self-administer asthma medication, or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both, when the following conditions are met:

- Written parental consent that the student may self-administer inhaled asthma medications or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both, is on file with the school.
- Written notice from the student's health care provider is on file with the school, indicating the identity of the student, stating the diagnosis of asthma or anaphylaxis, or both, and approving self-administration of inhaled asthma medications or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both, that have been prescribed for the student; specifying the name and dosage of the medication, the frequency in which it is to be administered and the circumstances which may warrant its use; and attesting to the student's demonstrated ability to safely and effectively self-administer the medication.
 - An individualized health care plan is prepared, including emergency procedures for any life-threatening conditions.
- There is a consultation with the student's parent before any limitations or restrictions are imposed on a student's possession and self-administration of inhaled asthma medications and auto-injectable epinephrine, and before the permission to possess and self-administer inhaled asthma medications and auto-injectable epinephrine at any point during the school year is revoked.
- Self-administration of inhaled asthma medications and auto-injectable epinephrine is consistent with the purposes of the Virginia School Health Guidelines and the Guidelines for Specialized Health Care Procedure Manual, which are jointly issued by the Virginia Department of Education and the Virginia Department of Health.
- Information regarding the health condition of the student may be disclosed to school board employees in accordance with state and federal law governing the disclosure of information contained in student scholastic records.

Permission granted to a student to possess and self-administer asthma medications or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both, will be effective for a period of 365 calendar days, and must be renewed annually. However, a student's right to possess and self-administer inhaled asthma medication or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both, may be limited or revoked after appropriate school personnel consult with the student's parents. Epinephrine Pursuant to an order or standing protocol issued by the prescriber within the course of his professional practice, any school nurse, School Board employee, employee of a local appropriating body or employee of a local health department who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of epinephrine may possess epinephrine and administer it to any student believed to be having an anaphylactic reaction. The Division Superintendent shall develop a regulation for administration of medicines to students. The regulation shall include provisions for the handling, storage, monitoring, documentation and disposal of medication.

Adopted: September 15, 2005 Revised: December 15, 2011 Revised: September 27, 2012 Revised: February 6, 2014
 Legal Ref.: The Code of Virginia, as amended, §§ 22.1-78, 22.1-274.2, 54.1-2952.2, 54.1-2957.02, 54.1-3408. Cross Ref.:
 EBBA First Aid/CPR Certified Personnel JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct JHCE Recommendation of Medication by
 School Personnel JO Student Records

What Are Eating Disorders?

Eating disorders are real, complex, and devastating conditions that can have serious consequences for health, productivity, and relationships. They are not a fad, phase or lifestyle choice. They are potentially life-threatening conditions affecting every aspect of the person's functioning, including school performance, brain development, emotional, social, and physical well-being.

Eating disorders affect both males and females of all ages. Weight is NOT the only indicator of an eating disorder, as people of all sizes may be suffering.

Eating disorders can be diagnosed based on weight changes, but also based on behaviors, attitudes and mindset. Be alert for any of these signs in your child.

Key things to look for around food:

- Eating a lot of food that seems out of control (large amounts of food may disappear, you find a lot of empty wrappers and containers hidden)
- Develops food rules – may eat only a particular food or food group, cuts food into very small pieces, or spreads food out on the plate
- Talks a lot about, or focuses often, on weight, food, calories, fat grams, and dieting
- Often says that they are not hungry
- Skips meals or takes small portions of food at regular meals
- Cooks meals or treats for others but won't eat them
- Avoids mealtimes or situations involving food
- Goes to the bathroom after meals often
- Uses a lot of mouthwash, mints, and or gum
- Starts cutting out foods that he or she used to enjoy

Key things to look for around activity:

- Exercises all the time, more than what is healthy or recommended –despite weather, fatigue, illness, or injury
- Stops doing their regular activities, spends more time alone (can be spending more time exercising)

Physical Risk Factors:

- Feels cold all the time or complains of being tired all the time. Likely to become more irritable and/or nervous.
- Any vomiting after eating (or see signs in the bathroom of vomiting – smell, clogged shower drain)
- Any use of laxatives or diuretics (or you find empty packages)

Other Risk Factors:

- Believes that they are too big or too fat (regardless of reality)
- Asks often to be reassured about how they look
- Stops hanging out with their friends
- Not able to talk about how they are feeling
- Reports others are newly judgmental or “not connecting”

If Your Child Shows Signs of a Possible Eating Disorder:

Seek assistance from a medical professional as soon as possible; because they are so complex, eating disorders should be assessed by someone who specializes in the treatment of eating disorders. The earlier a person with an eating disorder seeks treatment, the greater the likelihood of physical and emotional recovery.

Additional resources can be found at Virginia Department of Education:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/health_medical/index.shtml under the section titled, Eating Disorder

How to Communicate with Your Child

- Understand that eating disorder sufferers often deny that there is a problem
- Educate yourself on all eating disorders
- Ask what you can do to help
- Listen openly and reflectively
- Be patient and nonjudgmental
- Talk with your child in a kind way when you are calm and not angry, frustrated or upset
- Let him/her know you only want the best for him/her
- Remind your child that he/she has people who care and support him/her
- Be flexible and open with your support
- Be honest
- Show care, concern, and understanding
- Ask how he/she is feeling
- Try to be a good role model – don't engage in “fat talk” about yourself
- Understand that your child is not looking for attention or pity
- Seek professional help on behalf of your

Notes

Handbook produced by the Office of Youth-Risk Prevention

Dr. Rosalynn L. Sanderlin, Coordinator

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