

Sallie D. Gamble School No. 16



Handbook and Code of Student Conduct 2022-2023

Passaic Board of Education

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Vision

Passaic Public Schools will become one of the best school systems in New Jersey.

Mission

The Passaic Public Schools will provide an excellent education that prepares our students for college and to earn high paying jobs.

Focus

The Passaic Public Schools will provide all students the opportunity to graduate high school with a career certification and/or a minimum of 15 college credits.

A Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

The Handbook and Code of Student Conduct will help you learn about our school procedures and provide information to you and your parents about our school. It is important to review this handbook with your family and ask your teachers questions that you have about anything written in the pages that follow. Most importantly, continue to be a great citizen and student. I look forward to seeing your continued contributions to our school.

Sincerely,

Dr. Terrence L. Love

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School Administration

Principal

Dr. Terrence L. Love – tlove@passaicsschools.org

Assistant Principal

Dr. Heela Sarwary – hsarwary@passaicsschools.org

Office Professionals

Natasha Ramirez - Nramirez@passaicsschools.org

Robin Smith - Rsmith@passaicsschools.org

School Nurse

Indiana Ynoa – icabrera@passaicsschools.org

**K – 8 Elementary and School No. 20
Remote Home-Based Schedule**

Period	Start Time	End Time
Homeroom	8:05 am	8:15 am
1	8:15 am	8:52 am
2	8:52 am	9:29 am
3	9:29 am	10:06 am
4	10:06 am	10:43 am
5	10:43 am	11:20 am
Break	11:20 am	11:30 am
6	11:30 am	12:07 pm
7	12:07 pm	12:44 pm
8	12:44 pm	1:21 pm
9	1:21 pm	1:58 pm
Break	1:58 pm	2:08 pm
Reconnect Time	2:08 pm	2:55 pm

Emergency Closings and Delayed Openings

All current phone numbers stored in our student information system, PowerSchool, will be contacted with an automated call to inform our community about school closings or delayed openings. Please remember to keep the phone numbers listed in PowerSchool current. We will also post information on our website and Facebook.

www.passaicsschools.org

Breakfast and Lunch Program

Breakfast and lunch are served to all students. Students should report to school on time so that they can enjoy their breakfast and begin instruction.

PowerSchool Portal

Parents/Guardians will be provided with access to their child's grades, attendance, and progress information by accessing the web-based parent portal. Information will be sent to parents so that they have access codes to this information. Any parent who has difficulty accessing their child's records should contact the principal. Students will also have access to their academic and attendance records.

Promotion and Retention

The Passaic Board of Education recognizes that personal, social, emotional, physical and educational growth of children will vary and that they should be placed in the educational setting most appropriate to their needs at the various stages of their growth. The standards for student promotion and retention are critical to the success of Passaic students.

The Promotion and Retention Policy (File Code 6146.2) and its accompanying regulations may be viewed in its entirety at the board Administrative offices or on our website: www.passaicsschools.org

Student Attendance

The Passaic Board of Education believes that the regular attendance of students in each class and in school in general is critical to its educational mission.

Attendance

In order for the board of education to fulfill its responsibility for providing a thorough and efficient education for each student, the complete cooperation of parents/guardians and students is required to maintain a high level of school attendance.

The frequent absence of students from classroom learning experiences disrupts the continuity of the instructional process and limits the ability of students to complete the

prescribed curriculum requirements successfully. The following rules shall apply for student absences:

1. A student shall be considered absent from class for tardiness in excess of one half of the total class period;
2. A student shall be considered absent from school for participation in less than 4 instructional hours during the school day.

Parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the principal or his/her designee no later than 8:45 a.m. on the day when a child will be absent and for informing the principal or his/her designee of the reason for the absence. A written statement from the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students under 18 years of age will be required on the day the student returns to school. The written statement must be dated and signed by the parent/guardian, with the reason(s) for the absence(s). Students 18 years old or older may write their own note explaining the reason for absence from school. The absence of a student without proper notification or written excuse shall be sufficient reason for a home inquiry by an attendance officer.

A student must be in attendance for 164 of the 182-day school year in order to be considered to have successfully completed the instructional program requirements of the grade/course to which he/she is assigned.

A pattern of absences is persistent if there is an accumulation of five to nine unexcused absences in the course of the school year.

Eighteen (18) absences, excused or unexcused, will require a review by the attendance review committee to determine satisfactory completion of course requirements. Excused or unexcused, a student may be denied individual course credit when the number of absences exceed 18 in a specific course.

A waiver of these attendance requirements may be granted for good cause by the school principal upon recommendation of the attendance review committee, appointed by him/her, and comprised of the principal and/or his/her designee, the school guidance counselor, the school attendance officer, and one or more grade level teacher(s). In recommending the granting of a waiver of this attendance requirement, the attendance review committee shall consider the nature and causes of all absences rather than only those in excess of the 18 days. Documentation of the nature and causes of these absences shall be the responsibility of the student and parent/guardian. The absence of documented parent/guardian notes, doctor's notes, and other records that verify that an absence was excused according to board policy shall be considered unexcused. Unexcused absences shall count toward truancy and may be subject to loss of grade or course credit toward promotion or graduation and disciplinary actions according to the code of student conduct. Notes from parents/guardians shall be considered but the district may require additional documentation such as doctor's notes or other official records to verify the note.

The school/district reserves the right to verify the stated reasons for all absences.

Tardiness

The orderly conduct of class activity depends upon the prompt and precise beginning of the program. Tardiness hinders the proper conduct of school activity. Students are expected to arrive at school and class on time.

Definitions

"Attendance" is a student's presence in school and in the classroom to which he or she is assigned at the times scheduled for instruction or other school activities. A student not present in school because of his or her participation in an approved school activity, such as a field trip, meeting, cooperative education assignment, or athletic competition will be considered to be in attendance.

"Late arrival" means the arrival of a student after the beginning of the student's school day for an excused purpose.

"Early dismissal" means the release of a student from school prior to the end of the school day for an excused purpose, and includes the release of a student for a period of time during the school day.

"Tardiness" means the student arrives at his/her assigned homeroom/class period after the bell rings without approval.

"Truancy" is a student's absence from all or part of the school day without the knowledge of the student's parents.

An absence shall be considered an "excused absence" for the purpose of determining promotion, retention, truancy, grades, course credit, eligibility to make up missed assignments and tests for full credit, and violations of the school code of student conduct for attendance, for the following reasons:

1. The student's illness;
2. Requirements of a student's individual health care plan;
3. A death or critical illness in the student's immediate family, or others with permission of principal;
4. Quarantine;
5. Observance of the student's religion on a day approved for that purpose by the State Board of Education;
6. Religious holiday;
7. The student's suspension from school;
8. Requirements of the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP);
9. Alternate short or long term accommodations for students with disabilities;
10. The student's required attendance in court;
11. Interviews with an admissions officer of an educational institution;
12. Necessary and unavoidable medical or dental appointments that cannot be scheduled at a time other than the school day;

13. Such good cause as may be acceptable to the principal.

An “unexcused absence” is a student’s absence for all or part of a school day for any reason other than those listed as excused above. An unexcused absence may be counted toward retention, truancy, loss of course credit, ineligibility to make up missed assignments and tests for full credit, and violations of the school code of student conduct for attendance. Absence is expressly not excused for any of the following reasons (this list is intended to be illustrative and is not inclusive):

1. Family travel;
2. Performance of household or babysitting duties;
3. Other daytime activities unrelated to the school program;
4. Leaving school without permission when school is still in session; and
5. Being present in school but absent from class without approval. Such an absence from class is identified as a “class cut”.

Class Cuts

Students that are present in school but absent from class without approval will have the absence marked as a class cut. Consequences for accumulated occurrences of class cuts may include:

1. Loss of eligibility to participate in co-curricular activities, including athletics, clubs, field trips, and/or graduation activities;
2. Loss of credit for the course (18 cuts);
3. Mandatory conference with the parent/guardian;

Late Arrival and Early Dismissal

The board recognizes that from time to time compelling circumstances will require that a student be late to school or dismissed before the end of the school day.

As an agent responsible for the education of the children of this district, the board shall require that the school be notified in advance of such absences by written request of the student's parent/guardian, which shall state the reason for the tardiness or early dismissal. Justifiable reasons may include:

1. Medical or dental appointments which cannot be scheduled outside of school hours;
2. Requirements of a student’s individual health care plan;
3. Requirements of the student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP);
4. Alternate short or long term accommodations for students with disabilities;
5. Medical disability;
6. Motor vehicle driver's test;
7. Interview for college entrance or employment;
8. Family emergency;
9. Court appearance;
10. Such good cause as may be acceptable to the administration.

The Attendance Policy (File Code 5113) and its accompanying regulations may be viewed in its entirety at the board Administrative offices or on our website:

www.passaicschools.org

Administration of Medication

The parent or guardian must provide a written request for administration of any medication to a student in school. These written requests must be provided to the school from a medical doctor. They must detail the diagnosis or type of illness involved, the name of the drug, the dosage, and the time of administration. The medication should be brought to the school in its original container, appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician. The school will provide safe storage of medications. Only the school nurse or the parent/guardian may administer medication in the school.

Health Services

A staff of professionally certificated nurses provides basic first aid and emergency medical care for health issues that occur during the school day. Parents/Guardians are required to notify Health Services of any health related condition that may impact a student at school.

Immunization Verification

New Jersey State Law requires proof of immunizations prior to enrollment in school. For questions regarding immunization, please contact:

Mr. Edward Rowbotham, Supervisor of Health Services, 973.470.5500, x5217
erowbotham@passaicschools.org

Affirmative Action

Affirmative action shall be taken to insure that students are protected from the effects of discrimination. In accordance with Title VI, Title IX, the ADA and Section 504, students who experience harassment, less than equal educational opportunities or discrimination, shall use the Passaic Public School's process to address such discrimination.

Inquiries / Complaints

Any person having inquiries and/or complaints concerning the Passaic Public Schools compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act is directed to contact the Affirmative Action Officer:

Mayra Silva, Director of Student Advocacy, 973.470.5500, x6054
msilva@passaicschools.org

Dr. Silva has been designated to coordinate school efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, the ADA, and Section 504. The above named coordinator will also supply information as to the existence and location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by disabled persons.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Passaic Board of Education directs that all students shall be afforded equal educational opportunities in accordance with the law. Applicants for admission and employment; students, parents, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment; and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the Passaic Public Schools are hereby notified that the Passaic Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender, socio-economic status, national origin, religion, age or disability, in admission or access to, or treatment, or employment in, its programs and activities.

In addition to the above, Title VI, 42 U.S.C. §2000d, specifically requires that all vocational opportunities be offered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

Section 504 Accommodations

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) applies to the Passaic Public Schools, its programs, services and activities. Federal law requires that the Passaic Public Schools evaluate, identify, and provide free appropriate education to all students who are individuals with disabilities under federal law and reside within the district. Parents/guardians of these individuals are entitled to procedural safeguards, including individual notice and an impartial hearing. Under federal law, “an individual with a disability” is defined as a person who:

1. Has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities; or
2. Has a record of such impairment; or
3. Is regarded as having such an impairment.

For further information, please contact the principal. You may also contact the Section 504 Coordinator:

Renna Edwards, Supervisor of Counseling, 973.470.5500 x5549,
redwards@passaicschools.org

The Passaic Public Schools will furnish auxiliary aids and services to students, employees, parents/guardians, and members of the public who have disabilities to the extent necessary for communications with other persons, unless it will result in an undue burden on, or a fundamental alteration in, the program.

Sexual Harassment

Pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.* and its enabling regulations, the Passaic Public Schools may not discriminate on the basis of gender or sexual orientation in the educational programs or activities which it operates. Title IX also prohibits sexual harassment. The Passaic Public Schools will not tolerate sexual harassment in any form. The Passaic Public Schools shall assure that all students are free from sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment is unwelcomed, unwanted sexual advances, sexual suggestions, requests or demands for sexual favors, and/or other inappropriate verbal or physical conduct made by a staff member, student or outside vendor to a student when that conduct is based on gender, sexual orientation or affectation, has the purpose or effect of interfering with the person's performance or creates an intimidating, offensive or hostile environment. It includes gestures, jokes, remarks, stories, graffiti, rumors, touching, grabbing, exposing, unwanted kissing or other sexual conduct.

Any student who has experienced sexual harassment should inform the offender that the behavior is unwanted and unwelcomed, and immediately inform a teacher, counselor, or administrator. The staff member to whom the student reports the harassment should immediately inform the Affirmative Action Officer:

Mayra Silva, Director of Student Advocacy, 973.470.5500 x6054,
msilva@passaicschools.org

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Electronic devices used for communication and/or recording of images and/or audio, are not to be turned on while students are in the school, except as permitted during a student's lunch period and if permitted by a teacher for an academic exercise. Students using electronic devices or making them visible without permission, including wearing ear buds, are subject to having the device confiscated.

Dress Code

All students will be required to wear pants or shorts of the appropriate size and color. All students will be required to wear pants, skirts, shorts, skorts, or jumpers of the appropriate size and color. The jumpers, skirts, shorts, and skorts must be worn no higher than the maximum of two inches above the knee. Black or navy-blue leggings may be worn with jumpers, skirts, shorts, and skorts only.

Pre-Kindergarten through grade 8 students must wear a light blue button front collar, golf (polo) sport shirt; or a white short or long sleeve dress shirt of the appropriate size.

Pre-Kindergarten through 8 students may also have the option of wearing a navy blue long sleeve turtleneck, and/or sweater vest, sweatshirt, hoodie, or cardigan of the appropriate size. The long sleeve turtleneck, and/or sweater vest, sweatshirt, hoodie, or cardigan may also be the same color as the approved uniform shirt. All shirts, sweaters, and vests will be required to be free of logos, insignias, slits, holes, tears, and cuts. The hood will not be worn up over the student's head while in school.

Shoes or sneakers must be worn.

The School Uniforms Policy (File Code 5132) may be viewed in its entirety at the board Administrative offices or on our website: www.passaicsschools.org

Elevators

Elevators are provided solely for the use by staff and/or members of the student body who have obtained permission from the Health Office or administration due to physical needs. Students using the elevator without permission are subject to disciplinary action. Students requiring the use of the elevator must report to the Health Office. A Nurse will determine if an elevator pass is to be issued.

Fire Drills

Regularly scheduled fire drills are essential for school safety. The following regulations will ensure safety protection for the entire school community.

When the fire alarm sounds, all students should do the following:

1. Cease all activity and talking.
2. Follow all instructions from the classroom teacher.
3. Leave the classroom in a quiet and orderly manner, proceeding to the designated exit.
4. Clear the building and await the "all clear" signal or other directions.
5. Maintain **silence** in order to hear directions.
6. Return to the classroom immediately after the drill or follow other directions as given by school and/or law enforcement personnel.
7. Attendance must be taken after any fire drill.
8. Any student that fails to return to class will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

Flag Salute

According to New Jersey law, *N.J.S.A. 18-A:36-3*, each school board shall require its students in each school in the district on every school day to salute the United States flag

and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag except those students who have conscientious scruples against such pledge or salute, or are children of accredited representatives of foreign governments to whom the U.S. Government extends diplomatic immunity, shall not be required to render such salute and pledge, but shall be required to show full respect to the flag while the pledge is being given merely by standing or sitting in silence.

Failure to demonstrate appropriate respect to the flag or Pledge of Allegiance, as mandated by state law, will result in disciplinary consequences.

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

The Passaic Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying against any student. School responses to harassment, intimidation and bullying shall be aligned with the board approved code of student conduct which establishes standards, policies and procedures for positive student development and student behavioral expectations on school grounds, including on a school bus or at school sponsored functions. The superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring the prompt investigation and response to all reports of harassment, intimidation and bullying committed on school grounds, at school activities and on school buses. In addition, the superintendent shall ensure that this policy is applied to incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying that are committed off school grounds in cases where a school employee is made aware of such actions. The superintendent has the right and authority to impose a consequence on a student for conduct away from school grounds that is consistent with the board's approved code of student conduct, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6.

Students and families are encouraged to report all acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying to a school staff member, who will inform the school administration and anti-bullying specialist.

The Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy (File Code 5131.1) may be viewed in its entirety at the board Administrative offices or on our website: www.passaicschools.org

Restroom Use

In order to ensure the safety and security of our school community, students must have a pass from a staff member to enter the bathrooms. Smoking, vandalism, loitering, and eating, drinking, and unlawful activities are strictly prohibited in restrooms and will result in disciplinary action.

School Evacuations, Lockdowns, and Other Emergency Drills

In addition to fire drills, schools practice other emergency drills to ensure that students and staff are prepared for a variety of situations. In any type of emergency drill, students should do the following:

1. Cease all activity and talking.
2. Follow all instructions from the staff member nearest to you.
3. Whether staying in the building or evacuating, move quietly and orderly.
4. Maintain silence so that directions may be heard.
5. After the drill is concluded, students should wait for directions on what to do next.
6. Procedures for each type of drill will be reviewed with the students.

School Visitors

In order to protect the health and safety of students and staff, no visitors shall be permitted until pandemic restrictions are lifted. The principal may admit a visitor if he/she determines that it is necessary. In all such cases the visitor shall submit to the screening procedure (e.g., temperature and exposure questionnaire) and shall be required to wear a face mask while in the school building. The face mask shall be required in all cases. However, an accommodation may be made where the visitor can demonstrate that wearing a face mask is detrimental to the visitor's health. A child under two years of age shall not be required to wear a face mask.

Signs and Posters

All communications that are displayed for the school community must be approved by the Principal. Any items posted without permission will be taken down, with the person(s) responsible for placement subject to disciplinary consequences.

Student Grievance Procedures

The Board of Education believes that students are citizens who possess the right to request redress of grievances and that students should be encouraged to respect lawful procedures for the resolution of disputes. Details of those procedures are available on the district website. Students who wish to use the Student Grievance Procedures should be assured of access to the appropriate personnel within a reasonable period of time. Complaints involving harassment, intimidation, and bullying shall be addressed according to board policy 5131.1 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying. Incidents shall be reported to the principal and investigated by the school anti-bullying specialist.

Student Searches and Video Surveillance

All Passaic High School community members shall be subject to video surveillance. The video shall be available to school staff and law enforcement. Requests by community members to see video will be handled on an individual basis and is not guaranteed.

Reasonable student searches will be conducted by school officials and law enforcement, within the scope and requirements of NJ Statute. School officials maintain the right to search student lockers at any time, as the lockers are the property of the Passaic Public Schools.

Code of Student Conduct

The Passaic Board of education believes that an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment and that the effectiveness of the educational program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.

The Passaic Board of Education expects students to conduct themselves with a proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, for school personnel, for the educational purpose underlying all school activities, and for the care of school facilities and equipment, in keeping with their level of maturity.

Student Rights

The students of the Passaic Public School shall be afforded the rights to:

- A. Advance notice of behaviors that will result in suspensions or expulsions, according to law N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2 and board policy 5114 Suspension and Expulsion;
- B. An education that supports students' development into productive citizens;
- C. Attendance in safe and secure school environments;
- D. Attendance at school irrespective of students' marriage, pregnancy or parenthood (see board policy 5135 Married and Pregnant Students);
- E. Due process and appeal procedures according to law and board policy including discrimination; suspension and expulsion; harassment, intimidation and bullying; removal for serious and dangerous offenses;
- F. Due process and appeal procedures for students with disabilities according to law and board policy including discrimination; suspension and expulsion; harassment, intimidation and bullying; removal for serious and dangerous offenses; and due process and appeal through the administrative law judge regarding identification, evaluation, reevaluation, classification, educational placement, the provision of a free, appropriate public education, or disciplinary action;
- G. Parent notification consistent with law N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(b)3, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.8 and board policy, including suspected child abuse or neglect, law enforcement investigations, short and long-term suspension, and confidentiality related to student records; and

- H. Records and privacy protections pursuant to Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and State laws and regulations identified at N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)3vii, including disciplinary records, alcohol and drug abuse patient records and information, disclosure of juvenile information.

Behavioral Expectations

The Passaic Board of Education expects all students in this district, commensurate with their age and ability, to:

- A. Students shall come to school mentally and physically prepared for the process of learning:
1. Attend school well-nourished, rested, clean and appropriately dressed in compliance with the School Uniforms board policy and the Student Dress Code board policy;
 2. Attend school free of drugs, alcohol and steroids;
 3. Attend school in good health; and
 4. Attend school ready to listen, work and learn.
- B. Students shall respect rights, property, and intellectual and creative products of others. Students shall:
1. Be honest and courteous to others;
 2. Be responsible with school property and the property of other students;
 3. Be tolerant of the beliefs and opinion of other students;
 4. Be respectful of school staff, school officials and school guests;
 5. Seek peaceful solutions to conflict; and
 6. Exhibit good sportsmanship.
- C. Each student shall take responsibility for their own behavior and learning:
1. Cooperate and participate in class;
 2. Do their own work honestly;
 3. Complete classroom and homework assignments on or before the deadline;
 4. Come to class prepared with the required textbooks, materials and supplies; and
 5. Accept the consequences for their own actions.
- D. Students shall use time and other resources responsibly:
1. Attend classes and school each day on time;
 2. Utilize study time and school library/media resources for school work;
 3. Utilize the school computer network and internet appropriately for school work and assignments; and
 4. Protect from damage and maintain in good condition school issued books and equipment.

- E. Students shall cooperate with staff and other students and share responsibilities when working with others:
 - 1. Cooperate with other students on joint assignments and in general;
 - 2. Participate actively in class;
 - 3. Demonstrate respect and decorum toward teachers;
 - 4. Exercise courtesy and tolerance when others are speaking; and
 - 5. Respect differences of opinion.

- F. Students shall meet the requirements of each course of study:
 - 1. Follow directions on assignments, projects and homework;
 - 2. Complete work on time;
 - 3. Hand in work that is organized, neat and readable;
 - 4. Obey the rules of the classroom; and
 - 5. Observe all safety regulations for handling classroom equipment or materials.

- G. Communicate with parents/guardians and appropriate school staff members:
 - 1. Discuss your workload, grades and assignments with your parent/guardians;
 - 2. Transmit school letters, forms, permission slips and other materials to your parents/guardians;
 - 3. Ask for and schedule time for extra help when needed; and
 - 4. Utilize school counseling services when you are experiencing difficulty.

Rules of Conduct

Students shall not:

- A. Be insubordinate to teachers or other school staff members or disregard their instructions or demonstrate lack of respect for their authority;
- B. Create disorder or disruptions on school premises;
- C. Use, threaten, or incite the use of physical force against other students, staff members, or visitors to the school;
- D. Steal, damage, or deface the property of other students, staff members, or the district;
- E. Engage in the sexual harassment of students or staff members;
- F. Violate codes of conduct adopted for organizations of students;
- G. Possess or use weapons or any implement intended to harm others;
- H. Use foul, abusive, derogatory, or demeaning language, including racial and ethnic remarks;
- I. Convey information about other students or staff members known to be false;
- J. Act so recklessly as to endanger the safety of others;
- K. Procure the property of others by threat or intimidation;
- L. Enter school premises or any specific portion of the premises without permission and without authority;
- M. Vandalize school property, real or personal;
- N. Create litter on school property;

- O. Be absent for an unexcused reason;
- P. Be late or truant from school or class;
- Q. Cheat or otherwise engage in academic dishonesty;
- R. Persistently refuse to complete homework and other assignments;
- S. Engage in illegal gambling;
- T. Smoke nicotine or non-nicotine substances or use tobacco in any form, including electronic vapors, on school premises;
- U. Falsify an excuse or any school document;
- V. Set fire to or cause a fire in any way on school premises;
- W. Possess or explode a firecracker or other explosive device on school premises;
- X. Sound or cause to be sounded a false alarm for fire, bomb, or other condition or circumstance hazardous to others;
- Y. Possess, use, or distribute a controlled substance in violation of the Substance Abuse board policy;
- Z. Join a secret society prohibited by law, including gangs as identified in the Gangs and Gang- Related Activities board policy;

AA. As a member of any organization participate in activities that include initiation and/or hazing practices that include violation of any parts of the rules of conduct;

BB. Harass, intimidate or bully other students or staff as defined in the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying board policy; or

CC. Engage in any other activity expressly prohibited by a school staff member in authority.

Students may be disciplined as described below in “Disciplinary Measures” for misconduct away from school premises and at school-sponsored events when that conduct interferes with administration of the instructional program or jeopardizes the maintenance of order in the school.

Conduct on School Buses

Students assigned to a school bus must obey all school rules of conduct and:

- A. Show respect for the bus driver and personnel at all times;
- B. Enter and leave the building in an orderly manner;
- C. Ride only the bus to which they have been assigned;
- D. Be and remain seated while the bus is in motion;
- E. Wear seatbelts;
- F. Avoid reckless and boisterous activity at all times, including during waits at pickup points;
- G. Talk in a reasonable tone of voice and avoid loud noises;
- H. Extend no portion of the body or other object out a bus window;
- I. Keep aisles clear at all times;
- J. Refrain from bringing animals or bulky, unmanageable projects onto the school bus;
- K. Refrain from smoking, eating, and drinking on the bus; or

- L. Possess, use, or distribute no substance in violation of the Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco board policy.

Disciplinary Measures

The following disciplinary measures may be applied as appropriate to the student's violation of school rules.

A. Warning

1. A school staff member will warn the student for his or her unacceptable conduct and warn the student that additional misconduct may warrant a more severe penalty.
2. The staff member will document the conduct that caused the warning.
3. When multiple warnings have been given, or a pattern of behavior has been established,

the staff member will contact the parent/guardian.

B. Administrative Referral

1. The teacher will follow the school protocol to document in writing the date, student's name, homeroom, and the conduct that caused the disciplinary referral, including previous warning(s) and/or contact with the parent/guardian;
2. The administrator in charge of discipline will interview the student and determine which, if any, additional disciplinary steps are indicated.

C. Temporary removal from classroom

1. If the student poses an immediate danger to him or herself, other students, or the teacher, the classroom teacher will direct the student to report to the office of the administrator in charge of student discipline;
2. The teacher will follow the school protocol to document in writing the date, student's name, homeroom, and the conduct that has caused the student's removal from the room;
3. The administrator in charge of discipline will interview the student and determine which, if any, additional disciplinary steps are indicated;
4. The parent/guardian must be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.

D. Detention

1. The student will be required to report before/after the school day or on a Saturday to a detention room for a period of supervised study;
2. Transportation will be the responsibility of the student's parent;
3. The student may be excused from detention only for an unavoidable commitment previously made; any such excused detention must be made up on another day;
4. The parent/guardian must be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.

E. Deprivation of privileges

1. The student may be deprived of the privilege(s) of:
2. Moving freely about the school building;
3. Participation in extracurricular or intramural and interscholastic activities;
4. Attendance at a school-related social or sports activity;
5. Participation in a graduation ceremony; or
6. Transportation by school bus.
7. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.

F. Loss of credit

1. A student who has cheated on a test or assignment, plagiarized material, falsified sources, refused to submit assignments, or otherwise indulged in academic dishonesty or negligence may suffer a reduced grade by virtue of the disqualified work;
2. A student may lose credit for assignments and/or course grades for unexcused absences and tardiness, as determined by the teacher in consultation with the attendance committee as outlined in the Attendance, Absences, and Excuses board policy; and
3. Students and parents/guardians shall be notified if a student is in danger of losing credit, such a decision is at the discretion of the school principal.

G. In-school suspension

1. The student will be removed from his or her regular classes and required to report to an in-school suspension program for supervised study as determined by the appropriate school administrator as detailed in the Suspension and Expulsion board policy;
2. Students assigned an in-school-suspension will be entitled to due process. The student shall be:
 - a. Informed of the charges;
 - b. Given a chance to reply to the charges.
3. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.

H. Suspension from school

1. The student will be denied the right to attend school for a period of time as detailed in the Suspension and Expulsion board policy;
2. Students assigned a suspension will be entitled to due process. The student shall be:
 - a. Informed of the charges;
 - b. Given a chance to reply to the charges;
 - c. Provided the opportunity for an informal hearing before the suspension.
3. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.
4. Suspensions shall be reported to the Superintendent or his/her designee. In addition to the due process rights above, students who are suspended for more than 10 days shall be afforded a formal hearing before the board.

I. Expulsion

1. The student will be required to withdraw permanently from school after the superintendent has exhausted all means to bring about a correction of the repeated misconduct;
2. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken;
3. The expulsion of a student shall be approved by the board and will not be imposed without the due process as detailed in the Suspension and Expulsion board policy; and
4. Expelled students shall not be allowed on school grounds unless accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Remedial Measures

The following remedial measures may be taken to improve student conduct, resolve conflict and ensure that the student is properly placed in an appropriate educational environment.

A. Restitution and restoration

1. The student may be required to make restitution, in kind or cost or labor, for any loss he or she has caused; or
2. Restore to its former condition, by his or her own labor, any property the student has damaged or defaced;
3. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior;
4. A student who refuses to make restitution or restoration as directed may be disciplined

according to the code of student conduct.

B. Counseling

1. The student may be required to consult with school support staff including the school guidance counselors, school psychologist, and/or school social worker to process and develop a behavior improvement plan, and when appropriate, to assess the need for a change in educational placement;
2. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior;
3. The school support staff will:
 - a. Clearly communicate the charges;
 - b. Develop a behavior improvement plan with the student;
 - c. Monitor the student's behavior;
 - d. Provide accurate information regarding the disciplinary consequences of continued misconduct;
 - e. Provide ongoing communication with parents/guardians as necessary and appropriate; and
 - f. Keep parents/guardians informed of the student's progress.
4. The counselor may refer the student, as appropriate, for additional counseling, evaluation, intervention, treatment, or therapy. Referrals may be made to:
 - a. The Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) team;
 - b. The child study team;
 - c. A public or private social service agency; or
 - d. A legal agency.

C. Parent Conferences

The student will be required to attend a meeting with his or her parent and appropriate staff members to discuss the causes of the student's behavior, possible remediation, potential disciplinary measures, and alternative conduct.

Disciplinary Procedures

- A. Students and parents will be given notice of the rules of conduct and disciplinary procedures as part of the student handbook and as posted on the district website. Building principals shall ensure that each student receives the student handbook containing the code of student conduct at the beginning of each school year. Transferring students shall receive the student handbook upon enrollment in this district;
- B. Teachers and administrators in charge of student disciplines shall make every effort to administer these rules consistently and fairly;
- C. Staff members who discipline students for conduct shall:
 1. Verbally inform the student of the conduct for which he or she is being disciplined; and
 2. Offer the student an opportunity to reply to the charge or to present extenuating

circumstances;

- D. Students with disabilities may be disciplined according to the Special Education board policy. The discipline shall conform to the code of student conduct when the behavior is not a manifestation of the disability;
- E. In grades kindergarten through 8, where the discipline is greater than a warning, the student's parent will be notified of the offense and of the discipline imposed and will be offered an opportunity to confer with the principal or designee;
- F. For serious offences and the discipline greater than detention, every effort will be made to notify the parent prior to the informal hearing; and
- G. An in-school suspension, suspension from school, or expulsion will be conducted in strict accordance with law and the Suspension and Expulsion board policy.
- H. Discipline relating to attendance infractions, including tardiness or class cutting must be in accordance with the Attendance, Absences, and Excuses board policy. Out of School Suspension or Expulsion are not applicable to such violations.

Educationally Disabled Students

- A. Students with disabilities are subject to this regulation except that no educationally disabled student may be disciplined if the student's behavior is a manifestation of his or her educational disability or the program that is being provided does not meet the student's educational needs.
- B. Before a student with a disability is disciplined, the disciplining staff member must consider the nature of the student's offending behavior in the light of his or her disabling condition and educational needs, except that:
 - 1. The student may be temporarily removed or disciplined only as necessary to abate the peril of physical harm to the student or others or to quell a substantial disruption to the educational process and
 - 2. The student may be disciplined in accordance with any disciplinary component in his or her individualized program.
- C. The suspension of a student with a disability will be conducted according to law and board policy. The district shall provide continuous educational services

Conditions for Suspension, Expulsion of Certain Students

- A. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A.18A:37-2 or any other provision of law to the contrary, a student who is enrolled in grades kindergarten through two in a school district or charter school shall not be expelled from school, except as provided pursuant to the "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act," P.L.1995, c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.).
- B. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A.18A:37-2 or any other provision of law to the contrary, a student who is enrolled in grades kindergarten through two in a school district or charter school shall not receive an out-of-school suspension.

except when the suspension is based on conduct that is of a violent or sexual nature that endangers others.

- C. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A.18A:37-2 or any other provision of law to the contrary, a student who is enrolled in preschool in a school district or charter school shall not be suspended, and shall not be expelled from school, except as provided pursuant to the "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act," P.L.1995, c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.).

Records

Instances of student discipline will be recorded in the student's record according to the Student Records board policy.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT RUBRIC

The infractions below are summarized from Code of Student Conduct Policy and Regulations. Unless otherwise mandated by district policy and/or applicable state law and regulations, school administrators will use their discretion when applying remedial and disciplinary measures, considering all factors involving the student and the inappropriate act of behavior.

Infraction	Key: "X" identifies remedial and disciplinary measures most appropriate to infraction											
	Remedial and Disciplinary Measures											
	W a r n i n g	C o u n s e l i n g	P a r e n t a l C o n f e r e n c e	A d m i n i s t r a t i v e R e f e r r a l	R e s t i t u t i o n a n d R e s t o r a t i o n	T e m p o r a r y r e m o v a l f r o m c l a s s r o o m	D e t e n t i o n	D e p r i v a t i o n o f p r i v i l e g e s	L o s s o f c r e d i t	I n - s c h o o l s u s p e n s i o n	O u t o f S c h o o l S u s p e n s i o n	E x p u l s i o n
1. Insubordination and/or disrespectful behavior	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X		
2. Disruptive behavior	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X		
3. Use, threaten use, or incite use of physical force		X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X
4. Assault											X	X
5. Attempt to steal, stealing, and/or damaging property					X	X	X	X		X	X	X
6. Sexual harassment							X	X		X	X	X
7. Violate student organization code of conduct	X	X	X	X			X	X				
8. Possess or use weapons											X	X

9. Use of inappropriate language, including racial and ethnic remarks	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
10. Knowingly writing or saying false statements about a staff member or student, including all electronic and social media	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	

Infraction	Key: "X" identifies remedial and disciplinary measures most appropriate to infraction											
	Remedial and Disciplinary Measures											
	W a r n i n g	C o u n s e l i n g	P a r e n t a l C o n f e r e n c e	A d m i n i s t r a t i v e R e f e r r a l	R e s t i t u t i o n a n d R e s t o r a t i o n	T e m p o r a r y r e m o v a l f r o m c l a s s r o o m	D e t e n t i o n	D e p r i v a t i o n o f p r i v i l e g e s	L o s s o f c r e d i t	I n - s c h o o l s u s p e n s i o n	O u t o f S c h o o l S u s p e n s i o n	E x p u l s i o n
11. Endanger the safety of others		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
12. Use or possession of unsafe or illegal articles	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
13. Use of a threat and/or violence in order to obtain the property of others						X	X	X		X	X	X
14. On or in district property without authorization; trespassing				X		X	X	X		X	X	
15. Eliciting others and/or taking part in any unauthorized occupancy of a district facility and refusing to leave promptly when directed to do so by a person in authority										X	X	X
16. Vandalism and/or graffiti					X	X	X	X		X	X	X
17. Littering	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		
18. Consistent tardiness to school or class	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		

19. Unexcused absence; cutting class; leaving school without permission; truant from school; eliciting others to be truant from school	X	X					X	X	X	X		
20. Cheat or commit academic dishonesty		X	X	X			X	X	X			

Infraction	Key: "X" identifies remedial and disciplinary measures most appropriate to infraction											
	Remedial and Disciplinary Measures											
	W a r n i n g	C o u n s e l i n g	P a r e n t a l C o n f e r e n c e	A d m i n i s t r a t i v e R e f e r r a l	R e s t i t u t i o n a n d R e s t o r a t i o n	T e m p o r a r y r e m o v a l f r o m c l a s s r o o m	D e t e n t i o n	D e p r i v a t i o n o f p r i v i l e g e s	L o s s o f c r e d i t	I n - s c h o o l s u s p e n s i o n	O u t o f S c h o o l S u s p e n s i o n	E x p u l s i o n
21. Persistently refuse to complete homework and other assignments	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			
22. Illegal gambling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
23. Using tobacco in any form, including electronic devices, and possession of lighters, matches, or other tobacco related items							X	X		X	X	X
24. Forgery of a signature or use of a fake document		X	X	X			X	X		X	X	
25. Set fire to or cause a fire on school premises								X			X	X
26. Possess and/or use fireworks or an explosive device								X			X	X
27. Causing any false emergency alarm								X			X	X
28. Possess, use, or distribute a controlled substance in violation of File								X			X	X

Code No. 5131.6 Substance Abuse												
29. Engage in any activity as part of a gang or group that promotes inappropriate and/or illegal behaviors; join a secret society prohibited by law								X		X	X	X

Infraction	Key: "X" identifies remedial and disciplinary measures most appropriate to infraction											
	Remedial and Disciplinary Measures											
	W a r n i n g	C o u n s e l i n g	P a r e n t a l C o n f e r e n c e	A d m i n i s t r a t i v e R e f e r r a l	R e s t i t u t i o n a n d R e s t o r a t i o n	T e m p o r a r y r e m o v a l f r o m c l a s s r o o m	D e t e n t i o n	D e p r i v a t i o n o f p r i v i l e g e s	L o s s o f c r e d i t	I n - s c h o o l s u s p e n s i o n	O u t o f S c h o o l S u s p e n s i o n	E x p u l s i o n
30. As a member of any organization participate in activities that include initiation and/or hazing practices that include violation of any parts of the rules of conduct								X		X	X	X
31. Harass, intimidate or bully other students or staff as defined in File Code No. 5131.1 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
32. Engage in activity prohibited by a staff member	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
33. Conduct on School Buses:												
a. Disrespect toward a bus driver and bus personnel	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	
b. Entering and leaving the bus in a disorderly manner	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	

c. Riding a bus that was not assigned			X	X			X	X		X		
d. Not remaining seated while the bus is in motion	X		X	X			X	X		X		
e. Not wearing seatbelts	X		X	X			X	X		X		

Infraction	Key: "X" identifies remedial and disciplinary measures most appropriate to infraction											
	Remedial and Disciplinary Measures											
	W a r n i n g	C o u n s e l i n g	P a r e n t a l C o n f e r e n c e	A d m i n i s t r a t i v e R e f e r r a l	R e s t i t u t i o n a n d R e s t o r a t i o n	T e m p o r a r y r e m o v a l f r o m c l a s s r o o m	D e t e n t i o n	D e p r i v a t i o n o f p r i v i l e g e s	L o s s o f c r e d i t	I n - s c h o o l s u s p e n s i o n	O u t o f S c h o o l S u s p e n s i o n	E x p u l s i o n
f. Reckless and boisterous behavior on bus or at bus stop	X		X	X			X	X		X	X	
g. Failure to maintain a reasonable tone of voice or making loud noises	X		X	X			X	X		X		
h. Placing any body part or object out a bus window	X		X	X			X	X		X	X	
i. Refrain from bringing animals onto the school bus	X		X	X	X		X	X		X		
j. Refrain from bringing bulky, unmanageable projects onto the school bus	X		X	X								
k. Refrain from eating and drinking on the bus	X	X	X	X	X		X	X				
l. Refrain from smoking on the bus							X	X		X	X	X

Remedial and Disciplinary Measures

The procedures below must be followed in accordance with the consequences a student receives for a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

Category	Procedures
Warning	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A school staff member in authority will warn the student for his or her unacceptable conduct and warn the student that additional misconduct may warrant a more severe penalty.2. The staff member will document the conduct that caused the warning.3. When multiple warnings have been given, or a pattern of behavior has been established, the staff member will contact the parent/guardian.
Counseling	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The student may be required to consult with school support staff including the school guidance counselors, school psychologist, and/or school social worker to process and develop a behavior improvement plan, and when appropriate, to assess the need for a change in educational placement;2. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior;3. The school support staff will:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Clearly communicate the charges;b. Develop a behavior improvement plan with the student;c. Monitor the student's behavior;d. Provide accurate information regarding the disciplinary consequences of continued misconduct;e. Provide ongoing communication with parents/guardians as necessary and appropriate; andf. Keep parents/guardians informed of the student's progress.4. The counselor may refer the student, as appropriate, for additional counseling, evaluation, intervention, treatment, or therapy. Referrals may be made to:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. The Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) team;b. The child study team;c. A public or private social service agency; ord. A legal agency.
Parent Conferences	The student will be required to attend a meeting with his or her parent and appropriate staff members to discuss the causes of the student's behavior, possible remediation, potential disciplinary measures, and alternative conduct.
Administrative Referral	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The teacher will follow the school protocol to document in writing the date, student's name, homeroom, and the conduct that caused the disciplinary referral, including previous warning(s) and/or contact with the parent/guardian;2. The administrator in charge of discipline will interview the student and determine which, if any, additional disciplinary steps are indicated.

Category	Procedures
Restitution and Restoration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student may be required to make restitution, in kind or cost or labor, for any loss he or she has caused; or 2. Restore to its former condition, by his or her own labor, any property the student has damaged or defaced; 3. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior; 4. A student who refuses to make restitution or restoration as directed may be disciplined according to the code of student conduct.
Temporary removal from classroom	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the student poses an immediate danger to him or herself, other students, or the teacher, the classroom teacher will direct the student to report to the office of the administrator in charge of student discipline; 2. The teacher will follow the school protocol to document in writing the date, student's name, homeroom, and the conduct that has caused the student's removal from the room; 3. The administrator in charge of discipline will interview the student and determine which, if any, additional disciplinary steps are indicated; 4. The parent/guardian must be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.
Detention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student will be required to report before/after the school day or on a Saturday to a detention room for a period of supervised study; 2. Transportation will be the responsibility of the student's parent; 3. The student may be excused from detention only for an unavoidable commitment previously made; any such excused detention must be made up on another day; 4. The parent/guardian must be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.
Deprivation of privileges	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student may be deprived of the privilege(s) of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Moving freely about the school building; b. Participation in extracurricular or intramural and interscholastic activities; c. Attendance at a school-related social or sports activity; d. Participation in a graduation ceremony; or e. Transportation by school bus. 2. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.
Loss of credit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A student who has cheated on a test or assignment, plagiarized material, falsified sources, refused to submit assignments, or otherwise indulged in academic dishonesty or negligence may suffer a reduced grade by virtue of the disqualified work; 2. A student may lose credit for assignments and/or course grades for unexcused absences and tardiness, as determined by the teacher in consultation with the attendance committee as outlined in the Attendance, Absences, and Excuses board policy; and 3. Students and parent/guardians shall be notified if a student is in danger of losing credit, such a decision is at the discretion of the school principal.

Category	Procedures
In-school suspension	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student will be removed from his or her regular classes and required to report to an in-school suspension program for supervised study as determined by the appropriate school administrator as detailed in the Suspension and Expulsion board policy; 2. Students assigned an in-school suspension will be entitled to due process. The student shall be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Informed of the charges; b. Given a chance to reply to the charges. 3. The parent/guardian must be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken.
Suspension from school	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student will be denied the right to attend school for a period of time as detailed in the Suspension and Expulsion board policy; 2. Students assigned a suspension will be entitled to due process. The student shall be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Informed of the charges; b. Given a chance to reply to the charges; c. Provided the opportunity for an informal hearing before the suspension. 3. The parent/guardian must be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken. 4. Suspensions shall be reported to the superintendent or his/her designee. In addition to the due process rights above, students who are suspended for more than 10 days shall be afforded a formal hearing before the board.
Expulsion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student will be required to withdraw permanently from school after the superintendent has exhausted all means to bring about a correction of the repeated misconduct; 2. The parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the student behavior and disciplinary measures taken; 3. The expulsion of a student shall be approved by the board and will not be imposed without the due process as detailed in the Suspension and Expulsion board policy; and 4. Expelled students shall not be allowed on school grounds unless accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Notes:

Chronic Behavioral or Academic Problems

See board policies 5131 and 6164.1 regarding Intervention and Referral Services.

Substance Abuse

See board policies 5131 and 5131.6 for penalties and reporting to local law enforcement.

Weapons Offenses

See board policies 5131 and 5131.7 regarding student removal and reporting to local law enforcement.

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

See board policies 5131 and 5131.1 for a comprehensive description of required actions, consequences, and remedial and disciplinary measures.