

Pikeland Community School

601 Piper Lane
Pittsfield, IL 62363

Renita Ten Eyck, Principal

Phone: (217) 285 - 9462

Brandon Bettis, Assistant Principal

Fax: (217) 285 – 9551

PIKELAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Pikeland Contact Numbers

Pikeland Community School 285-9462 (phone) 285-9551 (fax)

Pikeland Board Office 285-2147

Pittsfield High School 285-6888

South Elementary School 285-2431

Pre K/Early Childhood 285-9721

Bus Garage/Maintenance 285-2752

Pikeland Unit 10 Website

www.pikeland.net

PCS Facebook Page
Pikeland Community School
PCS Administration Emails
Renita Ten Eyck – rteneyck@pikeland.org
Brandon Bettis - bbettis@pikeland.org

Table of Contents

Contact Information	1
Table of Contents	2
General Information	4
Medical	22
Attendance and Absences	27
Grades and Testing	29
Discipline	31
Extracurricular	41
Internet Usage	43

General Information

Mission Statement

We, as members of Pikeland CUSD #10, exist to enrich the wellbeing of our community.

Vision Statement

We, as members of Pikeland CUSD #10, will foster a culture of learning by respecting, valuing, and inviting each person to contribute to our community.

Introduction

Welcome to Pikeland Community School for the 2026-2027 school year. This handbook is provided to students and their families to acquaint them with the rules, regulations, procedures, and other relevant information necessary for the orderly functioning of the school. It has been structured to help promote student progress as well as the interest of molding appropriate school government.

Materials Fee.....\$70.00

Lunches.....\$3.05

Breakfast.....\$1.75

Extra Milk.....\$.40

Free and reduced lunch and textbook waiver forms are available in the office.

Visitors

All visitors, including parents and siblings, are required to enter through the front door of the building. The security system requires visitors to be “buzzed” in after 8:30 each morning and for the remainder of the day. Each visitor must push the button on the intercom system and look at the camera and when prompted, state his/her name and the purpose of his/her visit. If deemed necessary, the visitor may be asked to provide identification. The office staff will electronically unlock the door in order for the visitor to gain entry into the building. A person will have a few seconds from the click to open the door. Please be patient when going through this process. Any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher’s conference/preparation period.

A visitor must sign in, identifying his/her name, the date and time of arrival, and the classroom or location of visit. An approved visitor must take a tag identifying as a guest and place the tag on his/her outer clothing in a clearly visible location. A visitor is required to proceed immediately to his/her location in a quiet manner and **must return to the main office and sign out before leaving the school**. A visitor is expected to abide by all school rules during his/her time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself/herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespass and/or disruptive behavior. Pikeland Community School has a no student visitor policy during school hours and at non-athletic school events.

To avoid removal from school property, no person on school property or at a school event shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law or municipal, local or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.
9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied with Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act and district policies.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or in violation of an authorized district employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other district policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or district employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the district or a school function.

Any individual conducting themselves in any of the acts outlined above is subject to the issuance of a No Trespass.

School Volunteers

All school volunteers must complete the Volunteer Information Form and be approved by the school principal prior to assisting at the school. Forms are available in the school office. Some teachers utilize parent volunteers in the classroom. The individual teachers make this decision. Teachers who desire parent volunteers will notify parents. For school-wide volunteer opportunities, please contact the building principal. *Volunteers are required to check-in and out at the main office and receive a visitor badge before going to the destination.*

Student Records

School student records are confidential and information from them will not be released other than as provided by law. The school and district routinely discloses directory-type information without consent. Directory information is limited to: name, grade level, academic awards, degrees and honors, information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics. **Any parent/guardian or eligible student (student 18 or older) may prohibit the release of directory information by delivering a written request to the building principal.**

Access to Students and Student Records

Pikeland Community School requires a court order to identify a parent who is not allowed to see his/her child at school at times when other parents have that right. Also, a court order is needed for denial of access to records and one's child by the non-custodial parent. The school will need a notarized copy of the divorce decree or other form of court order to keep with the student's records.

Notice of Destruction of Temporary Records

Pikeland Community Unit District #10 annually reviews all student records. This school district keeps student information such as grades, classes taken, and graduation date for not less than 60 years. Other information such as disciplinary actions, test scores, and IEP information is retained for five (5) years. Parents of students and students who graduate or leave this school are hereby notified that if they wish a copy of any temporary information before it is deleted/destroyed, they must make that request to:

Pikeland Community Unit District #10
512 South Madison Street
Pittsfield, Illinois 62363

within five (5) years of graduation or departure from school. Temporary records will be destroyed five (5) years following graduation or departure from school.

Equal Opportunity and Sex Equity

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities are available to all students without regard to race, color, nationality, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, age, religious beliefs, physical or mental disability, status as homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy.

No student shall, based on sex or sexual orientation, be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact the Pikeland Community School Administration (217) 285-9462.

Any student may file a sex discrimination complaint under the District's Title IX Grievance Procedure.

Any student may file a sex equity complaint under the District's Uniform Grievance Procedure. A student may appeal the Board's decision to the Regional Superintendent and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Pikeland Community School, with certain exceptions, obtain written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a child's education records. However, Pikeland Unit #10 School District may disclose appropriately designated directory information without written consent, unless the parent/guardian has advised the district to the contrary in accordance with district procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Pikeland Community School to include this type of information from a child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include the following:

- The annual yearbook
- Honor roll or other recognition lists
- Graduation programs
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.
- Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If a parent/guardian does not want Pikeland Community School to disclose directory information from his/her child(ern)'s education records without prior written consent, he/she must notify the district in writing by August 30. Pikeland Community School has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Photograph
- Grade Level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received

These laws are: Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7908), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110), the education bill, and 10 U.S.C. 503, as amended by section 544, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (P.L. 107-107), the legislation that provides funding for the Nation's Armed forces.

Faith's Law Notifications /Employee Conduct Standards

School districts are required to include in their student handbook the District's Employee Code of Professional Conduct. These standards, in part, define appropriate conduct between school employees and students. A copy of these standards can be found on the District's website or requested from the Superintendent's office.

Education of Children with Disabilities

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services.

The School provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the school. The term "children with disabilities" means children between the ages of 3 and the day before their 22nd birthday for whom it is determined that special education services are needed. It is the intent of the school to ensure that students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

A copy of the publication "Explanation of Procedural Safeguards Available to Parents of Students with Disabilities" may be obtained from the school district office.

Students with disabilities who do not qualify for an individualized education program, as required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and implementing provisions of this Illinois law, may qualify for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 if the student (i) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of a physical or mental impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment.

For further information, please contact:

(217) 285-9462

Pikeland Community School, 601 Piper Ln., Pittsfield, IL 62363

Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities. Individuals with disabilities should notify the superintendent or building principal if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

English Learners

The school offers opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State standards that all children are expected to meet.

Parents/guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children, and (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain challenging State academic standards expected of all students.

For questions related to this program or to express input in the school's English Learners program, contact the assistant superintendent at 217-285-2147.

Medicaid Reimbursement Consent

Medicaid reimbursement is a source of federal funds approved by Congress to help school districts maintain and improve special education services. Therapy, diagnostic services, social work, health services, and transportation, etc. provided to a child are partially reimbursable. Unless a parent or guardian objects in writing, Pikeland Community Unit #10 will claim Medicaid reimbursement for services provided. These claims will have no impact on the ability to receive Medicaid funding either now or anytime in the future. If there is no objection to this release of information related to Medicaid claims for the child, the parent/guardian does nothing.

Four Rivers Special Education District

Medicaid Parental Consent Written Notification Letter

Consistent with requirements in 34 CFR 300.503(dc) and in the event that your child requires health related services pursuant to an Individual Education Plan (IEP) we hereby give notice of the following: 1. That a written and signed parental consent has been or will be obtained before accessing a child's or parent's public benefits or insurance acknowledging that parent or guardian understands and agrees that the public agency may access the child's or parent's public benefits or insurance to pay for services under 34 CFR 300;

2. That personally identifiable information may be disclosed for the purpose of seeking reimbursement for Medicaid covered health-related services to its billing agent, other healthcare providers, the applicable State Agency or Insurance Program, and/or the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) as necessary to process claims;
3. That health-related services pursuant to in Individual Education Plan (IEP) will be provided to your child with no out-of-pocket expense to the child's parent or guardian; and
4. That you have a right under 34 CFR part 99 and part 300 to withdraw your consent to disclosure of your child's personally identifiable information and that your withdrawal or refusal of consent does not relieve this public agency of its responsibility to ensure that all required services are provided at no cost to the parent or guardian.

Education of Homeless Children

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free and appropriate public education, as provided to other children and youths, including a public pre-school education. A homeless child is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act and State Law. The assistant superintendent has been appointed to coordinate this policy's implementation.

Animals on School Property

To assure student health and safety, animals are not allowed on school property, during school hours, except in the case of a service animal accompanying a student or other individual with a documented disability. This rule may be temporarily waived by the building principals in the case of an educational opportunity for students, provided that: (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

Video & Audio Monitoring Systems

A video and/or audio monitoring system may be in use on school buses and a video monitoring system may be in use in public areas of the school building. These systems have been put in place to protect students, staff, visitors, and school property. If misconduct is captured on audiotape or videotape, these recordings may be used as the basis for imposing student discipline. If criminal actions are recorded, a copy of the tape may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

Due to privacy issues only administrative staff will be allowed to view/listen to video and/or audio recordings.

Emergency School Closings

In cases of bad weather and other local emergencies, please listen to any local radio (WBBA) or television stations (WGEM, KHQA) to be advised of school closings or early dismissals. The school messaging system will notify the parent/guardian by phone. If bad weather or other emergency occurs during the day, please listen to local media stations for possible early dismissal information.

For the child's safety, make certain the child knows ahead of time where to go in case of an early dismissal. If there is an early dismissal for an emergency, all after-school functions are automatically canceled.

Important: Any changes to phone numbers need to be called into the Pikeland Community School Office at 285-9462 to update the School Reach records. Failure to do so will prevent the parent/guardian from receiving alerts/messages.

Delayed Start

Delayed start could be used for fog, a gas leak, a power outage, an emergency/safety issue, or inclement weather in the early morning hours during the winter months can often lead to decisions of closing school for the entire day due to unsafe travel over the roads. However, two hours later, the sun has come out, the roads have been cleared and salted and travel is much safer.....and learning could be taking place in our classrooms. As a result of this scenario, the Pikeland administration has put the following plan in place.

With a delayed start, buses will arrive at the current pick-up points two hours later than their regularly-scheduled time. Those students who walk or drive to school should not arrive prior to the drop-off times listed below. In the event a delayed start schedule is utilized, class periods will be shortened but dismissal times will NOT change.

If a delayed start schedule is activated:

- Schools will begin exactly two hours later than usual
- All buses will operate exactly two hours later than usual.
- Parent drop-off time will be two hours later than usual

Delayed Start Schedules are as follows:

Pikeland Preschool

Morning (a.m.) classes will be canceled. Afternoon (p.m.) preschool classes will begin and end at their usual times.

South School Grades K-2

Class starts at 10:27 a.m. with drop-off starting at 10:00 a.m. Students will be dismissed at the usual time of 3:20 p.m. Cereal, milk and juice will be available for purchase and for free/reduced students wanting breakfast when they arrive at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will remain at the usual time.

Pikeland Community School

Class starts at 10:27 a.m. with drop-off starting at 10:00 a.m. Cereal, milk, and juice will be available for purchase and for free/reduced students wanting breakfast when they arrive at 10:00 a.m. Lunch period lengths will remain the same and an alternative class schedule will be put in place. Dismissal time will remain the same at 3:30 p.m. After-school activities and athletics could remain as scheduled weather permitting. Please check the website for updated information.

Pittsfield High School

First period will begin at 10:25 a.m. with drop-off/arrival starting at 10:00 a.m. Cereal, milk, and juice will be available for purchase and for free/reduced students wanting breakfast when they arrive at 10:00 a.m. An alternative schedule will be put in place. Dismissal time will remain the same at 3:25 p.m. After-school activities and athletics could remain as scheduled weather permitting. Please check the website for updated information.

Guidance & Counseling

The school provides guidance and counseling programs for students. The school's counselor is available to those students who require additional assistance. Contact the PCS office at 285-9462.

Under Illinois law, any student 12 years of age or older may receive counseling services without consent of the student's parent/guardian. However, until the consent of the student's parent/guardian has been obtained, counseling services provided to a student under the age of 17 are generally limited to not more than eight 90-minute sessions.

Mandated Reporters

All school personnel, including teachers and administrators, are required by law to immediately report any and all suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school's ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important goals of the school district. **National Suicide Prevention Hotline (1-800-273-8255), Local Suicide Prevention & Crisis (217-222-1166).**

Safety Drill Procedures and Conduct

Safety drills will occur at times established by the administration. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of three (3) evacuation drills, a minimum of one (1) severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, a minimum of one (1) law enforcement drill, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. Drills with the exception of ALICE drills will not be preceded by a warning to the students.

Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, Grooming Behaviors, and Boundary Violations

Child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations harm students, their parent/guardian, the District's environment, its school communities, and the community at large, while diminishing a student's ability to learn.

Warning signs of child sexual abuse include the following.

Physical signs:

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or other genital infections
- Signs of trauma to the genital area, such as unexplained bleeding, bruising, or blood on the sheets, underwear, or other clothing
- Unusual weight gain or loss

Behavioral signs:

- Excessive talk about or knowledge of sexual topics
- Keeping secrets
- Not talking as much as usual
- Not wanting to be left alone with certain people or afraid to be away from primary caregivers
- Regressive behaviors or resuming behaviors that the child had grown out of, such as thumb sucking or bedwetting

- Overly compliant behavior
- Sexual behavior that is inappropriate for the child's age
- Spending an unusual amount of time alone
- Trying to avoid removing clothing to change or bathe

Emotional signs:

- Change in eating habits or unhealthy eating patterns, like loss of appetite or excessive eating
- Signs of depression, such as persistent sadness, lack of energy, changes in sleep or appetite, withdrawing from normal activities, or feeling "down"
- Change in mood or personality, such as increased aggression
- Decrease in confidence or self-image
- Anxiety, excessive worry, or fearfulness
- Increase in unexplained health problems such as stomach aches and headaches
- Loss or decrease in interest in school, activities, and friends
- Nightmares or fear of being alone at night
- Self-harming behaviors or expressing thoughts of suicide or suicidal behavior
- Failing grades
- Drug or alcohol use

Warning Signs of Grooming Behaviors

School and District employees are expected to maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students based upon students' ages, grade levels, and developmental levels.

Prohibited grooming is defined as (i) any act, including but not limited to, any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, (ii) by an employee with direct contact with a student, (iii) that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples of grooming behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Sexual or romantic invitations to a student
- Dating or soliciting a date from a student
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog with a student
- Making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student
- Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with a student
- Failing to respect boundaries or listening when a student says "no"
- Engaging in touching a student or student's parents/guardians have indicated as unwanted
- Trying to be a student's friend rather than filling an adult role in the student's life
- Failing to maintain age-appropriate relationships with students
- Talking with students about personal problems or relationships
- Spending time alone with a student outside of their role in the student's life or making up excuses to be alone with a student
- Expressing unusual interest in a student's sexual development, such as commenting on sexual characteristics or sexualizing normal behaviors
- Giving a student gifts without occasion or reason
- Spending a lot of time with a student or restricting a student's access to other adults

Warning Signs of Boundary Violations

School and District employees breach employee-student boundaries when they misuse their position of power over a student in a way that compromises the student's health, safety, or general welfare. Examples of boundary violations include:

- Favoring a certain student by inviting the student to "hang out" or by granting special privileges
- Engaging in peer-like behavior with a student
- Discussing personal issues with a student
- Meeting with a student off-campus without parent/guardian knowledge and/or permission
- Dating, requesting, or participating in a private meeting with a student (in person or virtually) outside of a professional role
- Transporting a student in a school or private vehicle without administrative authorization
- Giving gifts, money, or treats to an individual student
- Sending a student on personal errands
- Intervening in a serious student problem instead of referring the student to an appropriately trained professional
- Sexual or romantic invitations toward or from a student
- Taking and using photos/videos of students for non-educational purposes
- Initiating or extending contact with a student beyond the school day in a one-on-one or non-group setting
- Inviting a student to an employee's home
- Adding a student on personal social networking sites as contacts when unrelated to a legitimate educational purpose
- Privately messaging a student
- Maintaining intense eye contact with a student
- Making comments about a student's physical attributes, including excessively flattering comments
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog
- Making sexually suggestive comments directed toward or with a student
- Disclosing confidential information
- Self-disclosure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Full frontal hugs
- Invading personal space

If you believe you are a victim of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, or boundary violations, or you believe that your child is a victim, you should immediately contact the Building Principal, a school counselor, or another trusted adult employee of the School.

Additional Resources include:

National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE (4673)

National Sexual Abuse Chatline at online.rainn.org

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE (2873)

Sex Offender Notification Law

State law prohibits a convicted child sex offender from being present on school property when children under the age of 18 are present, except for in the following circumstances as they relate to the individual's child(ren):

1. To attend a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of his/her child(ren).
2. To participate in a conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to special education services for his/her child(ren).
3. To attend conferences to discuss issues concerning his/her child(ren) such as retention or promotion.

In all other cases, a convicted child sex offender is prohibited from being present on school property unless he/she obtains written permission from the superintendent or school board.

Anytime that a convicted child sex offender is present on school property – including the three reasons above – he/she is responsible for notifying the principal's office upon arrival on school property and upon departure from school property. It is the responsibility of the convicted child sex offender to remain under the direct supervision of a school official at all times he/she is in the presence or vicinity of children. A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

Sex Offender & Violent Offender Community Notification Laws

State law requires that all school districts provide parents/guardians with information about sex offenders and violent offenders against youth.

One may find the Illinois Sex Offender Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at:

<http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/>

One may find the Illinois Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at:

<http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/>

Chain of Command

Parents or students with a problem, concern, or need for information should first contact the staff members most closely related to the issue. In the case of a classroom issue, the teacher is the first contact, followed by the building principal, assistant superintendent, superintendent, and lastly the board of education. With issues revolving around transportation, the bus driver is the first contact. It is then followed by the building principal, assistant superintendent, superintendent, and lastly the board of education in that order.

General Rules and Regulations

1. Students should not arrive before 8:00 a.m. unless instructed by school personnel. Grades 3-5 students are to sit in the gym until 8:18 and will then be dismissed to class. Grades 6-8 students are to go

quietly to the cafeteria and wait for the 8:17 bell. Grades 3-5 students wishing to eat breakfast should do so before entering the gym. Exceptions to this rule will be determined by the administration.

2. For the safety of all people in the building, only walking is permitted when inside the school. Obey all general school rules and those issued in each classroom. Penalties include, but are not limited to:
 1. Verbal warning
 2. Detention (30 minutes, 60 minutes)
 3. Suspension (up to 10 days)

Always remember that manners, courtesy, and respect for all people involved at PCS are of major importance.

3. Students are **not** permitted to bring these items to school: toys, playground equipment, board games, skateboards, scooters, roller skates or roller blades, trading cards, and any other item deemed unsafe or disruptive to the educational process by school administration.
4. Afternoon Pick-Up - Students who are picked up in a car after school are to be picked up in front of the building. Individuals waiting in line to pick up students should pull all the way down and follow the flow of traffic. **Under no circumstances will students be allowed to go out into the parking lot unaccompanied by an adult to get into a parked car.**
5. Students should only use things that belong to them. Keep books and materials in good order. Students who damage books over and beyond normal wear and tear are subject to a damage or replacement fee.
6. Public displays of affection, such as holding hands, hugging, kissing, and touching inappropriately, are not allowed at school.
7. Under state law **6th grade students** and **all students new to the district** must have a physical exam or an appointment for examination by the opening of school. Evidence of the physical must be presented to the building principal on or before October 15, 2026. All students must have all required immunizations on or before October 15, 2026.

CASES NOT COVERED BY SPECIFIC RULES:

It is understood that these rules are not all-inclusive. The administration shall take such action as is necessary to ensure proper discipline and orderly conduct in the school. Action may be taken with respect to any offense which interferes with the learning climate or which impairs the well-being of the school, regardless of the existence and non-existence of a rule covering an offense.

Student Support through Every Student Succeeds Act

Teacher Qualifications

A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, whether:

The teacher has met the State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in

which the teacher provides instruction, is teaching under emergency or other provisional status, is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher, or paraprofessionals providing services to the student.

The State and District require students to take certain standardized tests.

A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, information regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by law or District policy, which shall include information on any applicable right you may have to opt your student out of such assessment.

Family Life and Sex Education Classes

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or courses in comprehensive sex education, including in grades 6-12, instruction on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; family life instruction, including in grades 6-12, instruction on the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS; instruction on diseases; recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse; or instruction on donor programs for organ/tissue, blood donor, and transplantation, if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. The parent or guardian's decision will not be the reason for any student discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Nothing in this Section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene, or traditional courses in biology.

Parents or guardians may examine the instructional materials to be used in any district sex education class or course. Sex Education curriculum can be found at pikeland.net.

Invitations & Gifts

Party invitations or gifts for classmates should not be brought to school to be distributed. Items such as these are of a personal nature and should be mailed home. The office is unable to release addresses and phone numbers of students.

Treats & Snacks

Due to health concerns and scheduling, treats and snacks for any occasion must be arranged in advance with the classroom teacher. All treats and snacks must be store-bought and prepackaged in individual servings. Treats and snacks may not require refrigeration and must have a clearly printed list of ingredients on the packaging.

Breakfast

Breakfast is served each morning at PCS and is available to all students. Serving time begins at 8:00.

Lunch

Students may only leave for lunch with a responsible adult and must bring a note from their parent/guardian to the office when they leave campus for lunch. A note must be brought each time a

student eats off campus. Students must sign out in the office when leaving for lunch and upon returning. Students returning must report to the place where there is a staff member on recess duty.

Cafeteria Rules and Procedures

Lunch cards will be issued at the beginning of the school year. Each student is required to use his/her card for each meal every day.

Pikeland Unit #10 has a policy that strongly encourages students to pay for their lunches in advance. In cases of emergency, students will be allowed to charge their lunches/and or breakfasts. All breakfast and lunch accounts must be paid in full by the end of each month. Lunch is served daily. One milk comes with each lunch. Extra milk is available for purchase. Students are allowed to bring their own lunches. Soda and energy drinks are not allowed. **Free and reduced applications will be distributed to all students on the first day of school and when new students enroll. Contact Betty Hayden at 285-9462 with any questions.**

Tables and eating areas are to be kept clean by the students. Paper and trash should be placed in the proper containers. Excessive noise or general horseplay will not be tolerated while in the cafeteria. The teacher on duty will assist students if they need help. She/he will also enforce these rules.

1. Stand quietly in line, single file.
2. Food is not to be thrown.
3. Leaving the cafeteria without permission is not allowed.
4. Candy or soda are not to be brought into the cafeteria.
5. Please, no glass containers should be brought.
6. Speak softly, no loud noise.

Fines, Fees, and Charges; Waiver of Student Fees

The school establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities. Some students may be unable to pay these fees. Students will not be denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of their parents or guardians to pay fees or certain charges. Students whose parents or guardians are unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver does not exempt a student from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and/or equipment.

Applications for fee waivers may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has been assessed a fee. As student is eligible for a fee waiver if at least one of the following prerequisites is met:

1. The student currently lives in a household that meets the same income guidelines, with the same limits based on household size, that are used for the federal free meals programs;
2. The student's parent is a veteran or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line.
3. The student is homeless, as defined by the Mc-Kinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

The building principal will give additional consideration where one or more of the following factors are present:

- An illness in the family;
- Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
- Unemployment;
- Emergency situations; or
- When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

The building principal will notify the parent/guardian promptly as to whether the fee waiver request has been granted or denied. Questions regarding the fee waiver application process or an appeal of the District's decision to deny a fee waiver should be addressed to the Building Principal.

Pursuant to the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act, the school is required to provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to a student who requests one, regardless of whether the student has the ability to pay for the meal or snack or owes money for earlier meals or snacks. Students may not be provided with an alternative meal or snack and the school is prohibited from publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student who cannot pay for or owes money for a meal or snack.

Fee Waiver Policy / Student Fees

The district establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities. Students will not be denied the opportunity to participate in curricular and extracurricular programs of the school district due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. Students whose parent or guardian is unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver applies to all fees related to school, instruction, and extracurricular activities. Applications for fee waivers may be obtained from the school office and may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has been assessed a fee. A student is eligible for a fee waiver if at least one of the following prerequisites is met: 1. The student currently lives in a household that meets the same income guidelines, with the same limits based on household size, that are used for the federal free meals programs; 2. The student's parent is a veteran or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line; 3. The student is homeless, as defined by the Mc-Kinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The building principal will give additional consideration where one or more of the following factors are present: 1. An illness in the family; 2. Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.; 3. Unemployment; 4. Emergency situations; or 5. When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage. The building principal will notify the parent/guardian promptly as to whether the fee waiver request has been granted or denied. Questions regarding the fee waiver application process or an appeal of the District's decision to deny a fee waiver should be addressed to the Building Principal. Pursuant to the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act, the school is required to provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to a student who requests one, regardless of whether the student has the ability to pay for the meal or snack or owes money for earlier meals or snacks. Students may not be provided with an alternative meal or snack and the school is prohibited from publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student who cannot pay for or owes money for a meal or snack. Fines for loss or damage to school property are waived for students who meet certain eligibility guidelines.

1. ASSESSMENT: Parents or guardians may be charged fees relative to students as authorized by the

Board of Education or in accordance with board policy or law. Student fees may include, but not necessarily be limited to, textbook rental. See Ill. Rev. Stat., ch. 122, par. 10-22.25.

2. WAIVER: 1. IN GENERAL: Fees may be waived or reduced by the Board of Education where good cause exists or the law requires such waiver or reduction. Good cause specifically includes the inability of parents or guardians to afford the fees. See Ill. Rev. Stat., ch.122, par.10-20.13.

3. APPLICATION: Parents or guardians unable to pay any fee shall apply to the principal for a waiver or reduction of such fee within seven (7) days after receiving notice that a fee is due. The notice of fees due shall advise parents or guardians that fees may be waived if they are unable to afford them and the procedures for initiating a request for a waiver. In the case of textbook rental fees, the application shall be made within seven (7) days after the scheduled date for student registration or after the day on which the student was registered, whichever is later.

4. PROCEDURES: The application for fee waiver shall state the specific reason or reasons a parent or guardian is unable to afford the fee which may include, but not necessarily be limited to, that the student is eligible for free lunches or breakfasts under the Community School Lunch Program. See Ill. Rev. stat., ch.122, par.712.1 et seq. Supporting documentation may be provided or requested by the principal, superintendent, or Board of Education. The principal shall make a recommendation to the superintendent regarding the waiver or reduction of a fee. The superintendent may approve or disapprove the waiver request in whole or in part. A parent or guardian not satisfied with the superintendent's action may request in writing within seven (7) days after being notified of the superintendent's action that the superintendent submit such request to the Board of Education for its determination at its next regular board meeting. At the board meeting, the parent or guardian shall be provided the opportunity to be heard verbally or in writing. Any requirement to pay fees shall be deferred until a decision on a request for waiver is made by the superintendent or Board, as appropriate.

5. INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS: Where fees are not waived in their entirety, a parent or guardian may request to make payments on an installment basis. The principal and superintendent are authorized to allow such installment payments.

6. DISCRIMINATION: No discrimination or punishment of any kind, including the lowering of grades, or exclusion of classes, shall be exercised against a student whose parents or guardians are unable to purchase required textbooks or instructional materials or to pay required fees. See Ill. Rev. Stat., ch.122, par. 28-19.2(a). Remedies shall be pursued only against a child's parent or guardian.

Planners

Each student is given a student planner at the beginning of the year, and must keep the planner with him/her at all times to record class assignments and use it as a hallway pass. Students who lose their planner will be required to purchase another one for \$5.00 in the office.

Phone Usage

The office phone may be used in the morning from 8:00 a.m. until 8:15 a.m., during lunchtime from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., and after school. Students who receive phone calls during regular school hours ***will not be allowed to the office to take the phone call, except in an emergency.*** Instead, the office will take a message and get the message to the student so he/she can call during posted times. To promote responsibility, students are limited to calling home for lunch money or homework. Please make every effort to arrange transportation or plans ahead of time. Students will not be routinely allowed to call home to ask/change plans.

P.E. Classes

Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 are required to dress out for P.E. to maintain a passing grade. Students will need a pair of black shorts, a red shirt purchased through the school, and a pair of tennis shoes. These items will be kept in their P.E. locker. Students will rent a P.E. lock for \$1.00 for the year.

Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 do not dress out for Physical Education. However, students at this level are required to wear a clean pair of tennis shoes to P.E. each day.

Illinois Play Time Requirement in Elementary Schools

The state of Illinois has enacted Public Act 102-0357 in support of playtime in Illinois schools. This Public Act requires that all public schools provide 30 minutes of daily time for supervised, unstructured, child-directed play for all students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Other known terms for playtime are recess, informal physical activity, free-play recess, unstructured free-play recess, and undirected play. Students missing playtime requirements due to absences beyond the school's control are not guaranteed time will be made up.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) the Board of Education of District #10 has notified workers, and building occupants, and their legal guardians of activities related to asbestos-containing building materials in the schools. Previously, District #10 submitted inspection reports and management plans to the Illinois Department of Public Health for approval as is required by Federal and State Regulations. Copies of the inspection reports and the management plans are available for inspection during normal office hours in the office of each school in the district. Additional information including response actions, post-response action activities, re-inspection, and periodic surveillance are also included in the report.

Periodic surveillance activities are conducted to examine the materials identified as asbestos-containing and to record any change in condition that might necessitate a change to a specific response action. Periodic surveillance is conducted at least every six (6) months as long as asbestos materials remain in the building.

Where and when projects occur is generally determined by the conditions of the material and accessibility to building occupants.

School maintenance personnel have received the required training.

The District will continue its efforts to maintain all asbestos-containing materials remaining in an intact state and undamaged condition and will remove asbestos material in compliance with Federal and State regulations and with any planned renovation work as funds become available.

FACILITIES INCLUDE:

Pittsfield High School / Pikeland Community School / Pittsfield South Elementary School

School Dances

School dances are held periodically throughout the school year. The dances are open to grades 6-8. Please be prompt when picking up your child. These are a privilege to attend and not the right of all students. Some students are asked not to attend based on one or more of the following criteria: absences, behaviors, and suspensions. Students are notified if they are not eligible to attend.

Field Trips

Field trips are a privilege for students. Students must abide by all school policies during transportation and during field trip activities, and shall treat all field trip locations as though they are school grounds. Failure to abide by school rules and /or location rules during a field trip may subject the student to discipline.

All students who wish to attend a field trip must receive written permission from a parent or guardian with authority to give permission. Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to receive appropriate permission from parent/guardian or teacher
- Failure to complete appropriate coursework
- Behavioral or safety concerns
- Denial of permission from administration
- Other reasons as determined by the school

Integrated Pest Management Policy

Pikeland Community Unit District #10 has an Integrated Pest Management Policy. As required by Illinois law parents/guardians are being notified that periodically pesticides are used as a last resort to control pests. If parents/guardians wish to be placed on a registry to be notified prior to spraying pesticide, they should notify, in writing, the Board of Education Office, 512 South Madison Street, Pittsfield, Illinois 62363. In addition, a file of hazardous or toxic substances is maintained at each school of the district for the substances used at that school.

Medical

Student Medication

The Pikeland Unit 10 School Board adopted the following policy for administering medicines to students at school. **PLEASE NOTE:** All prescription medicine, which must be taken during school hours, is to be delivered **PERSONALLY** by the parent/guardian to the office at Pikeland Community School.

If a student needs to take prescription medication during the school day, the parent(s)/guardian(s) must obtain a Student Medical Authorization Form from the office. The form must be filled out, and signed by both the parent/guardian and the physician, and then returned to our office. Medication is to be in a current, labeled, dated prescription bottle. It is kept in a locked cabinet in the office, dispensed by school personnel, and logged. The student must take the medication in the presence of school personnel. Special written permission by a parent is needed in the office along with a label from the pharmacy if a student is to carry an inhaler.

The office does not keep aspirin, Tylenol, or other over-the-counter medications on hand for students. The parent/guardian will need to bring those to the office and administer those at the time the student needs them. **The school will not administer over-the-counter medication to students (example: allergy medicine, Tylenol, cough syrup, etc.) unless prescribed by a doctor.**

Taking medication during school hours or during school-related activities is prohibited unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is necessary for the student to take medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child by completing a Student Medical Authorization Form.

No school or district employee is allowed to administer to any student or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. No student is allowed to possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this procedure.

A student may possess an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen®) and/or an asthma inhaler prescribed for immediate use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed an Authorization for Student Self-Medication Form. The school and district shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication or epinephrine auto-injector or the storage of any medication by school personnel. A student's parent/guardian must agree to indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine auto-injector and/or asthma inhaler, or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

Undesignated Medications

The school may maintain epinephrine injectors as undesignated medication for emergency use. No one, including without limitation, parents/guardians of students, should rely on the school or district for the availability of undesignated medication. This procedure does not guarantee the availability of

undesigned medications. Students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding these medications.

Students with Food Allergies/or Other Medical Concerns/Diabetes

State law requires our school district to annually inform parents of students with life-threatening allergies or life-threatening chronic illnesses of the applicable provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other applicable federal statutes, state statutes, federal regulations, and state rules.

If your child has diabetes and requires assistance with managing this condition while at school and school functions, a Diabetes Care Plan must be submitted to the building principal. Students who are diabetic may also self-carry and self-administer diabetic testing supplies and insulin as long as it is in the Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school.

If a student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, parents/guardians should notify the building principal at 285-9462.

Immunization, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations **Required Health Examinations and Immunizations**

All students are required to present appropriate proof of a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases within one year prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten or the first grade for the first time;
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school for the first time, regardless of the student's grade.

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam (though diabetes testing is not required). Students between the age of one and seven must provide a statement from a physician assuring that the student was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by the compliance date of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. Out-of-state students who register midterm have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by the compliance date, the student must present an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

Dental Examination

All students entering kindergarten, second and sixth grades must present proof by May 15, 2027 of the current school year of having been examined by a licensed dentist within the last 18 months. Failure to present proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after November 15, 2025.

Exemptions

A student will be exempted from the above requirements for:

1. Medical grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a signed statement explaining the objection;
2. Religious grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a completed Certificate of Religious Exemption;
3. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification;
4. Eye examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist; or
5. Dental examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Home and Hospital Instruction

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant or licensed advanced practice registered nurse anticipates his or her absence from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.

Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s), and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate a student's return to school.

Communicable Diseases

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding communicable diseases.

1. Parents or guardians are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child(ren) has a communicable disease.
2. In certain cases, students with a communicable disease may be excluded from school or be sent home from school following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to the parent or guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the communicable disease.
4. A student excluded because of a communicable disease will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings to the school a letter from the student's doctor stating that the student is no longer contagious or at risk of spreading the communicable disease.

Pikeland Community Unit School District #10 Notice of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention
Program October 15, 1990

INTRODUCTION

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS.

The Pikeland School District places great importance on eradication of drug and alcohol abuse. Our goal is to prevent alcohol abuse and maintain drug-free schools, campuses and workplaces. As part of our efforts to prevent drug and alcohol abuse, this notice is given to employees, students, and parents or guardians of students.

Eradication of drug and alcohol abuse is a national priority. Recent legislation, including the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-690) and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 101-226), requires educational agencies that accept federal funds or grants to establish alcohol and drug policies and programs consistent with specific federal guidelines. This legislation impacts our District because we compete for and accept federal funds and grants and receive federal financial aid to distribute to our students. To continue receiving federal funds and grants, we will enforce and implement the policies and programs established.

Copies of all drug and alcohol policies are available from the building principal. Information is also published in our employee and student handbooks.

HEALTH RISKS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH ABUSE

Use of drugs or controlled substances, except under professional supervision and prescription, and abuse of alcohol is dangerous. Drug and alcohol abuse jeopardizes the well-being of the individual and the community. Decreased productivity and learning, serious health problems, breakdown of family and social relationships, and strain on personal and societal resources follow abuse.

To assist employees and students to become better aware of risks associated with drug and alcohol abuse, drug education and awareness programs are held from time to time. These programs provide a variety of information including that pertaining to the effects, attitudes, motivations of drug and alcohol use, as well as, how to help yourself or others to prevent or deal with abuse. You should attend these programs and are urged to encourage those you know who may need help to attend as well.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE PROHIBITED

Because of the importance we place on drug and alcohol abuse prevention, standards of conduct have been established. Copies of these standards are contained in employee and student handbooks that are provided to all employees and students. These rules, in general, prohibit the unlawful possession, use, distribution, manufacture, dispensation, or being under the influence of controlled substances, illicit drugs or alcohol by employees and students on property owned, leased, or used by the institution or at its sponsored or supervised activities. These standards of conduct are mandatory and are a condition of your continued employment or attendance in our district.

Employees or students who violate the standards of conduct established are subject to disciplinary action. These sanctions (consistent with local, state, and federal law) include up to and including suspension/expulsion from school or termination of employment and referral for prosecution. Sanctions will be imposed.

CRIMINAL SANCTIONS ALSO EXIST

Not only does violation of drug and alcohol rules jeopardize your status as an employee or student, but also you may be charged criminally under local, state and federal law for the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol.

Criminal penalties are significant. Fines, imprisonment, or both may be imposed. Although the penalties are periodically revised, required minimum penalties, including mandatory imprisonment, are common. Loss of a driver or professional license also may follow.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNSELING AVAILABLE

Help is available for employees and students who are alcohol or drug abusers. As part of any disciplinary actions, employees or students may be required to participate in a drug or alcohol abuse program. Before disciplinary problems arise, you should consider whether you might need help. A confidential conference can be arranged through the Mental Health Centers of Western Illinois.

Programs dealing with drug/alcohol education and prevention have also been established. Employees and students address the legal, social, and health consequences of drug/alcohol use. Information is made available regarding techniques to resist illegal drug/alcohol use.

YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS WELCOMED

Periodically our policies on drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs are reviewed. This review is designed to determine the effectiveness of our program, implement changes to the program if they are needed, and ensure that sanctions imposed are consistently enforced. Comments, suggestions, and questions are welcomed and should be directed to the superintendent.

Attendance and Absences

Attendance

Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between six (by September 1st) and seventeen years of age shall assure that the child attends school in the district in which he or she resides, during the entire time school is in session (unless the child has already graduated from high school). Illinois law also requires that whoever has custody or control of a child who is enrolled in the school, regardless of the child's age, shall assure that the child attends school during the entire time school is in session.

Attendance Procedures

When a child has seen a physician for an illness, this should be reported to the school by way of a doctor's excuse stating the specific days to be excused. As a child's absences climb, the procedures for dealing with absences are as follows:

1. Notices to parents of students ages 6-17 when absences reach 4+ unexcused, 7+ unexcused/excused, or 9+ unexcused/excused combination.
2. Notice to Regional Office of Education Abolish Chronic Truancy Program when absences reach 4+ unexcused and make contact with parents
3. 2nd Notice to ROE ACT when absences reach 7+ unexcused and make contact with parents
4. 3rd Notice to ROE ACT when absences reach 9+ unexcused and make contact with parents
5. Notice to States Attorney when absences reach 9+ unexcused (High numbers of absences are dealt with and reported on an individual basis.) and make contact with parents

These absences will be charted for the past 180 school days. A new school year does not wipe out accumulated absences.

Student Absences

Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program.

For students who are required to attend school there are two types of absences: excused and unexcused. Excused absences include: illness (including up to 5 days per school year for mental or behavioral health of the student), attendance at a verified medical or therapeutic appointment (including a victim services provider), observance of a religious holiday or event, death in the immediate family, family emergency, situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the school board, circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's

mental, emotional, or physical health or safety, attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS[1], attend a civic event, or other reason as approved by the building principal. For students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence, an excused absence includes the fulfillment of a parenting responsibility and addressing circumstances resulting from domestic or sexual violence. Students eligible to vote are also excused for up to two hours to vote in a primary, special, or general election.

The school requires documentation explaining the reason for the student's absence. Procedures for returning to school after an absence:

1. A parent or guardian **MUST** call the school at 285-9462 between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. to explain the reason for the absence. If a call is not made, a school official will call the home to inquire why the student is not at school.
2. After any absence a student must report to the office before reporting to class. Upon returning to school, the student must have a written excuse from his/her parent/guardian to return to school. The written excuse should list specifically the days and the reason for the absence. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence. All information contained in this note will be kept confidential.
3. Parents may call the office before 9 am and ask that work be gathered for their child. They may pick it up in the office after 3:30 pm. When a student is absent, he/she is responsible for making up all class work missed during the absence. The student has as many days as he/she was absent to make up missed work. (If a student misses four (4) days, he/she has four (4) days to turn in make-up work.)
4. In the event that a student attends a partial day, that student is responsible for collecting and turning in assignments before he/she leaves on that day. The exception to this rule is when a student leaves due to severe sickness or other emergencies.
5. Students entering or leaving the building during school hours must sign in or out through the main office.

PIKELAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL will not grant an excused absence to any student after that student's 7th accumulated day of absence unless a doctor's note accompanies the student when he/she returns to school.

Diagnostic Procedures for Identifying Student Absences and Support Services to Truant or Chronically Truant Students

State law requires every school district to collect and review its chronic absence data and determine what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families to encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success. This review must include an analysis of chronic absence data from each attendance center.

Furthermore, State law provides that school districts are encouraged to provide a system of support to students who are at risk of reaching or exceeding chronic absence levels with strategies and are also encouraged to make resources available to families such as those available through the State Board of Education's Family Engagement Framework to support and engage students and their families to encourage heightened school engagement and improved daily school attendance.

"Chronic absence" means absences that total 10% or more of school days of the most recent academic school year, including absences with and without valid cause, and out-of-school suspensions.

The School and District use the following diagnostic procedures for identifying the causes of unexcused student absences: Interviews with the student, his or her parent/guardian and any school officials who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problems. Supportive services to truant or chronically truant students include: parent conferences, student, counseling, family counseling, and information about existing community services.

Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence

Domestic and sexual violence affect a student's ability to learn. Students who are parents or expectant parents have unique needs. Providing support services that enable students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence (Article 26A Students) to succeed in school are important school and district goals and are required by law.

Requesting Support Services

To facilitate the full participation of Article 26A Students, the school district provides in-school support services and information regarding non-school-based support services. Article 26A Students are also able to make up work missed on account of circumstances related to their status as a parent, expectant parent, or victim of domestic or sexual violence.

In-school support services include, but are not limited to, enabling a student to meet with counselors or other service providers, excusing the student from class as necessary for circumstances consistent with their Article 26A status, and assisting students with the development of a student success plan.

An Article 26A Student and/or their parent/guardian may request a complete copy of the District's policies related to Article 26A Students and information on support services by contacting the Article 26A Resource Person listed below.

Filing a Complaint

An Article 26A Student and/or their parent/guardian may file a complaint for violations of this procedure with the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the person is comfortable speaking.

Retaliation against an Article 26A Student or their parent/guardian for exercising or attempting to exercise their rights under this procedure is prohibited. Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

Tardiness

If a student arrives late to school, he/she must report to the office to sign in. The office will keep track of tardies daily. This includes tardiness to classes throughout the day.

Pikeland allows 4 minutes of passing time between each class. With this amount of time, no student should be tardy to class without a valid cause. If a student comes to class unprepared and does not have all class materials and supplies and needs to go back to their locker, they will be considered tardy. Detentions and suspensions will be issued for cumulative tardies in each quarter. At the end of each quarter, tardies

start over.

5 tardies in a quarter-lunch detention
10 tardies-30 minute after school detention
15 tardies-60 minute after school detention
20 tardies-Half day ISS

Truancy

Students who miss more than 2 but less than 8 of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are truant. Students who miss 9 or more days of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause are chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant may be convicted of a Class C misdemeanor, which carries a maximum penalty of thirty days in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1500.00

Truant Alternative Offering: A truant program is available to students of Pike and Adams County. The Regional Superintendent of Schools through a state grant administers this program.

Make-Up Work

If a student's absence is excused, or if a student is suspended from school, he/she will be permitted to make up any missed work, including homework and tests, for equivalent academic credit. The student will be permitted the same number of days as he/she was absent to turn in the make-up work. The student is responsible for obtaining assignments from his/her teachers.

Military Excusal

Additionally, a student will be excused for up to 5 days in cases where the student's parent/guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings. The Board of Education, in its discretion, may excuse a student for additional days relative to such leave or deployment. A student and the student's parent/guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student's teachers prior to any excused absences and for ensuring that such assignments are completed by the student prior to his or her return to school.

Grades and Testing

Grade Information

The core curriculum consists of the following classes: reading, English, math, science, and social studies. Staff sends quarterly progress reports at the middle of each nine (9) weeks for students earning any D/F at midterm. Students will also receive a report card every nine (9) weeks.

If your child receives an incomplete on his report card, it indicates he/she has not turned in enough material to receive a grade. Incomplete work quickly impacts a student's progress and grade. The policy at PCS requires a child to make up the missing work to receive a letter grade. Failure to do so could result in retention.

Grading & Promotion

PCS grading scale: A...100-93, B...92-85, C...84-75, D...74-69, F...68 and below.

School report cards are issued to students on a quarterly basis. For questions regarding grades, please contact the classroom teacher. Report cards will be mailed home each quarter.

The decision to promote a student to the next grade level is based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on standardized tests and other testing. A student will not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance.

For promotion to the next grade level, grades 3-4 must pass a majority of their academic classes. State law mandates that social promotion is not to occur.

Students in grades 6-8 will be required to pass three (3) of the four (4) core subjects, two of which must be reading and math in order to be promoted to the next grade level. The third class can be science or social studies.

Assignments

Assignments are used as a way for students to practice what they have learned in the classroom. The time requirements and the frequency of assignments will vary depending on a student's teacher, ability, and grade level.

Testing and Assessment

All students will take the state assessment provided by the state. Third through eighth-grade students are assessed with the i-Ready assessment three (3) times per year.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to cooperate in preparing students for the standardized testing, because the quality of the education the school can provide is partially dependent upon the school's ability to continue to prove its success in the state's standardized tests. Parents can assist their students to achieve their best performance by doing the following:

1. Encourage students to work hard and study throughout the year;
2. Ensure students get a good night's sleep the night before exams;
3. Ensure students eat well the morning of the exam, particularly ensuring they eat sufficient protein;
4. Remind and emphasize to students the importance of good performance on standardized testing;
5. Ensure students are on time and prepared for tests, with appropriate materials;
6. Teach students the importance of honesty and ethics during the performance of these and other tests;
7. Encourage students to relax on testing day.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Any act of giving/receiving information about contents of a test, copying assignments or providing such assignments, plagiarism, "cheat sheets," or communication during a test or any form of forgery including, but not limited to, accessing the Internet to gain answers.

For any offense, a zero will be issued for the assignment and referred to the office for disciplinary action.

Discipline

Dress Code

The objective of this dress code is to provide an appropriate educational environment while allowing students to dress comfortably within limits to facilitate learning. Students' attire can have a positive or negative effect on the learning process, contribute to students' success, and generate a safe and positive learning environment. Students are expected to maintain the type of appearance that is not distracting to students, teachers, or the educational process of the school. Parents and children are equally responsible for the appearance of the child. There is appropriate and inappropriate attire for all of life's activities. Keeping these ideas in mind, please help your students adhere to these guidelines.

The District does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists.

Allowed

1. Students are to wear clean clothes.
2. Tank tops or muscle shirts must be worn with T-shirts under them.
3. Pants, jeans, and shorts are to be worn at the waist. (If pants sag or bag, the students will be given a belt to keep the pants where they belong.)
4. The length of shorts or skirts must be appropriate for the school environment. Appropriate is viewed as not shorter than fingertip length, of the student's longest finger, when arms are extended by the side.
5. Teachers of specific courses where safety or health is a factor may require students to adjust their hair or clothing, or both during that class period.

Not Allowed

1. Tank tops or muscle shirts alone.
2. Tops with an inappropriate neckline or which bare the midriff.
3. Hats, caps, or bandanas in the building.
4. Sunglasses unless there is a medical reason.
5. Wallet chains or dog chains.
6. Shirts with vulgar/suggestive language or designs such as cigarettes, alcohol, identification of drugs, nudity, gang signs, profanity, etc.
7. Pants or jeans below the lower hips with their underwear showing.
8. Pants, skirts, or shorts with holes or rips higher than fingertips extended at the student's side.
9. Short shorts, mini-skirts, or pajama pants.
10. Students cannot wear coats in the classrooms.
11. Students cannot carry backpacks from class to class.
12. Piercings should not interfere with the safety of students in a congregate setting.

Prohibited Student Conduct

Copies of all district policies, on student behavior, are available in the school office or the district office. Disciplinary action may be taken against any student committing gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens, or other vaping related products.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages (Students who are under the influence are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.)
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
 - a. Any illegal drug, a controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, medical marijuana, or hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under Ashley's Law).
 - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under Ashley's Law.
 - e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
 - f. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including, without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
 - g. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug or controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
 - h. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body, and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances. Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

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

4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a weapon in violation of the “weapons” section of this policy.
5. Using or possessing cell phones during the school day: **Students who bring a cell phone to school are to have them turned off and in their locker.** Using a smartphone, device that links to a smartphone such as an Apple Watch or video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA) or other electronic devices in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer. Disobeying this rule will be seen as a discipline issue. Students will have their phones temporarily confiscated by the administration. Administrators will use the following guidelines to administer this policy: 1st offense = confiscation of phone with student pickup, 2nd offense = lunch detention, confiscation of phone with parent pickup, 3rd and beyond offense= after school detention, confiscation of phone with parent meeting and pickup and an in-school suspension may be assigned.
6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member’s supervision and in the context of instruction
7. Disobeying directives from staff members or school officials and/or rules and regulations governing student conduct
8. Using any form or type of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to someone else and/or urging other students to engage in such conduct (Prohibited aggressive behavior includes, without limitation, the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, bullying, or other comparable conduct.)
9. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person’s personal property. (*It is a state law that parents are responsible for any acts of vandalism or damage to school property by their children.* This law will be strictly enforced by the Board of Education.)
10. Unexcused absenteeism; State law and Board policy on truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truant.
11. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society by,
 - a. Being a member,
 - b. Promising to join,
 - c. Pledging to become a member, or
 - d. Soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member
12. Involvement in gangs or gang-related activities, including the display of gang symbols or paraphernalia
13. Engaging in any activity that constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function or any disruptive activity

For purposes of this policy, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of any object or substance, **regardless** of whether or not the item is (a) on the student’s person, or (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, automobile, or (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property, or (d) any other location on school property or at a school-sponsored event, or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person.

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

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any other time when a school group is using the school;
1. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
2. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function or event; or
3. Anywhere, if the conduct may reasonably be considered to be a threat or an attempted intimidation of staff, or an interference with school purposes or an educational function.

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

Sexual harassment of students is prohibited. A person engages in sexual harassment whenever he or she makes sexual advances, requests sexual favors, and/or engages in other verbal or physical conduct, including sexual violence, or a sexual or sex-based nature, imposed on the basis of sex, that:

1. Denies or limits the provision of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or that makes such conduct a condition of a student’s academic status; or
2. Has the purpose or effect of:
 - a. Substantially interfering with a student’s educational environment;
 - b. Creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
 - c. Depriving a student of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or
 - d. Making submission to or rejection of such conduct the basis for academic decisions affecting a student.

The terms *intimidating*, *hostile*, and *offensive* include conduct that has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Examples of sexual harassment include touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, and spreading rumors related to a person’s alleged sexual activities. The *sexual violence* includes a number of different acts. Examples of sexual violence include but are not limited to, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating* violence occurs whenever a student who is 13-19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

Making a Complaint: Enforcement

Students are encouraged to report claims or incidents of sexual harassment, teen dating violence, or any other prohibited conduct to the nondiscrimination coordinator, building principal, or any trusted staff member. A student may choose to report to a person of the student's same sex. Complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible given the need to investigate. Students who make good-faith complaints will not be disciplined.

Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures may include the following:

1. Disciplinary conference
2. Restructuring of privileges
3. Seizure of contraband
4. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to ten (10) days, provided that appropriate procedures are followed (A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds at any time during the suspension.)
5. Suspension of bus riding privileges, provided that appropriate procedures are followed
6. Notification of juvenile authorities whenever the conduct involves illegal drugs (controlled substances), look-alikes, alcohol, or weapons
7. Notification of parent(s)/guardian(s)
8. Removal from classroom
9. In-school detention for a period not to exceed five (5) school days (The building principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.)
10. 1/2 Hour Detentions or 1 Hour Detentions provided the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) have been notified (The student must be supervised.)

When a student is acting inappropriately, an Office Discipline Referral (ODR) is filled out and sent to the office. Disciplinary measures for these ODRs will be decided by the principal.

A student who is subject to suspension or expulsion may be eligible for a transfer to an alternative school program.

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

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The building principal or designee shall meet with a student returning to school from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or alternative school setting. The goal of this meeting shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusion and shall include an opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make-up missed work for equivalent academic credit. Re-entry steps are explained in the disciplinary documents.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

The District shall comply with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education rules when disciplining special education students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

Behavioral interventions shall be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors.

Weapons

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

Student Code of Discriminatory Harassment (Bullying)

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important district and school goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, immigration status, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is **prohibited** in each of the following situations:

1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school district or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school.

Bullying includes cyber-bullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatening or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the building principal, district complaint manager or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. All school staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the district complaint manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted by phone call or in writing.

You can contact building administrators or our Safe School Hotline (800) 418-6423 ext. 359 to report information about situations that might affect the safety of our school.

Bullying, teen dating/violence, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. These behaviors are not acceptable in any form and will not be tolerated at school or any school-related activity. The School District will take disciplinary action against any student who participates in such conduct or who retaliates against someone for reporting incidents of bullying, teen dating violence, intimidation, or harassment. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors is achieved by fully enforcing these Board policies: 7:190 Student Discipline, 7:310 Restrictions on Publications and Written or Electronic Material, and 7:20 Harassment of Student Prohibited. Full implementation of these policies includes providing each student who violates one or more of them with appropriate consequences and remedial action as well as protecting students against retaliation for reporting such conduct. (The policies mentioned above can be accessed at the Pikeland CUSD #10 Board Office or PCS Main Office.)

Threats

Any student who makes a threat (whether verbal, written, or any other form) toward a teacher, administrator, staff member, or any other student will face suspension from school and possible expulsion by the Board of Education. If in the judgment of the principal a threat poses a physical danger to anyone, the police will be immediately notified. Pikeland Unit #10 will not tolerate any known threat to our safe school environment. Teachers, staff members, students, parents, and others are encouraged to inform the administration of any threat.

Vandalism

The school district will seek restitution from students and their parents/guardians for vandalism or other students' acts that cause damage to school property.

Discipline Policy

DUE PROCESS

The Board of Education subscribes to the belief that student-staff-board relationship problems should be solved within the school structure. The superintendent is responsible for establishing regular channels of communication among these respective groups, with roles and responsibilities clearly defined. Due process within the schools involves an investigation of the situation, proper notification, provision for hearings, and an adequate opportunity for the student to express his/her views concerning the matter.

GENERAL PHILOSOPHY ON DISCIPLINE

The Board of Education believes that the maintenance of good discipline is essential to the proper achievement of educational goals. In a general sense discipline is here defined as the degree of order maintained, the strategies employed to maintain that order, and the manner in which offenders are to be punished. Since training for effective citizenship is one of the important tasks of education, self-discipline should be the goal for every student in the district.

CLASSROOM REMOVAL

A certified staff member should remove a disruptive student from his/her class. The certified staff member and the building administrator will determine the time interval of removal if longer than one regular class period. It is understood that due process will be granted to each student. Detentions are assigned to students who abuse general school and classroom rules: chewing gum, eating candy, tardy, inappropriate activity in the classroom, excessive failure to do assigned homework, etc. Lengths of detentions are at the discretion of the teacher assigning the detention.

DETENTIONS

All after-school detentions are to be served after normal school hours. Failure to serve an assigned after school detention will result in additional consequences, including another detention or In School Suspension. Students will report for detentions with appropriate study materials (school work, library books, paper, pencil, dictionary). Unacceptable behavior such as sleeping, note writing is not allowed.

ISOLATED TIME OUT, TIME OUT, AND PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others. The use of prone restraint is prohibited.

SUSPENSION

Any student who is flagrantly disobedient, insubordinate, or who gives evidence of severe emotional disturbance may be suspended for a period not to exceed ten (10) days on authorization of the school principal. Such suspension must be reported immediately to the superintendent and the parents, with reasons fully stated. Parents shall have the right to appeal such suspension in keeping with provisions of the Illinois School Code.

If gross misconduct is established, students may be suspended by the principal from any or all extracurricular activities for indefinite periods of time. Students eligible for transportation may be suspended from using such transportation by the principal. Such suspension must be immediately reported to the superintendent and the parents. Such suspensions must also comply with all due process rights of students.

A student may be suspended for five (5) school days from riding all buses, including extracurricular vehicles if he/she receives three (3) bus disciplinary citations during a single school year. Parents will receive written notification with each citation. Each disciplinary citation beyond three (3) in a given single school year could result in an additional five (5) school day bus riding suspension. Extenuating circumstances, as determined by the administration, may void the aforementioned student bus suspension guidelines. However, if the offense is severe enough, a student may have his/her bus-riding privileges revoked upon receipt of his/her first disciplinary citation.

EXPULSION

A student may be expelled from school or school transportation services only by the Board of Education on recommendation of the superintendent for reasons of gross disobedience or misconduct based on good and sufficient evidence and in keeping with provisions of the Illinois School Code. Such action must be recorded in the official minutes of the Board of Education.

COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

School officials will cooperate with law enforcement officers who come to the school premises for purposes of questioning or taking into custody of students who are enrolled in the district. This relationship must be governed by procedures, laws, and judicial decisions designed to protect the legal rights of each student. When law enforcement authorities seek to interview a student, the administration will attempt to contact the student's parent or guardian before allowing the law enforcement agent to interview the student. There may be extenuating circumstances that dictate a parental or guardian contact not be made.

Search and Seizure

To maintain order, safety, and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. School authorities include school liaison police officers.

School Property and Equipment as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as lockers, desks, and parking lots) as well as personal effects left there by a student without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there.

The building principal may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

Student Searches

School authorities may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession (such as purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violated or is violating either the law or the school or district's student rules and policies. The search will be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex, and the nature of the infraction. School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates the school's disciplinary rules or school district policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination. School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information to gain access to the student's account or profile on a social networking website.

Bus Transportation/Bus Conduct

The district provides bus transportation to and from school for all students living 1.5 miles or more from the school. A list of bus stops will be published at the beginning of the school year before student registration. Parents must, at the beginning of the school year, select one bus stop at which a student is to be picked up, and one-stop at which a student is to be dropped off. Students are not permitted to ride a bus other than the bus to which they are assigned. Exceptions must be approved in advance by the building principal. Communications regarding student conduct should be directed to the bus barn for review. Addressing any concern at the bus stop is not deemed as a best practice or effective approach.

While students are on the bus, they are under the supervision of the bus driver. In most cases, bus discipline problems can be handled by the bus driver. In the case of a written disciplinary referral, student bus problems will be investigated and handled by the building principal.

Students are expected to follow all school rules while on the bus. Students may be suspended from riding the school bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for violating school rules or for engaging in other gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to, the following:

1. Violating any school rule of or school policy.
2. Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider.
3. Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus.
4. Repeated use of profanity.
5. Repeated willful disobedience of a directive from a bus driver or other supervisor.
6. Such other behavior as the building principal deems to threaten the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants.

If a student is suspended from riding the bus for gross disobedience or misconduct on a bus, the school

board may suspend the student from riding the bus for a period in excess of 10 days for safety reasons. The district's regular suspension procedures shall be used to suspend a student's privilege to ride a school bus.

A student who is suspended from riding the school bus and who does not have alternative transportation to school shall be allowed the opportunity to make up all missed work for equivalent academic credit. It is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternative transportation to school.

In the interest of the student's safety and in compliance with State law, students are also expected to observe the following:

1. Dress properly for the weather. Make sure all drawstrings, ties, straps, etc. on all clothing, backpacks, and other items, are shortened or removed to lessen the likelihood of them getting caught in bus doors, railings, or aisles.
2. Arrive on time at the bus stop, and stay away from the street while waiting for the bus.
3. Stay away from the bus until it stops completely and the driver signals you to board. Enter a single file without pushing. Always use the handrail.
4. Take a seat right away and remain in the seat facing forward. Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
5. Talk quietly on the bus. No shouting or creating loud noises that may distract the driver. Tablets, iPods, iPads, smartphones, and other electronic devices must be silenced on the bus unless a student uses headphones.
6. Help keep the bus neat and clean. Keep belongings out of the aisle and away from emergency exits. Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus.
7. Always listen to the driver's instructions. Be courteous to the driver and other students. Sit with your hands to yourself and avoid making noises that would distract the driver or bother other passengers. Remain seated, keeping your hands, arms, and head inside the bus at all times.
8. Wait until the bus pulls to a complete stop before standing up. Use the handrail when exiting the bus.
9. Be absolutely quiet when approaching a railroad crossing stop.
10. Stay out of the danger zone next to the bus where the driver may have difficulty seeing you. Take five giant steps away from the bus and out of the danger zone, until you can see the driver and the driver sees you. Never crawl under a bus.
11. If you must cross the street after you get off the bus, wait for the driver's signal and then cross in front of the bus. Cross the street only after checking both ways for traffic.
12. Never run back to the bus, even if you dropped or forgot something.
13. Be courteous to fellow pupils and the bus driver. Treat people as you want to be treated.
14. Help look after the safety of smaller children.
15. Do not ask the driver to stop at places other than the regular bus stop; he/she is not permitted to do this except by proper authorization from a school official.
16. Observe safety precautions at discharge point. Where it is necessary to cross the highway, proceed to a point at least ten (10) feet in front of the bus on the right shoulder of the highway where traffic may be observed in both directions. Wait for a signal from the bus driver permitting you to cross.
17. Fighting on the bus for anyone involved will mean a written disciplinary notice and could result in an automatic five (5) day suspension from riding the bus.
18. Observe the same rules and regulations on other trips under school sponsorship as you would between home and school. Respect the wishes of the chaperone appointed by the school. Video and audio

cameras may be active on buses to record student conduct and may be used for the purposes of investigation into misconduct on the bus.

***A student who receives three (3) written disciplinary notices within the same school year will be suspended from riding all Unit #10 buses for up to five (5) school days. This includes extracurricular buses. Each written disciplinary notice that a child receives beyond three (3), in the same school year, also means that the student will be suspended from riding the bus for five (5) school days.**

Extracurricular

Extracurricular Information and Training Rules

The following penalties for major offenses are the minimum punishments for students who are participating in any school sport or activity. A coach or sponsor has the right to suspend the offending student from the activity for a first offense if the circumstances call for such a suspension.

TOBACCO-USE OR POSSESSION OF TOBACCO (IN ANY FORM)

1. First offense-suspension for one (1) week or 10 percent of contests (whichever is greater) Suspension begins with the first scheduled contest after the offense
 2. Second offense-suspension from participation for the remainder of that activity's season 3.
- Third offense-suspension from all extra-curricular activities for one (1) calendar year

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL-POSSESSION OR ABUSE OF

1. First offense-suspension from activity for two weeks or 20 percent of contests (whichever is greater) Suspension begins with the first scheduled contest after offense
 2. Second offense-suspension from participation for remainder of that activity's season 3.
- Third offense-suspension from all extra-curricular activities for one calendar year

COMMITTING A FELONY

1. Suspension from participation for the remainder of that activity's season.
2. Suspension from all extra-curricular activities for one calendar year

Administrators or coaches/sponsors must witness, have an admission, or absolute proof of the above listed major offenses before minimum punishments are enforced.

If a violation takes place in the summer or in the off-season, the minimum penalty would be applied to the next activity the student participates in.

Extracurricular Eligibility

When a student is joining an organization or running for some position, he/she should keep the following in mind:

- A. All students participating in any extracurricular activity, athletic or non-athletic, including any elected office, cheerleading and poms, as well as any other club or school-sponsored activity, must maintain in addition to the IESA eligibility requirements a minimum of a passing D grade (accumulative) in every subject.
1. Grades are averaged weekly for eligibility purposes.
 2. Grades are turned in each week to the principal by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. An eligibility list is then generated that day.
 3. Participation/non-participation runs from the following Monday through Saturday inclusive.

4. Any D or F is reported.
5. A student becomes ineligible to participate when earning an F in any academic subject when grades are turned in at 4:00 on Thursday.
6. Teachers begin turning in eligibility reports after an accumulation of a minimum of five grades.
7. Every nine (9) weeks grading period starts a new eligibility period.
8. If school is not in session for a period of days, the eligibility will remain the same until the Thursday after we return to session. Ex.: Eligibility will be taken before the December holiday break. That eligibility will remain in effect until the first Thursday we are back in session.
9. Consequences of failing grades in regard to extra-curricular activities are governed by Illinois Elementary Schools Association (IESA) rules.
10. All cheerleaders and poms must have physicals before their first practice. Athletic participants must have a physical before their first practice. They will not be allowed to participate without a current physical and proof of insurance.

Absence from School on the Day of Activity

An athlete who is absent from school after 10:00 a.m. on the day of an activity is ineligible for any activity on that day unless the absence has been approved in writing by the principal. Exceptions may be made: 1) for a medical absence pre-arranged with the athletic director or principal or 2) for a death in the athlete's family. An athlete who has one or more truancies or who has been suspended from school may be suspended from participation in athletic activities by the administration.

An athlete who is absent from school on a Friday before a Saturday event may be withheld from Saturday activities at the sole discretion of the coach.

Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

Student-athletes must comply with Illinois' Youth Sport Concussion Safety Act and all protocols, policies, and bylaws of the Illinois Elementary School Association before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity, including practice or competition.

A student who was removed from practice or competition because of a suspected concussion shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including without limitation, the School District's return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols.

Internet Usage

Internet Acceptable Use

All use of electronic network use must be consistent with the school's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These rules do not attempt to state all required or proscribed behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. **The failure of any user to follow these rules will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.**

Unacceptable Use - The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the network.

Some examples of unacceptable uses are the following:

- a. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or Federal law
- b. Unauthorized downloading of software
- c. Downloading copyrighted material for other than personal use
- d. Using the network for private financial or commercial gain
- e. Wastefully using resources, such as file space
- f. Hacking or gaining unauthorized access to files, resources, or entities
- g. Invading the privacy of individuals, that includes the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature including a photograph
- h. Using another user's account or password
- i. Posting material authored or created by another without his/her consent
- j. Posting anonymous messages
- k. Using the network for commercial or private advertising
- l. Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, or illegal material
- m. Using the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked

Network Etiquette

The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
- b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- c. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers of students or colleagues.
- d. Recognize that electronic mail (email) is not private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- e. Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
- f. Consider all communications and information accessible via the network to be private property.

No Warranties - The school and district make no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The school and district are not responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The school and district specifically deny any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

Indemnification - The user agrees to indemnify the school and district for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees incurred by the school or district relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

Security - Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify a security problem on the Internet, the user must notify the system administrator or building principal. All user accounts and passwords are confidential. No one should access another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the network.

Vandalism - Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA)

The Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA) requires school districts to provide additional guarantees that student data is protected when collected by educational technology companies, and that data is used for beneficial purposes only (105 ILCS 85). Effective July 1, 2021.

DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS- Below is an overview of the new requirements. Please refer to the legislation for specific timelines and components of each element. School districts must:

1. Annually post a list of all operators of online services or applications utilized by the district.
2. Annually post all data elements that the school collects, maintains, or discloses to any entity. This information must also explain how the school uses the data, and to whom and why it discloses the data.
3. Post contracts for each operator within 10 days of signing.
4. Annually post subcontractors for each operator.
5. Post the process for how parents can exercise their rights to inspect, review and correct information maintained by the school, operator, or ISBE.
6. Post data breaches within 10 days and notify parents within 30 days.
7. Create a policy for who can sign contracts with operators.
8. Designate a privacy officer to ensure compliance.
9. Maintain reasonable security procedures and practices. Agreements with vendors in which information is shared must include a provision that the vendor maintains reasonable security procedures and practices.

*You can also find this information at pikeland.net - parents - notifications - SOPPA

Access to Student Social Networking Passwords & Websites

School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking site that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy. In the course of an investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination.