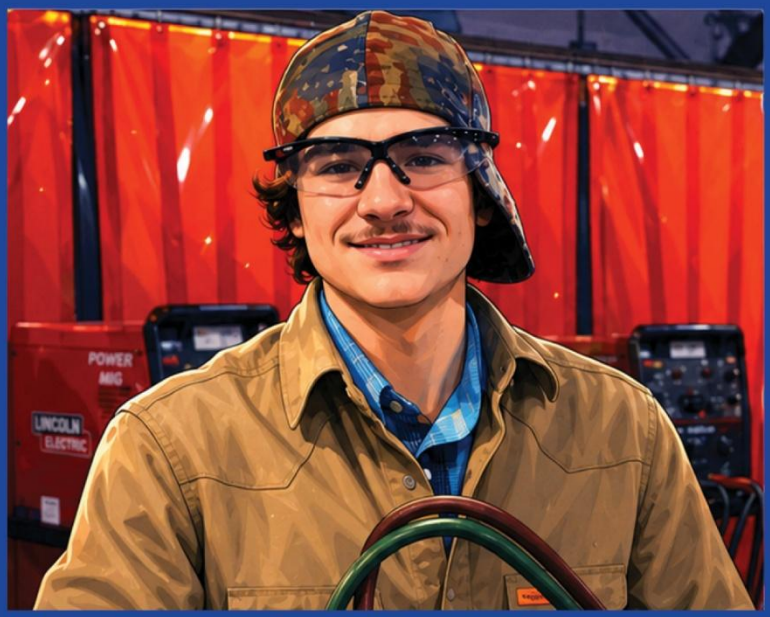
FULL-TIME PROGRAMS









STUDENT HANDBOOK

PIONEER TECHNOLOGY CENTER **2026-27**

PIONEER PT TECH

PIONEER TECHNOLOGY CENTER

2026 – 2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 13, 2026	Back to School Event
August 18, 2026	First Day of School
September 7, 2026	Labor Day Holiday (Campus Closed)
October 13, 2026	Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences
October 15, 2026	Parent/Teacher Conference Day – No Classes
October 16 & 19, 2026, Friday & Monday	Student Fall Break – No Classes
November 23-27, 2026, Monday - Friday	Thanksgiving Holiday (Campus Closed)
December 18, 2026	End Second Grading Period/End First Semester
December 21, 2026 thru Jan. 4, 2027	Winter Break – No Classes
January 5, 2027	First Day Third Grading Period/Second Semester
January 18, 2027	Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday (Campus Closed)
February 12, 2027	Parent/Teacher Conference Day – No Classes
February 15, 2027	Presidents' Day Holiday (Campus Closed)
March 15 – 19, 2027, Monday - Friday	Spring Break – No Classes
March 26, 2027	Good Friday Holiday (Campus Closed)
April 9, 2027	Professional Day – No Classes
May 19, 2027	Last Day of School /End Fourth Grading
May 31, 2027	Memorial Day Holiday (Campus Closed)

Inclement weather make-up days: March 26, May 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Scheduled class times are from 7:57 a.m. to 11:05 a.m. and/or 12:30 p.m. to 3:38 p.m.

Note: Some programs may deviate from the set schedule based upon Accrediting Agency standards.

Note: PTC reserves the right to add additional days/hours to the Firefighter/EMT calendar based on student completion status.

Evening (Flex Track) Welding: Will follow the PTC Full-Time Programs Calendar, Monday - Thursday from 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM with 4.5 hours of instruction per day. The 600-hour program may be completed within 34 weeks of instruction.

DATES SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION

Both secondary and adult students are required to attend PTC any date that PTC is in session **Even when their area partner high schools are not in session.**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Laurence Beliel
Deputy Clerk
Ponca City, Oklahoma

JD Soulek
President
Nardin, Oklahoma

Gay Norris
Vice President
Ponca City, Oklahoma

Debbie Leaming
Member
Newkirk, Oklahoma

Dr. Rachel Shuey-Bunney
Clerk
Tonkawa, Oklahoma

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Traci Thorpe
Superintendent/CEO

Kahle Goff
Executive Director, FTP

Molly Kyler
Executive Director, BIS

Aimee Snyder
Chief Financial Officer

Kendra Knight
Instructional Director

Jennifer Wehrenberg
Instructional Director

MISSION STATEMENT

Enhancing Lives/Securing Futures

ACCREDITING AGENCIES

Oklahoma State Board of Career & Technology Education
United States Department of Education
National Association for the Education of Young Children
National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation
Southern Region Education Board (Technology Centers That Work)
Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training
Oklahoma Department of Education
OK Board of Cosmetology & Barbering
Project Lead the Way
Oklahoma Dept. of Human Services
Oklahoma State Department of Health

The PTC Practical Nursing Program is approved through the Oklahoma Board of Nursing located at 2501 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 207, Oklahoma City, OK 73105; (405) 962-1800; https://nursing.ok.gov/

Accreditation Requests: Please email info@pioneertech.edu for accreditation documentation requests.

*The purpose of this handbook is to inform the student body of the policies and procedures of Pioneer Technology Center. This handbook is posted on the Pioneer Technology Center website (**https://www.pioneertech.edu/**) as a reference to questions that may arise during the school year. Please note that student handbook policies are subject to review and change by PTC Board of Education at any time. Therefore, PTC Board of Education policy supersedes student handbook policy.*

Pioneer Technology Center (2101 N. Ash, Ponca City, OK 74601) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, age, religion, disability, or veteran status. For Inquiries concerning the application of this policy contact either Wendy Burg, Wendyb@pioneertech.edu (580) 718-4308 or Kellie Johnson, Kelliej@pioneertech.edu (580) 718-4224, Compliance Officers/Title IX Coordinators, or Cortney Horne, CortneyH@pioneertech.edu (580) 718-4298, 504/ADA Coordinator or email Compliance@pioneertech.edu.

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PIONEER TECHNOLOGY CENTER
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY SERVICES STAFF

Adult Training & Development Coordinator ..... **Markesha Duggan**
Adult Training & Development Registrar ..... **Marcie Close**
Adult Training & Development Secretary ..... **Dolor Assidio**
Adult Training & Development Health Programs Facilitator ..... **Staci DeNoya**
Apprenticeship & Job Placement Coordinator ..... **TBD**
BIS Administrative Assistant/Registrar ..... **Gail Boswell**
BIS Program Developer/Coordinator ..... **Heather Smith**
Bid Assistance Coordinator ..... **LeeAnna Bowling**
Business Solutions Coordinator ..... **Brook Lindsay**
BIS Coordinator ..... **Sylvia Urioste**
Entrepreneurial Services Coordinator ..... **Ben Evans**
Industrial Coordinator ..... **Johnny Thornburgh**
Innovation and Incubator Manager ..... **Janet Schwabe**
Leadership Development Coordinator ..... **Jenn Miller**
Safety Instructor ..... **Thomas Leitch**
Safety Instructor ..... **Paula Ford**
Safety Registrar ..... **Shelly Houston**
Safety Coordinator/Instructor ..... **Kyle Batson**

FACULTY

Academic Lab Instructor ..... **Kelsey Fortney**
Adult Basic Education Coordinator/Instructor ..... **Bud Valerius**
Automotive Service Technology Instructor ..... **Brett Haas**
Basic Peace Officer Certification Coordinator ..... **Tucker Hodgson**
Biomedical Sciences Instructor ..... **Cara Bodick**
Construction Technology Instructor ..... **Cody Tabor**
Cosmetology Instructor ..... **Kayla Randol**
Criminal Justice Instructor ..... **Tom Burg**
Culinary Arts Instructor ..... **Brenda Pollak**
Electronics, Automation, Robotics Instructor ..... **Chuck Rector**
Firefighter/EMT Instructor ..... **Gary Vap**
Health Careers Certification Instructor ..... **Miranda Ramhorst**
Information Technology Instructor ..... **Zac Ladner**
Medical Assisting Instructor ..... **Rebekah Koch**
Practical Nursing Coordinator ..... **Michelle Tripp**
Practical Nursing Instructor ..... **Tessa Cramer**
Practical Nursing Instructor ..... **Shonda Garrison**
Practical Nursing Instructor ..... **Alisa McCleary**
Practical Nursing (Select) Instructor ..... **Ashley Eddinger**
Precision Machining Instructor ..... **Morgan Lesemann**
SHARE Instructor/Coordinator ..... **John Munger**
Teacher Preparation Instructor ..... **Hannah Day**
Visual Communications Instructor ..... **Troy Buller**
Welding Technology Instructor ..... **TBD**
Welding Technology Instructor (Evening) ..... **Anthony Valentin**

STUDENT SERVICES STAFF

Counselor/Student Services Coordinator ..... **Audra Mason**
Career and Guidance Counselor ..... **Jayme Evans**
Career Development Facilitator ..... **Sage Langston**
Disability Services Facilitator/Counselor ..... **Cortney Horne**
Administrative Assistant ..... **Brisa Linnebur**
Career Center Specialist ..... **Pam Keeler**
Career Center Specialist ..... **Lacey Smith**
Testing Specialist ..... **Heather Underwood**

PIONEER TECHNOLOGY CENTER STAFF

Assistant Plant/Facilities Manager ..... **Jason Kubik**
Bursar/Activity Fund Clerk ..... **Carol Cales**
Bus Driver/Custodian ..... **John Maupin**
Bus Driver/Custodian ..... **Connie Steele**
Bus Driver/Custodian/Fleet Maintenance ..... **Random Massey**
Bus Driver/Custodian/Inventory ..... **Debbie Johnstone**
Bus Driver/Maintenance ..... **Keith Burge**
Bus Driver/Maintenance Technician ..... **Jeff Robbins**
Communications & Marketing Coordinator ..... **Terri Busch**
Culinary Services Coordinator ..... **Mandy Farmer**

Culinary Services Cook ..... **Dwayne Bass**
Culinary Services Cook ..... **Nolan Overman**
Custodian (Evening) ..... **Michael Assidio**
Custodian (Evening) ..... **Jon Young**
Custodian (Evening) ..... **Darlene Anderson**
Custodian (Evening) ..... **Lori Copeland**
Children's Lab and Preschool Coordinator ..... **Kylia Carlson**
Children's Lab and Preschool Kitchen Assistant/Teaching Assistant ..... **Cheyanne Herring**
Children's Lab and Preschool Teacher ..... **Kaitlynn Clark**
Children's Lab and Preschool Teacher ..... **Tianna Tattershall**
Children's Lab and Preschool Teacher ..... **Heather Golay**
Children's Lab and Preschool Teacher ..... **Laynee Stewart**
Financial Aid Officer ..... **Lisa Jackson**
Finance Specialist – Payroll ..... **Erin Mercer**
Finance Specialist – Accounts Payable ..... **Katy Mayer**
Full-Time Programs Registrar – Data Specialist ..... **Holly Farmer**
Graphic Design/Marketing Specialist ..... **Angela Ogden**
Grounds/Maintenance ..... **TBD**
Human Resources Manager/Administrative Assistant/Co-Compliance Officer ..... **Kellie Johnson**
Network Administrator ..... **Kevin Bell**
Network Administrator ..... **Scott Overman**
New Beginning Empower Training Navigator/Co-Compliance Officer ..... **Wendy Burg**
New Beginning Training Navigator ..... **Katie Holman**
Plant/Facilities Manager ..... **Michael Orr**
Practical Nursing Assistant ..... **LaRhonda Rudd**
Receptionist ..... **Rich Cantillon**
Teaching Assistant—Health Programs ..... **Kindal Eller**
Teaching Assistant—Cosmetology ..... **Kari Officer**
Teaching Assistant—SHARE ..... **Celestine Hardiman**
Teaching Assistant—Trade & Industry ..... **Tyler Evans**
Teaching Assistant—Trade & Industry ..... **Phylisha Kimbrel**
Teaching Assistant—Trade & Industry ..... **Melinda Phillips**
Work Ready Ponca City Coordinator ..... **Dondi Rowe**
Work Ready Ponca City Manager ..... **Cena O'Driscoll**
Work Ready Ponca City Employment and Job Specialist ..... **Fae Rabb**
Work Ready Ponca City Employment and Job Specialist ..... **Noel Black**
Work Ready Ponca City Administrative Assistant ..... **Becca Hodgson**

DISRUPTION OF INSTRUCTION

In the event of a school disruption to instruction, PTC may adopt an adjusted schedule and/or calendar according to Oklahoma State Department of Education and/or the Oklahoma State Department of Career and Technical Education guidelines in an effort to adhere to public health and safety guidance. An updated schedule and calendar will be provided. Students will be accountable to meet attendance, participation, and academic requirements for their program.

ADMISSIONS/PLACEMENT/WITHDRAWAL/GRADING

High School Students—All high school students shall be enrolled through a cooperative effort of the sending comprehensive high school and the area CareerTech center except in such cases where the student has provided sufficient evidence that s/he is pursuing an alternative education plan in accordance with 1981 O.S. 70-10-105.

High School Students with Alternative Education Plan—High school-age students pursuing an alternative education plan must provide written verification that the student is working toward high school credentialing through an educational entity other than public or private school (i.e. accredited home school association or other PTC-approved option).

Students Under Age 18 without a High School Diploma or High School Equivalent (HSE)—Students under the age of 18 who have dropped out of high school or are at-risk of dropping out may be eligible, in collaboration with a Pioneer Technology Center partner school district, to enroll as a high school student in both PTC SHARE and PTC Career Tech courses.

Students Ages 16 and 17 With a High School Diploma or HSE—Students ages 16 and 17 who have graduated from high school or have received the HSE certificate may be enrolled in a PTC Career Major; however, these students will be enrolled with the high school student classification. Students ages 16 and 17 will not have adult status privileges while on PTC campus. Students ages 16 and 17 will not have to pay tuition for a PTC Career Major. Upon reaching age 18 or when the student's high school class has graduated, a high school graduate or a HSE recipient will then become an adult student.

Adult Students with a High School Diploma or HSE—Students age 18 within 30 days of the start of classes or older who have a high school diploma or HSE will be enrolled with an adult student classification. Students must provide proof of a high school diploma or HSE certificate. In case of questionable high school completion documentation, Counselors in Student Services will verify completion with the following steps: 1. Direct contact to school or agency to obtain accreditation status. 2. Ask prospective student to provide additional contact information if needed for the school/agency awarding the transcript or diploma. 3. Have prospective student sign for a records request to be provided directly to school by mail, fax or email secure link. 4. If not able to verify, recommend adult basic education with possible need to complete the HiSet or GED exam.

Self-pay Students Over Age 18 Without a High School Diploma or HSE—Students who have not graduated from high school or obtained a HSE do not qualify for Federal Financial Aid. Self-pay students wishing to enroll in a full-time PTC Career Major will be considered on an individual basis. Entrance assessment scores, high school achievement, and work history will be considered for enrollment. The student may enroll half-time in a PTC Career Major and the other half day in Adult Education Family Literacy (AEFL). The student must complete the HSE certificate prior to completion of the second semester of the career major. Any student not in compliance with this requirement will not be allowed to continue in the career major.

Non-resident high school students – Non-resident high school (out-of-district secondary) students may be enrolled if the program has not reached maximum enrollment and if the student meets the following requirements: pays out-of-district secondary student tuition, provides own transportation, and has approval from parents or guardian, sending high school and PTC administration.

Non-resident high school students who attend a PTC district high school and pay taxes to another career tech district may enroll in a program without paying out-of-district tuition.

(Regardless of the high school attending, resident status is determined by the student's parent/guardian home address, and/or property ownership within the PTC District boundary.)

Advanced Placement—Advanced placement credits may be applied for coursework successfully completed at an approved secondary or post-secondary school within the timeframe allowable by the enrolled program area.

Transfer Students—Students desiring to transfer from another institution or who have had practical experience may have his/her transcript and/or credentials evaluated or may be tested to establish equivalency of training as related to the particular training being offered.

Practical Nursing Students—Requirements for admission, placement and grading are unique to the Practical Nursing program. Questions regarding these criteria should be addressed to the Practical Nursing Director.

ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY (AEFL)

Pioneer Technology Center sponsors AEFL classes. Classes are held Monday-Thursday. There is no initial cost for the program and individuals may enroll by contacting the PTC AEFL Coordinator at (580) 718-4264. Students exiting the program and desiring to re-enter may be assessed a re-enrollment fee. Pioneer Technology Center is a certified HSE/GED examination site. There is a fee for each section of the HSE assessment. Questions regarding costs or scheduling of assessments should be directed to the Testing Specialist at (580) 718-4279.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING ENROLLMENT

The voluntary entrance of a student into Pioneer Technology Center means that the student also voluntarily assumes obligations of academic performance and personal behavior according to the rules and regulations stated in the student handbook. A student is expected to make satisfactory academic progress toward completion of a course of study in order to be eligible for continuing enrollment. Satisfactory academic progress is based on both qualitative and quantitative measures. A student who fails to make satisfactory academic progress may not be permitted to continue enrollment. Exceptions may be granted with the recommendation of the program instructor, approval by the Instructional Director, and Financial Aid officer, if applicable. A student who fails to attend class regularly or otherwise demonstrates a lack of appropriate concern for satisfactory academic progress and personal conduct will be dismissed from Pioneer Technology Center. A student may apply for reinstatement at the beginning of the new class or grading period.

CO-ENROLLMENT IN HS/ADULT CLASSES

Adults and high school students may be co-enrolled in the same instructional areas. It is of paramount importance that all adult students enrolled in day classes at PTC (Adult-only or HS/Adult classes) be a positive, motivational force in the school life of the high school students with whom they share the campus. This includes attendance, dress, language, attitudes, and class/laboratory efforts. Those adult students not meeting these expectations shall be subject to dismissal from daytime classes.

WITHDRAWAL FROM PIONEER TECHNOLOGY CENTER

A Student Withdrawal/Placement form must be completed for any student (high school or adult) to be formally withdrawn from school. This form must be completed regardless of the reason the student is leaving Pioneer Technology Center including job placement. The student must notify the instructor, counselor, and/or Financial Aid Officer who will assist the student in initiating the withdrawal process. All district-owned books, supplies, equipment, etc. must be returned to the program instructor. In addition, any monies owed to the school must be paid before the withdrawal is considered official. Transcripts and other records will be released only after proper clearance has been accomplished. Failure to complete this process may result in a delay in the processing of refunds and/or may jeopardize the student's ability to qualify for future financial assistance. A doctor's note does not remove the student's obligation to officially withdraw. Adult students will be administratively withdrawn from a training program after five (5) consecutive absences if the student's instructor or a PTC administrator has received no contact from the student.

GRADING SYSTEM

Grade marks will not be used as a means of punishment or reward. Reduction of grade marks will not be used as a form of discipline under any circumstances. A student having less than 90% attendance will not be eligible for course credit and "NC" will be recorded on his/her PTC transcript. "NC" will be reported to the appropriate partner school for secondary students who have less than 90% attendance.

The following letter grades will appear in the student's permanent record:

A	-- Superior	4 Grade Points	90 - 100%
B	-- Above Average	3 Grade Points	80 - 89%
C	-- Average	2 Grade Points	70 - 79%
D	-- Below Average	1 Grade Point	60 - 69%
F	-- Failing	0 Grade Point	Below 60%
NC	-- No Credit	0 Grade Point	
I	-- Incomplete		
W	-- Withdraw		
P	-- Pass (Career Major)		
AP	-- Advance Placement		

Make up work: Students will be provided additional time (one day/absence) to make up coursework, without penalty, due to absences. All coursework must be completed before the end of the grading period.

PRACTICAL NURSING/PRACTICAL NURSING SELECT GRADING SYSTEM

Evaluation of students' comprehension and performance is ongoing and utilizes methods that include skills laboratory check-offs, critical skills demonstrations, clinical performance ratings, assignments, quizzes, and examinations.

The following letter grades will appear in the student's permanent record:

A	-- Superior	4 Grade Points	94 - 100%
B	-- Above Average	3 Grade Points	87 - 93%
C	-- Average	2 Grade Points	80 - 86%

(Below 80% constitutes a failing grade for theory and clinical courses. In order to be promoted to the next course of study, the student <u>MUST</u> have completed the previous course with a score of 80% or higher in each theory course and 80% or higher in the clinical component of each trimester.)

D/F	-- Unsatisfactory / Failing	0 Grade Point	0 - 79%

Note: This grading scale is used for transcripting advanced placement courses.

Programs with Clinical Rotations (Drug Screening)

A key component of Health curriculum is clinical rotations. Clinical contracts with outside agencies do not permit student participant in clinical hours after a positive drug screening. Due to the safety sensitive nature of clinical rotations, students enrolled in, but not limited to, the health-related programs (PN, PN Select, MS, HCC, FF/EMT) will be released or unable to complete the program on the outcome of a positive drug screening. This includes students who possess a medical cannabis card and test positive for THC.

TRANSCRIPT

When requested, a PTC transcript is issued to any student in good standing who has completed one or more courses within the career major/program enrolled.

TUITION/FEES/STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition for adult (post-secondary) students is based on the career major in which they are enrolled. Career majors that qualify for financial assistance range from 600 to 1500 hours. A $25.00 (nonrefundable) enrollment fee is required of all enrolling adult students. This enrollment fee is not applied toward tuition costs. A complete list of career majors offered at Pioneer Technology Center is available from the Counselor and/or Financial Aid Officer. Tuition for nonresident / out-of-district high school (secondary) students has been established by the Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technology Education for 2026-2027 at $20,313 (plus books/supplies, if required). Resident secondary students pay NO TUITION; some courses may require the purchase of specified books and/or supplies.

POST-SECONDARY TUITION

(Calculated on number of hours in career major of enrollment)

Full Time Programs:

Resident	Nonresident	Out-of-State
(in PTC District)	(out of PTC District; in Oklahoma)	(out of Oklahoma)
$2.50 per hour	$5.00 per hour	$10.00 per hour

Basic Peace Officer Certification (BPOC):

In State Tuition:	$2000
Out-of-State Tuition:	$4000

Cost of Attendance: Each career program offering Cost of Attendance sheets may be found on PTC's website under Adult, Career Programs page: https://www.pioneertech.edu/page/career-programs-adult

TUITION / FEE PAYMENTS

A payment agreement will be generated for the purpose of establishing a timeline of tuition/fee payments. Nonpayment may result in the student being dropped from class, a hold being placed on the student's records, and/or the outstanding balance being referred to an outside agency for collections.

EXTENDED CLASSROOM/LAB HOURS

The length (in hours) of a PTC career major is based on the number of classroom and lab/shop hours needed to complete the training. Students are expected to complete the career major(s) in which they are enrolled within the established enrolled instructional time (career major hours). Enrolled instructional time refers to the hours of training offered by the institution during the period the student was enrolled, not necessarily the hours the student actually attended. Therefore, good attendance is necessary to complete a career major in the established timeframe. Students needing additional classroom/lab hours to complete a career major will be charged the hourly tuition rate (based on residency) for the additional number of hours needed to complete the career major. Projected additional completion hours will be determined by the Instructor. (Refer to the calculation example below.)

Example: *Career major A=1,050 hours—If, after 1,050 hours of enrolled instructional time has been offered, the student needs an additional 200 hours to complete the career major, a resident student will be charged an*

additional $500 (200 X $2.50); a nonresident student will be charged an additional $1,000 (200 X $5.00); an out-of-state student will be charged $2,000 (200 X $10.00).

These additional costs will not qualify for financial aid benefits. If the student does not complete the career major after the extension, the Instructional Director will determine whether to terminate the student or offer another extension. If these hours extend into the following school year, the student will also be required to pay a $25 enrollment fee.

INSTITUTIONAL REFUND

If a student withdraws from school after enrolling in a full-time program, a refund of tuition will be made according to PTC school board policy *FDBA*. In addition to Pioneer Tech's refund policy, students receiving Federal and State financial aid are subject to the Federal and State financial aid refund policies as published by the Department of Education and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and referred to in the Consumer Information Guide (available on PTC's website). The Tuition Fees (Refund) Policy is provided in Appendix A. *(Reference policy FDBA).*

BOOKS / SUPPLIES / UNIFORMS

Costs for books, supplies, and uniforms vary by career major. A complete list of books and supplies is available from the Bursar and on the Pioneer Technology Center website https://www.pioneertech.edu/page/financial-aid. Bookstore charges funded through a financial assistance plan must be completed within the first two weeks of training. Uniform cost and purchase options will be provided.

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE

A $30.00 (nonrefundable) student activity fee is required of all enrolling students. This activity fee is applied toward student activity costs.

FINANCIAL AID/ASSISTANCE

Pioneer Technology Center offers financial aid to qualified students. Financial assistance may consist of scholarships, grants and tuition waivers which may be offered singly or in various combinations depending on the degree of student need and eligibility. Pioneer Technology Center does not participate in any student loan programs. Additional financial aid and compliance information is available on the Pioneer Technology Center website: https://www.pioneertech.edu/page/financial-aid.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION PROVIDER

Lisa Jackson, Financial Aid Officer / 762-8336 ext. 228 / Office hours: 8:00 to 4:00, Monday-Friday.

FINANCIAL AID AND CONSUMER INFORMATION GUIDE

For annual Consumer Information go to our website https://www.pioneertech.edu/page/financial-aid, and click on Consumer Information Guide. Types of Financial Aid, Guidance, Academics, Transition Services, Financial Aid Policies, and Procedures, Consumer Information, as well as many other topics are included in the guide. A paper copy is available upon request from the Financial Aid office.

FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS OFFERED BY PTC

FEDERAL PROGRAM(S)

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

The FSEOG is a grant for undergraduate students with exceptional financial need. To establish eligibility, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be completed so the amount of financial need a student has can be determined.

Pell Grant
This is a federally funded grant program which provides funds for adult students to attend post-secondary education. Any post-secondary student may apply online at https://studentaid.gov/.

STATE PROGRAM(S)

Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant Program (OTAG)
This is a federally funded program administered on the state level. Students who have completed the FAFSA have automatically applied for OTAG. It is recommended that a student file as soon as the FAFSA application is available.

Oklahoma's Promise
Students must apply for this scholarship between 8th grade and December 31st of the Senior Year in High School. Students must meet certain income eligibility, academic and conduct requirements. This scholarship may be used at Oklahoma accredited public and private colleges and for post-secondary vocational-technical programs eligible for federal student financial aid at technology centers.

SCHOLARSHIPS/TUITION WAIVERS

Pioneer Technology Center offers the scholarship opportunities explained below to its students. Additionally, many PTC students have been successful in securing scholarships from some of the local civic organizations such as Soroptimist and Community Health Foundation. These opportunities vary by dates and amounts. Applications for scholarships awarded through PTC are available in the Financial Aid Office. Applications for Tuition Waivers are available in the Student Services Office.

Pioneer Technology Center Foundation Scholarship – In 1998, a group of Kay County individual, dedicated to helping PTC students, formed a foundation to provide scholarships. These scholarships vary in amounts and are awarded by the executive board of the Foundation. See the Financial Aid Officer for complete details.

Olin and Paula Branstetter Memorial Nursing Scholarship – In May 2017, the Branstetter Family established a scholarship in memory of their parents. The intent is to award the scholarship to a student in the Practical Nursing program who exhibits good character traits such as honesty, integrity, courage, determination, dedication and perseverance in combination with academic achievement. The scholarship will vary in amount and be awarded once annually in March. Applications will be available February 1st of each year in the Financial Aid Office.

Oklahoma CareerTech Foundation Scholarship - The Oklahoma CareerTech Foundation was formed in 1970 for the purpose of administering scholarship monies generated by gifts from individuals who have expressed concern for the continued advancement of career and technical education in Oklahoma. These scholarships are unique in that they are reserved for deserving adult students who may not qualify for other student assistance programs. They are also unique in that they are awarded more on the basis of need and commitment than on good grades alone. https://oklahoma.gov/careertech/about/foundation/scholarships.html

Industrial Tech Memorial Scholarship – In May 2019, an anonymous donor established a scholarship in memory of their son. The scholarship is open to any adult Industrial Technology student with a financial need that has completed at least one semester in the IT program. Funds must be used to assist with the cost of tuition, fees, books and/or tools. The scholarship will vary in amount and be awarded once annually in March. Applications will be available February 1st of each year in the Financial Aid Office.

13th Year Tuition Scholarship – The opportunity exists for recent high school graduates to complete the training program started as a high school student at PTC by obtaining one of the school's 13th Year Tuition Scholarship. These scholarships are available, on a limited basis, to qualified high school graduates within the PTC district. Students requesting assistance, must first apply for Federal Financial Assistance (FAFSA). If approved for Federal Financial Assistance, funds awarded must be applied toward PTC tuition prior to the 13th Year Tuition Scholarship.

First Time Student Tuition Scholarship – Pioneer Technology Center's Board of Education made a commitment to the residents of District #13 that qualifying graduates from any of PTC's in-district high schools have the opportunity to attend tuition free. Students may take advantage of this opportunity until the age of 23. These scholarships are available, on a limited basis, to qualified high school graduates within the PTC district. Students requesting assistance, must first apply for Federal Financial Assistance (FAFSA). If approved for Federal Financial Assistance, funds awarded must be applied toward PTC tuition prior to the First Time Student Tuition Scholarship.

Service Member Tuition Scholarship – Pioneer Technology Center (PTC) is dedicated to supporting those who have served our country. To honor their commitment and help secure their futures, the PTC Board of Education offers a Service Member Tuition Scholarship. This scholarship covers tuition for one of PTC's Full-Time Program offerings. This scholarship is designed to serve current, past, and retired service members who reside within PTC's district who have served or are serving active duty in the U.S. Military and/or received honorable discharge. This scholarship is non-transferrable to dependents or family members. Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible: Currently reside within PTC's district, provide DD214 or Certificate of Eligibility, and accepted into an on-campus program at PTC. The scholarship may be applied to one Full-Time Program Offering at PTC. Students must maintain a "C" average and comply with PTC's attendance policy in order to retain scholarship.

Children of MIA or POW Tuition Waiver – Oklahoma §72-302 Tuition-free career and technology education - Exception. Any Oklahoma veteran, or the child of any Oklahoma veteran who is missing in action or a prisoner of war, shall be entitled to attend any state-supported technology center school in the State of Oklahoma operating under the State Board of Career and Technology Education without the payment of tuition.

ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS OFFERED BY PTC

A student must meet the following requirements in order to be eligible for financial aid programs offered by PTC:

1. Have a valid Institutional Student Information Report (ISIR);
2. Be a regular student enrolled in an approved title IV program of at least 600 clock hours;
3. Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. Eligible non-citizens may be required to furnish proof of immigration status. The aid office will advise the student what documentation is needed;
4. Be in good standing and maintain satisfactory academic progress in the course of study s/he is pursuing according to the standards of PTC;
5. Not owe a refund on any grant, is not in default on any student loan, and has not borrowed in excess of loan limits under Title IV programs at any institution;
6. Agree to use all Title IV money received only for expenses related to study at PTC;
7. Have a valid social security number, except students from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia or the Republic of Palau;
8. Have a high school diploma, High School Equivalency (HSE), or home school affidavit;
9. Is not simultaneously enrolled in an elementary or secondary school;
10. Have financial need, if applicable.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)

All students at Pioneer Technology Center must be making satisfactory progress toward completion of their identified training goals. Therefore, in order for a student to remain eligible for federal financial aid, s/he must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). All students are considered to be making SAP at the time of enrollment. SAP is comprised of both qualitative and quantitative measures. A student is in compliance with Federal Student Aid SAP requirements if the percent of curriculum hours completed meets or exceeds the percent of clock hours completed (quantitative standard) and maintains a cumulative grade of "C" or better (qualitative standard), and are in compliance with PTC's 90% attendance policy. Documented absences are not excused for Federal Financial Aid purposes and will count as an accrued absence. SAP is verified at the end of each payment period. Failure to meet SAP will result in the loss of eligibility to receive federal financial aid. If a student fails to maintain SAP, s/he will be notified in writing. Due to the length of career majors PTC will not utilize the financial aid warning option. Additionally, all career majors must be completed within 150% of the established time. Example: A 1050-hour career major must be completed in 1575 hours (1050 x 150% =1575). If at any point the student is not progressing at the 150% pace his/her financial aid will be terminated. Should there be extenuating circumstances that prevent the student from achieving this requirement the student can file an appeal (with documentation) requesting additional time.

A student may appeal the initial termination of financial aid. The appeal form will be included with the notification of funding termination. The student must answer why s/he failed to meet SAP standards, what has changed in his/her circumstances, and what s/he plans to do differently from the past in order to meet minimum SAP standards. The student has (10) working days from the date of the notification to submit the appeal form and documentation to the Financial Aid Officer. The appeal will be reviewed by the Financial Aid Officer and an Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee will determine whether 1) the student's financial aid will be reinstated with no action; 2) the student's financial aid will be reinstated on a probationary basis with attendance monitoring and/or an academic plan; or 3) the student's financial aid eligibility with be terminated. A student can regain eligibility by attending one payment period on a self-pay (or agency funded) basis. The student must request reinstatement of federal financial aid in writing. Upon receipt of reinstatement request, will be reviewed by the financial aid officer. The student will be notified in writing regarding his/her eligibility status.

OPPORTUNITIES/PROGRAMS/SERVICES

NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY

The National Technical Honor Society is a nonprofit, honor organization for outstanding students enrolled in occupational, vocational or technical programs. These students may attend secondary schools, vocational centers, technical colleges, private occupational training institutions or colleges with technical majors.

Criteria for Membership

PIONEER TECHNOLOGY CENTER

National Technical Honor Society

I. Secondary Students

1. An "A" student at Pioneer Technology Center
2. Three absences or fewer (three tardies/early outs will count as one absence)
3. Instructor recommendation based on:
   a*ttitude / leadership / citizenship / behavior / professionalism / ability to work well with others*
4. Minimum of Silver WorkKeys level
5. Maintain a "C" or above in all other classes during the current school year (no D's or F's)

II. Adult Students

1. An "A" student enrolled in a career major of at least 600 hours
2. Three absences or fewer (three tardies/early outs will count as one absence)
3. Instructor recommendation based on:
   a*ttitude / leadership / citizenship / behavior / professionalism / ability to work well with others*
4. Minimum of Silver WorkKeys level
5. PTC administrator, counselor or program coordinator recommendation

III. Practical Nursing Students

1. A student maintaining a 90% (or higher) overall grade average (during the current school year)
2. Attend at least 98% of the total required hours (during the current school year)
3. Limited to continuing student or student entering in September
4. Instructor recommendation based on:
   a*ttitude / leadership / citizenship / behavior / professionalism / ability to work well with others*
5. Minimum of Silver WorkKeys level
6. PTC administrator, counselor or program coordinator recommendation

Recommendation for admission to NTHS is based on enrollment in a PTC program for a minimum of eighteen weeks prior to the recommendation deadline. Students with discipline problems at PTC or the partner high school will not be considered for NTHS membership. Administrator, counselor or coordinator recommendations will be sought only if the student meets the other identified criteria. For students enrolled in two-year programs, membership will not automatically qualify the student for the following year. The student (secondary or adult) will be required to meet the same criteria for membership in the Honor Society for the second year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S & DIRECTOR'S HONOR ROLLS

The Superintendent's and Director's Honor Rolls are acknowledged each semester based on academic performance. Students earning a 4.0 GPA are listed on the Superintendent's Honor Roll; students earning a 3.0 or better GPA are listed on the Director's Honor Roll.

PROGRAM COMPLETER/GRADUATE

To qualify for participation in a graduation activity or ceremony related to completion of the program/career major enrolled, students must meet the following criteria.

The student must have:

1. Been enrolled in a program/career major with a minimum of 300 hours, including AEFL and SHARE programs.
    a. Is classified as an adult or a high school senior.
2. Completed all coursework related to the program/career major.
3. Earned a credential and/or passed an end of instruction assessment related to the program/career major.
    a. Credential Examples: WorkKeys, Forklift Safety, CPR, HSE, High School Diploma (SHARE students), or other industry recognized credentials.
    b. Exemptions will be made for programs requiring credentialing after program/career major completion as long as the student:
        i. Has completed 90% of coursework in the program/career major enrolled.
        ii. Has scheduled the required certification exam(s)
4. Maintained compliance with PTC's attendance policy. Students receiving no credit due to attendance concerns will not qualify for graduation ceremony activities.

Note: The Instructional Director may amend the requirements on a case by case basis for the benefit of the student.

GRADUATION CEREMONY ATTIRE

Students may wear tribal regalia during graduation ceremonies. Tribal regalia will include traditional garments, jewelry, other adornments such as an eagle feather, an eagle plume, a beaded cap, a stole or similar objects of culture and religious significance worn by members of a federally recognized Indian tribe or the tribe of another country. Tribal regalia does not include any firearm or other weapon. Tribal regalia does not include any object that is otherwise prohibited by federal law, except in compliance with an appropriate federal permit.

GUARANTEED GRADUATES

Pioneer Technology Center believes that in order to be successful in a career, individuals must meet the academic and technical standards related to their career of choice. To that end, PTC offers rigorous programs of study designed in cooperation with business and industry to ensure that students are fully prepared for the demands of the workplace.

The **PTC Guaranteed Graduate** program allows employers to hire PTC graduates with the confidence of knowing that their new employees have the backing of the school that prepared them for the job. Being a Guaranteed Graduate is something that is *earned* by our graduates. Students are encouraged to strive for this goal beginning at the time of enrollment.

Candidates for this program undergo a rigorous screening process to make sure that they are ready to work. When a student completes the following standards, they will be considered a "Guaranteed Graduate" of PTC:

- Instructor recommendation based on: attitude / leadership / citizenship / behavior / professionalism / ability to work well with others
- Completion of HS Diploma or High School Equivalent
- Completion of all Career Major course requirements
- PTC GPA ≥ 3.0
- PTC Attendance 6 absences/year (3 tardies = 1 absence)
- Achieve a WorkKeys endorsement
- Achieve a credential, license, certification or exam (End of Instruction, predictor) related to Career Major

If the employer experiences issues or concerns with a Guaranteed Graduate's performance at any time during the first 90 days of employment, the employer can contact PTC to give us the opportunity to coach the graduate and provide additional support. PTC will provide re-training, coaching and support for the Guaranteed Graduate at no cost to the graduate or the employer. PTC stands by our graduates!

STUDENT CERTIFICATION/LICENSING EXAMINATIONS AND FEES

Pioneer Technology Center recognizes there is an important public purpose served by expending funds to reimburse students for the direct costs of trade-specific industry certification and/or licensing examinations and/or fees related to students' programs of study where applicable. Pioneer Technology Center believes that providing for the direct costs of students' certification and/or licensing examinations and/or fees will assist to increase the number of students who obtain certification and/or licensing and ultimately benefit the public by having an increased number of certified and/or licensed personnel in a given area of study.

Pioneer Technology Center will reimburse the student for one examination or one fee per certification or licensure. Each student will be limited to a total accumulated assistance of $200 regardless of the length of study or change of major. This program may be discontinued at any time, including but not limited to when 1) the allocated budget is exhausted or 2) Pioneer Technology Center's Board of Education discontinues the program.

Criteria: The following criteria will be utilized to determine the student's eligibility for reimbursement:

1. Student must have accumulated a minimum of 60 hours of full-time instruction;
2. Student must meet the requirements of the PTC attendance policy;
3. Student must be in good financial standing with the district;
4. Student must have a grade of 80% or better in the represented career major;
5. Student must complete the "Certification/Licensing Exam Reimbursement Application" and submit it no later than the last day of attendance or by June 15, whichever comes first.
6. Student must submit the original receipt within 45 calendar days of the application approval date.

CAREERTECH STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (CTSO)

Students enrolled at PTC have the opportunity to participate in the CareerTech Student Organization related to their fields of study. The student organization is sponsored by the instructor of each program and is an integral part of the vocational curriculum. CareerTech student organizations include:

BPA (Business Professionals of America)
Our mission at Business Professionals of America is to develop and empower student leaders to discover their passion and change the world by creating unmatched opportunities in learning, professional growth and service.

ProStart
Our mission as the philanthropic foundation of the National Restaurant Association, the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the industry's training and education, career development and community engagement efforts.

HOSA-Future Health Professionals
The mission of HOSA is to enhance the delivery of compassionate, quality health by providing opportunities for knowledge, skill and leadership development of all health science education students, therefore, helping the students to meet the needs of the health community.

FCCLA (Family Career & Community Leaders of America)
Our mission is to promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

SkillsUSA
SkillsUSA empowers its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. We improve the quality of our nation's future skilled workforce through the development of SkillsUSA Framework skills that include personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics.

Educators Rising
Educators Rising is cultivating a new generation of highly skilled educators by guiding young people on a path from high school through college and into their teaching careers.

CTSO members have the opportunity to participate in leadership activities as well as local, district, state and/or national events. Students who participate in these activities must meet the specified criteria for CTSO/activities eligibility.

COLLEGE CREDIT OPTIONS

Pioneer Technology Center has developed several articulation agreements with area colleges including Northern Oklahoma College, Cowley College, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, OSUIT, and Oklahoma Wesleyan University. These agreements allow Pioneer Technology Center students the opportunity to receive college credit

for specific courses taken within PTC Career Major options. Each agreement is unique. Specific information is available from each college representative. Contacts may be initiated through the PTC Student Services office.

WORKKEYS

WorkKeys is a required part of PTC career majors and is a component of the Career Center. It is a job skills assessment system that measures "real world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success. WorkKeys testers earn Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum certificates based on knowledge which has been cross-walked with pre-determined scores needed by the career major in which they are enrolled. These skills are valuable for any occupation at any level of education.

WORK-BASED LEARNING ACTIVITIES (WBL)

Pioneer Technology Center students are encouraged to experience "life in the workplace" through work-based learning opportunities. A student must meet the following requirements before being placed in an employment training activity:

1. The employment training activity must be scheduled through the program instructor.
2. The student must maintain satisfactory academic progress through the date on which the employment training assignment is to begin.
3. The student must be placed in the field of the program enrolled.
4. The student must have completed and returned (to the instructor) all required documents prior to being released to the employment training assignment.
5. The student must return to class as scheduled to meet with the instructor.
6. Should a student be dismissed from the employment training activity site, the student must report to class the following day.
7. Deviations from this plan can be made at the agreement and the discretion of the Instructional Director and the classroom instructor.

Note: Due to the nature of some programs and clinical/work-based learning, appropriate vaccinations/health assessment may be required by the assigned worksite in order for students to participate.

APPRENTICESHIPS

Qualifying students may be provided with the opportunity to participate in apprenticeships. This opportunity bridges the education-industry gap by enabling students to gain practical work experience. PTC aims to produce a workforce that is both knowledgeable and skilled at applying their knowledge in real-world settings.
For more information contact PTC's Apprenticeship & Job Placement Coordinator.

SAFETY

Safety is very important at Pioneer Technology Center. Students are expected to practice safety at all times while on Pioneer Technology Center campus and while participating in school activities off campus. Students are required to achieve 100% on departmental safety tests before proceeding with curriculum. Eye protection is required in industrial shop areas. Hearing protection is required in specific shop areas. **Pioneer Technology Center does not insure students.** If you do not have a family health and/or accident policy, please consider obtaining one.

ASBESTOS INSPECTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has required that all public schools will be inspected for the presence of asbestos and is to develop a management plan, which identifies and defines procedures for managing and scheduling re-inspection of all asbestos in the school. Pioneer Technology Center has been inspected for asbestos and has completed a management plan that may be reviewed during regular working hours in the office of the Plant/Facilities Coordinator.

THREATS / ORDER OF PROTECTION

If threats of violence are being made to harm a student or staff member, a report must be made immediately to a PTC Administrator. When a Court Order of protection has been issued for or against a student or staff member, the Court Order must be immediately provided to a PTC Administrator.

DRILLS

PTC prepares staff and students to appropriately react to emergency situations by planning and executing required drills including fire, tornado, intruder, lockdown and other safety drills. These drills may occur at any time during the school day and throughout the school year.

FIRE DRILLS

SIGNAL: The signal for a fire drill is an automated message. Exit immediately as follows:

- If your room has an outside door, use it.
- Walk rapidly.
- Do not crowd or push.
- Exit the building immediately when the alarm sounds using the closest exit route; do not return to any area for personal possessions, books or equipment.
- When leaving the building, please get a considerable distance away from the entrance so that others will have no difficulty leaving the building.
- When clear of the building, report to your instructor for roll call.

POSTED IN EACH CLASSROOM IS A FIRE ESCAPE ROUTE. FOR YOUR PROTECTION, LEARN YOUR EXIT ROUTE.

TORNADO WARNING

It is important that precautions should be taken so that everyone knows what to do in case of a tornado alert. In accordance with general recommendations made by the Oklahoma Civil Defense, the following regulations have been prepared for use.

SIGNAL: The signal for a tornado alert is a verbal alarm. This alarm shall be given over the P.A. system. In the event of electrical failure, air horns and verbal instructions will be used. Move to the designated area immediately as follows:

- Walk rapidly.
- Do not crowd or push.
- When safely in the designated refuge area, report to your instructor for roll call.

Posted in each classroom is a designated refuge area map. For your protection, learn the location of your refuge area. **The PTC Conference Center is a designated refuge area.**

ARMED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

The Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education is committed to providing a safe environment for students and employees. To further this commitment, the board has designated select employee(s) to carry a handgun on school property. These individuals may use whatever force is necessary to protect students and staff.

INTRUDER ALERT / ACTIVE SHOOTER

Notification of an intruder in the building may take a variety of forms: telephone, in-person, announcement, etc. In the event of an intruder in the building, students will be directed to the most secure location in the immediate area (i.e. area with covered or no windows, etc.) If you are separated from your class or away from your usual area, go with the nearest PTC staff person to a secure location. If you are unable to locate assistance, find the closest enclosed location with the least visibility. Do not leave a secure location until your instructor, a PTC staff member or a law enforcement officer advises you (in person) to do so.

HOW TO RESPOND WHEN AN ACTIVE SHOOTER IS IN YOUR VICINITY

Quickly determine the most reasonable and safest way to protect your own life. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly.

IF YOU CAN ESCAPE

If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises. Make sure you:

- Listen for the sound of gun fire, and move accordingly.
- Determine an escape route.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow. Warn others of the danger.
    - Leave your belongings behind.
    - If possible, help others escape.
    - Do not attempt to move wounded people.
    - Keep your hands empty and visible and fingers spread apart during evacuation.
    - Keep quiet.
    - Follow instructions from law enforcement.
- Call 9-911 (from any campus phone) when you are safe.
- Reunification locations (TBD)

IF YOU MUST HIDE OUT

If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide from where the active shooter is less likely to find you.

- Lock the door and turn off the lights.
- Response professionals recommend you turn off your cell phone and any other noise source that will give away your position (i.e., computers, radios, televisions).
- Bring items with you that may help to fight the shooter.
- Keep out of view of the shooter.
- Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (i.e., make body armor with text books, heavy purses, backpacks, etc.).
- Barricade entrances. Stack furniture deep, wide and high.
- Hide behind large items (i.e., cabinets, desks).
- Do not restrict your options for movement.
- Remain quiet.

TAKE ACTION AGAINST THE ACTIVE SHOOTER

As a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter by:

- Attempting to take the active shooter down. When the shooter is at close range, and you cannot flee, your chance of survival is much greater if you try to incapacitate him/her with whatever means available.
- Adopt the survival mindset during times of crisis.

LOCKDOWN

In some instances, lockdown of classrooms, lab/shop areas, offices and meeting rooms may be required. Notification of a lockdown is made over the intercom. All doors will be locked by PTC staff and will remain locked until the threat has been resolved. If you are in a location other than your classroom (i.e. cafeteria; bathroom; etc.) when a lockdown is issued, you should return to your classroom immediately. An announcement will be made over the intercom when the lockdown is over.

VISITORS/ACCESS TO STUDENTS

Students are not allowed to receive visitors during class except with the permission of the Instructional Director. A Pioneer Technology Center administrator will act in loco parentis to protect the interest of minor students when allowing a minor student to be interviewed by appropriate authorities on school premises.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Pioneer Technology Center is committed to the free and open exchange of ideas. PTC guarantees students, staff and visitors broad latitude regarding their rights to speak, write, listen, learn and assemble. Except where limitations on those rights are necessary to avoid disruption of the educational process, to protect minors, and to avoid lewd, vulgar and dangerous speech—PTC does not interfere with the exercise of free speech rights as defined by federal and state laws.

The outdoor areas of any campus of the technology center are deemed public forums for the campus community, and the technology center will not create "free speech zones" or other designated areas of campus outside of which expressive activities are prohibited. The technology center may maintain and enforce reasonable time, place and manner restrictions narrowly tailored in service of a significant institutional interest when the restrictions employ clear, published, content- and viewpoint-neutral criteria and provide for ample alternative means of expression. Any such restrictions shall allow for members of the campus community to spontaneously and contemporaneously assemble and distribute literature. Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted as applying to student expression taking place elsewhere on campus.

Any person who wishes to engage in noncommercial expressive activity on campus shall be permitted to do so freely, as long as the person's conduct is not unlawful and does not materially and substantially disrupt the functioning of the technology center.

Pioneer Technology Center may prohibit harassment, or may prohibit, limit, or restrict expression that the First Amendment does not protect as defined in policy FNAA.

Conduct that intentionally, materially and substantially disrupts another person's expressive activity if that activity is occurring in a campus space reserved for that activity under the exclusive use or control of a particular group is prohibited.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the technology center from maintaining and enforcing reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions that are narrowly tailored to serve a significant institutional interest only when such restrictions employ clear, published, content- and viewpoint-neutral criteria. Any such restrictions shall allow for members of the campus community to spontaneously and contemporaneously assemble, speak, and distribute literature.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE/BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS/ATTENDANCE POLICY

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education believes that in order for students to realize their fullest potential from educational efforts, they should attend all classes if possible. However, it is important for those students who are ill to stay home. Students who have a fever or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100 degrees Fahrenheit should not be at school or school activities.

Each instructor has a classroom management tool that assesses the value of each day's curriculum and documents the measurable loss to the student for failure to attend and be punctual, perform-personal responsibility and task management, and maintain safety.

Excused absences will be granted for the following reasons:

1. Documented Personal or family illnesses
2. Documented Medical appointments
3. Legal matters, including service on a grand, multicounty grand, or petit jury*
4. Extenuating circumstances deemed necessary by the instructional director
5. Observance of holidays required by student's religious affiliation
6. Documented participation in up to (5) 4-H activities each school year
7. Documented speech therapy, occupational therapy, or any other service related to the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP)

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian or adult student to notify the school if a student is to be absent for enumerated items 1-5 in a reasonable amount of time.

Enumerated items 6-7 are statutorily excused absences which will require notification to the school district prior to the absence, and documentation from the 4-H educator or service provider after the absence to identify the absence as excused.

Students will be given the opportunity to make up any schoolwork missed while they are participating in activities or programs sponsored by 4-H. Grades cannot be adversely affected for lack of attendance or participation due to their participation in activities or programs sponsored by 4-H so long as the district was notified prior to the absence and the appropriate documentation was provided by the 4-H educator after the absence which substantiates the student's attendance at the 4-H event or activity.

Students will not be provided an excused 4-H absence if the student has been disciplined or suspended by the school district and a condition of the punishment would preclude the student from participation in any school field trips or extracurricular activities.

The district will require documentation to support medical, personal, or family illness that results in an excused absence. However, students will be required to make up any work that has been missed due to any excused absence.

Secondary students will be allowed to be absent to participate in authorized sending school activities (SSA), Pioneer Tech School Activities (PSA) and Work-Based Learning (WBL). Absences due to school activities shall be recorded as SSA, PSA, or WBL and are not counted against student attendance. School activity absences shall not be counted in the accumulated hours present as shown on the permanent records.

Unexcused absences are any absences that do not fall within one of the above categories.

Students having less than 90% attendance will not be eligible for course credit and NC will be recorded on his/her PTC transcript. Percent of attendance calculation is based upon days present divided by the

number of days in which the student is enrolled during the grading period. For this calculation, three (3) tardies or early out(s) are equal to one (1) absence. A full-time adult student must maintain 90% attendance in both the a.m. and p. m. sessions. Failure to do so will result in loss of credit. NC will be reported to the appropriate sending school for secondary students who have less than 90% attendance. Students who receive No Credit resulting from failure to attend may be ineligible for continued enrollment.

Any student who exceeds the 90% limit may appeal to the instructional director for reinstatement of credit. Consideration will be given as to the reason for the absences as well as to the attempts by parents to minimize the absenteeism.

Students who experience absences due to a severe, chronic, or life-threatening physical or mental illness, injury, or trauma may qualify for a Leave of Absence according to the PTC Student Handbook.

Note: Practical Nursing (PN) Select students should familiarize themselves with PN attendance guidelines in the PN Handbook.

*** REFERENCE: 38 O.S. §37**
70 O.S. § 10-105
70 O.S. § 3-145.8
70 O.S. § 11-101.3

Please be aware, documented absences are not excused for Federal Financial Aid purposes and will count as an accrued absence.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Pioneer Technology Center campus closures due to hazardous weather conditions are reported to area television and radio stations. In addition, a message is sent through a student notification system to all students via automated phone call. Additionally, school closings are listed on PTC social media. If there is no announcement regarding campus closure, PTC is open and students are expected to attend. In the event that Pioneer Technology Center is open and a partner school district is closed due to weather/road conditions, PTC will not run bus transportation to/from that district and high school students are not expected to attend.

Adult students are encouraged to exercise good judgment regarding traveling in inclement weather. If Pioneer Technology Center is in session, absences are recorded. Although absences due to inclement weather are not excused, extenuating circumstances may be considered by the Instructional Director.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A Leave of Absence (LOA) is defined as a period of time which can be granted to students for circumstances which require the student to be absent from school for five (5) or more consecutive class days (not to exceed thirty (30) calendar days). A student can receive one (1) LOA in a twelve- (12) month period. Requests for additional LOAs will be considered (on a case-by-case basis) based on the nature and gravity of the incident prompting the request. Requests for an extension to an approved LOA will also be considered on a case-by-case basis. Application for a LOA must be made in advance. Exceptions may be considered if the student can show with proper documentation that it was not possible to make the request in advance. A doctor's note does not remove the student's obligation to officially request a leave of absence. If a student fails to return to school at the end of the LOA, the school must treat the LOA as withdrawal. In such an event, the effective date of the withdrawal is the beginning date of the LOA. The Leave of Absence process should originate with the PTC Counselor. The student and counselor will

develop the specific details of the Leave of Absence with input from the student's instructor and the Financial Aid Officer (as needed). The Instructional Director will approve or deny the LOA request. The student will report to the Full-time Programs Registrar – Data Specialist upon return to classes; the Full-time Programs Registrar – Data Specialist will notify the Instructor, Instructional Director, Counselor, Bursar and Financial Aid Officer of the date of return. The counselor will monitor the LOA return date and will process a student drop for failure to return.

NOTE: This Leave of Absence process does not apply to the PTC Practical Nursing program. For information specific to the PN program, contact the Adult Health Programs Instructional Director.

RELEASE FROM CLASS/LEAVING CAMPUS

Under no conditions will any student leave the PTC campus during scheduled class times without gaining the instructor's permission and signing out in the Student Services Office. High school students under the age of majority will not be allowed to leave campus until parent/guardian contact is made.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

All students are expected to act with due consideration for the rights and needs of others. Appropriate language, grooming, dress, and conduct of good taste are essential qualities of successful employees; therefore, only the best is expected of Pioneer Technology Center students.

The goal of the PTC disciplinary policy is to promote adherence to the policies and regulations of the district and to correct misconduct. Pioneer Technology Center, in order to provide quality education for all students, will not tolerate disruptive acts that would interfere with the tranquility of the school, the safety of students or the damaging of property. Students, while enrolled in Pioneer Technology Center, shall be under the supervision of, and accountable to, school personnel. All staff members have the responsibility to monitor for and address inappropriate student conduct. This includes travel to/from campus and school-related activities as well as time spent on campus and/or at the location of any school-related activity. In addition, each instructor has the responsibility and authority to establish a classroom atmosphere conducive to quality education and training. Students are expected to adhere to classroom rules and procedures as set forth by PTC instructors.

Administrative response to student misconduct is a matter directly influencing the morale of the entire student body. As such, all student discipline will be based on a careful assessment of the circumstances surrounding each infraction (i.e., the student's attitude and the seriousness of the offense and its potential effect on other students.) *(Reference policies FO and FO-R4 in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR NETWORK SYSTEMS & INTERNET USE

Internet access is available to students and staff in Oklahoma public school districts. Accessing the Internet will allow students and instructors to utilize vast resources of information from many locations. Access to the Internet at Pioneer Technology Center by employees, students or guests is subject to the policies and conditions set forth by the Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education. The Network Systems & Internet Acceptable Use Policy is provided in Appendix A. *(Reference policies EFBCA and EFBCB in Appendix A of this handbook.)* Users of the Internet are subject to any conditions or terms of agreement that may be required by the State Department of Education and/or Pioneer Technology Center at any time. *All students must agree to comply with these terms and conditions of Network Systems and Internet use before they will be allowed to access the PTC network systems and/or Internet using Pioneer Technology Center equipment and/or class time.*

ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY

CLASS-RELATED EXCURSIONS, FIELD TRIPS AND OFF CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

A secondary student must be passing all subjects at the partner high school to be eligible to participate in PTC class-related field trips and off-campus activities that are **outside** of the student's regular PTC class schedule. In addition, the student must return the required eligibility form(s) by the designated due date to participate.

Secondary students must be passing all subjects at the partner high school and making a "C" or better at PTC in order to be eligible to participate in student organization activities including district, state or national events and competitions. Adult students must be making a "C" or better at PTC in order to be eligible to participate in these student organization activities.

TELEPHONE USE

A courtesy phone is available for student use at the Receptionist's Desk in the front lobby.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE

It is the policy of the Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education that a student may possess a wireless telecommunications device while on school premises, or while in transit under the authority of the school, or while attending any function sponsored or authorized by the school upon prior written consent of both the student's parent or guardian, and the superintendent or the superintendent's designee. During class/shop/lab times, electronic communication devices are to be used for educational purposes only. Electronic communication devices which distract from the learning environment will not be allowed. Failure to follow policy may warrant disciplinary action.

STAFF MEMBERS AND ELECTRONIC OR DIGITAL COMMUMNICATIONS

The board of education shall designate school-approved electronic or digital communications platforms.

School personnel engaging in electronic or digital communication with an individual high school student shall include the student's parent or guardian in any electronic or digital communication, unless such communication is on a school- approved platform and related to school and academic communications. The only exception to this requirement may be made in case of an emergency, subject to subsequent notification to the parent or guardian. School employees shall make reasonable efforts to use school-approved platforms, systems, or applications that allow automatic inclusion of parents or guardians in communications with students.

School employees reported to have engaged in electronic or digital communications that would violate this policy and state law shall be placed on administrative leave while the school district investigates the incident. If the investigation finds that no misconduct occurred, the school employee shall be reinstated, and the incident noted in the personnel file.

Designated Electronic or Digital Communication's Platforms

- PTC Google Email, PTC Google Chat, PTC Google Classroom, PTC Canvas Learning Management System, PTC Social Media Accounts and Messaging (Facebook, Instagram, X - Twitter, Snapchat, TikTok) - Through PTC Official Accounts, Remind, Discord Group Chat, Frame.io, GroupMe, Brightwheel, Band, DaySmart

APPROPRIATE SCHOOL ATTIRE

Appropriate attire (dress) and grooming are based upon business and industry expectations. (Inappropriate attire includes, but is not limited to: mesh tops, midriff tops; halter tops; tank tops; low-cut tops; shorts; dresses and skirts above the knee; pants/jeans that expose skin above the knee; exposed undergarments; leggings/tights/yoga pants as an outer garment; trench coats; house shoes; pajama pants; clothing with unprofessional pictures and

phrases including those that reference alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco products; and clothing which depicts death, violence, vulgarity or racial slurs.) An administrator or the student's instructor will ask a student to change clothes, leave school or will exercise other suitable disciplinary measures when inappropriate clothing is worn. *(Reference policy FNCA-R in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

CARE OF SCHOOL-OWNED PROPERTY

Students are responsible for the care of school-owned property (i.e. books, tools, equipment, etc.). If school-owned property is lost, damaged, or destroyed, the student shall be charged the repair or replacement cost.

HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION/BULLYING

Pioneer Technology Center will not tolerate harassment, sexual harassment, discrimination or bullying (including hazing) of any kind. Harassment, discrimination or bullying complaints will be treated with confidentiality and urgency. Wendy Burg, New Beginning Training Navigator and Kellie Johnson, HR Manager/Administrative Assistant are the designated Co-Compliance Officers/Title IX Coordinators; however, complaints may be taken to any Pioneer Technology Center employee. Policies related to harassment/discrimination and complaint procedures are included in Appendix A. *(Reference policies, FNCC, FNCD-P, FNCD-R, FO, GJ-A, and GJ-P in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

Unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing, may result in civil and criminal liabilities. Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement. Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than $750 and not more than $30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to $150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys' fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505. Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to $250,000 per offense. For more information, please see the website of the U.S. Copyright Office at: www.copyright.gov. Copyright infringement is a direct violation of the Pioneer Technology Center Network Systems & Internet Acceptable Use Policy; students who violate the terms of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Secondary or Adult Student Behavior and Discipline Policies. *(Reference policies EFBCA and FO in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All Pioneer Technology Center students are expected to demonstrate positive character traits in all interactions both on and off campus. In regard to academic integrity, it is expected that Pioneer Technology Center students will exhibit responsibility and honesty when presenting the written, published or creative work of another. Further, it is expected that they will hold themselves and their classmates to the highest levels of truthfulness and obedience as they complete assignments and examinations as directed by their instructors. Behaviors that violate the concept of academic integrity include: plagiarism; unauthorized collaboration; cheating; multiple submissions; fabricating information; helping another person cheat; unauthorized access to examinations; modifying/destroying another's work; changing academic records. Definitions of these behaviors are posted in each classroom for reference. Failure to demonstrate academic integrity is a violation of the Secondary and Adult Student Behavior and Discipline Policies. *(Reference policy FO in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS AND TOOLS USAGE

Artificial Intelligence ("AI") is a powerful tool that's changing how we teach, learn, and do business that the District welcomes with reasonable guardrails. The incorporation of AI offers unprecedented opportunities for enhancing teaching methods, expanding learning resources, and fostering innovative educational experiences. However, AI also presents unique risks, challenges, and responsibilities, particularly in terms of ethical use, data privacy and security, and the accuracy and integrity of academic work. In general, AI should be used conscientiously by employees and students. In all instances, caution must be exercised as AI users remain solely responsible for the content of their assignments or work product. Further, the use of AI tools may violate Board policy and/or legal obligations, including those related to disclosure or use of personally identifiable information and other confidential material.

This Policy serves to responsibly harness the potential of these AI technologies while also safeguarding the interests and well-being of our students, teachers, and professional staff. Through this Policy, the District endeavors to (i) prepare our students, teachers, and professional staff for the future and (ii) equip them with the knowledge and skills to use these systems and tools wisely and ethically. The District will continue to support our teachers in incorporating AI into their teaching practices in ways that enrich the teaching and learning experience while upholding the District's educational standards and values. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the District's disciplinary policies. Policy EFEAA is available in the policy section of the Student Handbook.

TOBACCO POLICY

Pioneer Technology Center is a "SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO-FREE ENVIRONMENT"

The use of any tobacco products and the use or possession of simulated tobacco products is specifically prohibited on the Pioneer Technology Center campus, which includes buildings, land and vehicles used by the school. NOTE: The term "Tobacco Products" includes all forms of tobacco, but is not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and all other forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for spit tobacco use, smoking, or both. This term also includes herbal tobacco products, simulated tobacco products that imitate or mimic tobacco products, including but not limited to e-cigarettes, "vapes", cloves, bidis, and kreteks. *(Reference policy CKDA in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

POSSESSION OR SALE OF BEER, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES

It is the policy of the Board of Education that all students and employees of this district be made aware of the Board's intention to maintain a drug and alcohol free environment. This policy applies to any location at which school business or activity is conducted. A list of controlled dangerous substances and their side effects is printed in the Drug Abuse Prevention Program Information section of this handbook. For health hazards or other information associated with drug or alcohol use, contact a PTC counselor or instructor. Any student found to be in possession of, or to have sold or transferred alcoholic beverages, nonalcoholic beverages, beer of any type, or controlled dangerous substance (including medical cannabis), as defined by the statutes of the State of Oklahoma, while attending school, on school premises, or at a school sponsored function (either as a participant or spectator), shall be dealt with according to Pioneer Technology Center School Board Policy. *(Reference policies FO and FO-R4 in Appendix A of this handbook.)* Any suspension and/or search of said student shall be subject to any applicable state statute and school policy.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

It is the policy of the Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education that if a student is required to take medication during school hours or while attending a school activity, and the parent or guardian cannot be present to

administer the medication or if circumstances exist that indicate it is in the best interest of the student that a prescribed medication be dispensed to that student, the Instructional Director, or the director's designee, may administer the medication, only as allowed by PTC Board Policy FFACA.

Self-administration of medication by a student for treatment of asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes or cystic fibrosis is permitted with written parental authorization. The parent or guardian of the student must also provide a written statement from the physician treating the student that the student has asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes or cystic fibrosis and is capable of, and has been instructed in the proper method of, self-administration of medication. Additional criteria are outlined in PTC Board Policy FFACA. *(Reference policy FFACA in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

IMMUNIZATIONS

The board of education shall require that no child be admitted to this school unless and until certification from a licensed physician or authorized representative of the State Department of Health is presented to the school administrators that such child has received or is in the process of receiving the immunization required by the State Department of Public Health unless an exemption has been granted from the immunizations on medical, religious, or personal grounds. The local school administration through which a student is enrolled in Pioneer Technology Center classes may certify such evidence. *(Reference policy FFAB in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

Secondary students may be required to use school bus transportation to and from PTC, as determined in joint agreement with each partner school. Permission of the partner high school is required to use private transportation of any type. Adults may use school transportation (where space is available) by making arrangements with the PTC Instructional Director or an administrator of the school furnishing the school bus and driver.

The drivers of all school bus transportation are certified personnel with the same authority as a classroom instructor and are charged to maintain a safe and comfortable transportation system. Each passenger (student) using the school bus transportation must abide by all boarding, traveling, and exiting safety precautions as outlined in Pioneer Technology Center board policy. *(Reference policy FFFF-R1 in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

*** * * A CURRENT BUS SCHEDULE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE. * * ***

PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION

Permission of the partner high school is required for secondary students to drive or ride to and/or from Pioneer Technology Center in private vehicles. Authorization must be granted by a partner school administrator **prior to** using private transportation.

All students must register the vehicle(s) they are driving to PTC. A parking decal will be issued for each vehicle registered and must be displayed in the required location. The North, South, and West parking lots are designated parking for all students; students are not allowed to park in any other locations on campus. Vehicles must be promptly parked upon arrival and not moved until the end of the class session. Students are not to be in the parking lot during class hours.

Reckless or careless driving will result in suspension of driving privileges. Violation of rules, excessive tardiness, and/or absences may cause the loss of driving privileges. Any student's vehicle, and its contents, will be subject to a thorough search whenever, in the opinion of school officials, a reasonable suspicion for said search exists.

NO EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY

Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy. It is the policy of the Board, that the Superintendent, program administrator(s), instructor(s), and security personnel shall have the authority to search a student and a student's property when there is reasonable suspicion for such searches, without notice or reason. School personnel shall have access at any and all times to any vehicle on school property. Locked containers (school lockers and other storage areas or compartments) are subject to being forcibly opened.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Pioneer Technology Center serves as an extension of the high school for students currently enrolled in a high school. Secondary student discipline and control shall be a cooperative effort between the partner high school and the CareerTech center. Each institution shall enforce rules and regulations in accordance with its board approved policies. It is the intent of the Pioneer Technology Center administration to involve the parent of minor secondary students early in the discipline process. Parental support is encouraged and solicited. In administering discipline, consideration will be given to available alternative methods of punishment to ensure that the most effective discipline is administered in each case. In all disciplinary action, the administration will be mindful of the fact that they are dealing with individual personalities. School policy will be followed when punishment is warranted.
70 O.S. §24-101.3 (E) states that a student who has been suspended out-of-school from a public or private school in the State of Oklahoma or another state for a violent act or an act showing deliberate or reckless disregard for the health or safety of faculty or other students shall not be entitled to enroll in this school district until the terms of the suspension have been met or the time of suspension has expired.

This district shall not provide education services in the regular school setting to any student who has been removed from any public or private school in Oklahoma or any other state until the district determines that the student no longer poses a threat to himself or others.
(Reference policies FO and FO-R4 in Appendix A of this handbook.)

LEGAL & REGULATORY INFORMATION
COMPLIANCE NOTICE (NON-DISCRIMINATION/504/ADA)

This is to notify all applicants for admission or employment, students and parents, employees, unions or professional organizations, that Pioneer Technology Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, age, religion, disability, or veteran status. For inquiries concerning the application of this policy contact either Wendy Burg, WendyB@pioneertech.edu (580) 718-4308 or Kellie Johnson, Kelliej@pioneertech.edu (580) 718-4224, Compliance Officers/Title IX Coordinators, or Cortney Horne CortneyH@pioneertech.edu (580) 718-4298, 504/ADA Coordinator, or email compliance@pioneertech.edu. PTC Compliance Officers/Title IX Coordinators and 504/ADA Coordinator's mailing address is 2101 N. Ash, Ponca City, OK, 74601.

An aggrieved participant should present his/her grievance in writing within 120 days to a Pioneer Technology Center Compliance Officer.

CO-COMPLIANCE OFFICERS / TITLE IX COORDINATORS

Wendy Burg
2101 N. Ash Street
Ponca City, OK 74601
(580) 718-4308
WendyB@pioneertech.edu

Kellie Johnson
2101 N. Ash Street
Ponca City, OK 74601
(580) 718-4224
Kelliej@pioneertech.edu

504/ADA COORDINATOR

Cortney Horne, Disability Services Specialist/Counselor
2101 N. Ash Street
Ponca City, OK 74601
(580) 718-4298
CortneyH@pioneertech.edu

ACCESSIBILE FACILITIES

Pioneer Technology Center is situated on 32 acres. It is constructed on one level making the entire facility wheelchair accessible. Although Pioneer Technology Center is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a self-study has been completed and the school is in an ongoing transition of making the facility more accommodating to individuals with disabilities. TDD has been installed, as well as fire alarms that are both strobe and sound, automatic wheelchair doors have been installed at the two main entrances, and accessible door handles will be installed as necessary. A well-planned safety program is conducted at Pioneer Technology Center and each area of instruction follows safety practices appropriate to that program and in compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA). Any handicapped person requiring specific information regarding special services or facilities should contact a PTC Compliance Officer between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Oklahoma Legislature has directed that the board of education of each school district shall ensure that the public schools within the district shall observe approximately one minute of silence each day.

It shall be the policy of Pioneer Technology Center's Board of Education that no sectarian or religious doctrine shall be taught or inculcated into the curriculum or activities of the school. However, those students who wish to do so may participate in voluntary prayer so long as it is during noninstructional time and does not interfere with the rights of other students.

The moment of silence shall be for the purpose of allowing each student, in the exercise of his or her individual choice, to reflect, meditate, pray, or engage in any other silent activity that does not interfere with, distract, or impede other students in the exercise of their individual choices. All instructors shall be made aware that it is the student's decision as to how to utilize the moment of silence, provided that the student's choice does not interfere with, distract, or impede other students in the exercise of their individual choices. Instructors shall neither encourage students to use nor discourage students from using the moment of silence for any particular purpose. All school personnel are to afford these options to all students, who will individually make the selection as to which of these behaviors they will engage in during the moment of silence.

Prohibition of Race and Sex Discrimination in Curriculum and Complaint Process

According to House Bill 1775, neither the district, any employee, nor an independent contractor of the district shall teach or include in a course for students or employees the following discriminatory principles:

1. One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex,
2. An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously,
3. An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex,

4. Members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex,
5. An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex,
6. An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex,
7. Any individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race or sex, or
8. Meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race to oppress members of another race.

Any individual may file a complaint alleging that a violation has occurred of enumerated items 1-8 above. In order for a complaint to be accepted for investigation, it must:

- Be submitted in writing, signed and dated by the complainant, including complaints submitted through electronic mail that include electronic signatures;
- Identify the dates the alleged discriminatory act occurred;
- Explain the alleged violation and/or discriminatory conduct and how enumerated items 1-8 above have been violated;
- Include relevant information that would enable a public school to investigate the alleged violation; and
- Identify witnesses the school may interview. The school will not dismiss a complaint for failure to identify witnesses.

Pioneer Technology Center designates PTC Compliance Officer(s) as the employees responsible for receiving complaints. The district will ensure that the employee is unbiased and free of any conflicts of interest. Complaints may be provided via telephone at 580-762-8336 or 1-866-612-4782 and via email to Info@pioneertech.edu. This contact information shall also be accessible on the school district's website. See policy – EGG, Prohibition of Race and Sex Discrimination in Curriculum and Complaint Process

USE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY RESTROOMS

Pursuant to SB615 (2022), each multiple occupancy restroom and changing area located in public schools or CareerTech Center shall be designated as either for the exclusive use of the male sex or for the exclusive use of the female sex. "Sex," for the purposes of this policy is defined as the physical condition of being male or female based on genetics and physiology, as identified on the individual's original birth certificate.

Multiple occupancy restroom or changing area is defined as an area in a school building designed or designated to be used by more than one individual at a time, where individuals may be in various stages of undress in the presence of other individuals. The term may include but is not limited to a school restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room.

For more information, refer to policy GKF - USE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY RESTROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS in the policy section of this handbook.

SERVICE ANIMALS

PTC acknowledges its responsibility to permit students and/or adults with disabilities to be accompanied by a service animal in its facilities and programs and intends to comply with all state and federal laws, rules and regulations regarding the use of service animals by students with disabilities.

PTC does **not** allow the following types of animals in its facilities and programs unless specifically authorized by the board of education:

"Emotional support animal" meaning an animal selected to reside with an individual with a disability that does not work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability and does not accompany at all times an individual with a disability; and

"Therapy animal" meaning a personal pet who is certified to make therapeutic visits with a trained volunteer to places including, but not limited to, nursing facilities, schools and hospitals to bring therapeutic benefit, comfort and cheer to others.

The student will submit a request for a service animal to the Executive Director of Full-Time Programs. The notification will identify whether the service animal is required because of the person's disability, and, if so, identify and describe the manner in which the service animal will meet the individual's particular need(s).

STUDENT DUE PROCESS—DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION

In the event that a minor student is suspended, the parent/guardian shall be notified by phone and a written report of the situation (charged violation), including the student's due process rights, shall be delivered or mailed to that parent.

Due process procedures will be followed as outlined in the PTC school board policies. *(Reference policies FO and FO-R4 in Appendix A of this handbook.)* When a student has been suspended from school for disciplinary purposes, upon returning to school after suspension, s/he should report to the Instructional Director.

All discipline other than suspensions may be made summarily, based upon reasonable suspicion and a preponderance of evidence collected by the appropriate administrator or instructor. There must be an orderly administration of any system of discipline. An accusation or the lodging of a charge is not the equivalent of guilt. Guilt must be determined in an evidentiary hearing.

Corporal punishment is not a part of the discipline policy of Pioneer Technology Center.

TRANSFER AND RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

It is the policy of the Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education to adhere to Oklahoma and federal law concerning the transfer and release of confidential information including student records. Unless otherwise permitted by state or federal law or regulation, confidential information will be released only in accordance with PTC school board policy. *(Reference policy FLE in Appendix A of this handbook.)*

ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS

Access to student records will be given to students and parents according to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Pioneer Technology Center Board policies (FL; FL-R; FLA). The school will require a prior written consent before information may be divulged to third parties. A copy of this Act and/or related PTC Board policies (FL, FL-R; FLA) can be obtained from the Executive Director, Full Time Programs.

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENT RECORDS/CUMULATIVE RECORDS

1. The Cumulative Record exists as the official file record of each student enrolled in Pioneer Technology Center. Said records will include, but are not limited to, the following items:
    A. Identifying data;
    B. Academic work completed;

C. Grades;
D. Achievement test scores;
E. Attendance data;
F. Health data;
G. Family background information; and
H. Disciplinary records.

2. The Cumulative Record is the only record that is accessible pursuant to the circumstances delineated in the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.
3. The Executive Director, Full Time Programs is the only person authorized to determine what is and what is not a part of the Cumulative Record.
4. Under no circumstance will any instructor, counselor, or administrator reveal any information concerning any student attending Pioneer Technology Center, except as is permitted by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. (See Title 70, Oklahoma Statutes, Section 7-115.)
5. The Full-Time Programs Registrar – Data Specialist (under the supervision of the Directors of Instruction) is responsible for the storing, filing, distribution, certification, and maintenance of all student records.
6. All student Cumulative Records are private by their nature and accordingly are not subject to the provision of the Public Record Act of Oklahoma (Title 51, Oklahoma Statutes, and Section 24.)
7. The destruction of student records is not subject to the provision of Title 70, Oklahoma Statutes, Section 5-122, and accordingly will be effected at the discretion of the Executive Director, Full Time Programs.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The school district proposes to designate the following personally identifiable information contained in a student's education record as "directory information," and it may disclose that information without prior written consent:

1. The student's name;
2. The student's class designation (i.e., first grade, tenth grade, etc.);
3. The student's extracurricular participation;
4. The student's achievement awards or honors;
5. The student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team;
6. The student's photograph;
7. The school or school district the student attended before the student enrolled in this school district; and
8. The student's dates of enrollment

The above list is designated as directory information for the school year. Parents or eligible students have two weeks from the start of their enrollment to advise the school district in writing (a letter to the Executive Director of Full Time Programs) of any or all of the items they refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information about their student.

Note: When a student turns 18, all rights granted by FERPA transfer to the student. Parent access will be terminated at that time. The student may request parent access after this date through the Full-Time Programs office.

CHALLENGE PROCEDURE

In the event that the content of a student's school record is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, the student or the parent of a student under the age of 18 shall have an opportunity for a hearing on otherwise inappropriate data. In order to request a hearing for such purpose, the student or parent shall submit a written request to the Executive Director, Full Time Programs. The hearing shall be conducted promptly by the Executive Director, Full Time Programs. The decision of the hearing shall be made in writing and

shall be communicated promptly to the student or parent. In the event the student or parent does not concur in the decision, the student or parent shall have a right to appeal the decision of the Executive Director, Full Time Programs; the appeal shall be heard by the Superintendent/CEO. A student or parent desiring to appeal the decision of the Superintendent/CEO shall notify school officials in writing of a desire to appeal within ten (10) days after receipt of the decision. The Executive Director, Full Time Programs shall forward all necessary documents in connection with the appeal to the Board of Education. Upon receipt of such documents, the Board shall notify the student or parent in writing of the time and place of said hearing. The appeal hearing shall be held promptly. The Board shall render its decision in writing. This decision shall be communicated to the student or parent and will be final.

HATCH AMENDMENT/STUDENT SURVEYS

Pioneer Technology Center is committed to enforcing the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), 20 U.S.C. 1232h, included in the Goals 2000 Education America Act of 1994. PPRA applies to all funding provided by the United States Department of Education and seeks to protect the rights of parents to inspect surveys or instructional materials if these materials or surveys are funded by the United States Department of Education.

With respect to survey activities, survey materials, evaluation materials, and instructional materials used by students and funded by the United States Department of Education, the school district will:

1. Make such materials available for inspection by parents.
2. Obtain written parental consent if students are required to participate in a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information such as: political affiliations; mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student and his/her family; sexual behavior or attitudes; illegal or self-incriminating behavior (such as use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs); critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, doctors, and ministers; income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such programs)

NOTIFICATION – PTC POLICY EHBDBA-E

No school district, and no employee of the district or its schools, shall encourage, coerce, or attempt to encourage or coerce a minor child to withhold information from the child's parent(s) or guardian(s).

The School District shall disclose to a student's parent(s) or guardian(s) any information known to the district or its employees regarding material changes reasonably expected to be important to parent(s) regarding their child's health and social or psychological development, including identity information. Such disclosures shall occur within thirty (30) days of learning the information and may include referrals to appropriate counseling services that the parent(s) or guardian(s) may use at their discretion.

"Identity information" means information, including but not limited to,

(1) Any names or pronouns used by a student at school;
(2) Any social transition or other transition to a gender that differs from the student's sex.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Oklahoma Accreditation Standard 210:10-2-3

DRUG ABUSE & PREVENTION PROGRAM INFORMATION

POLICY

The Pioneer Technology Center school district prohibits the unlawful manufacture, consumption, distribution, dispensation, possession, OR use of controlled, dangerous substances (including medical cannabis and intoxicants) at any time while on district property—including grounds, buildings, parking lots, vehicles, and buses, OR while participating in school activities off campus. The district also prohibits students from reporting to school under the influence of any substance that impairs performance.

PROCEDURE

When it becomes apparent that a student is in violation of the above policy, the district will:

- report the violation to the police;
- report the violation to the parents of high school students; and
- report the violation to the partner high school.

PENALTY

Pioneer Technology Center will take appropriate action when it has been determined that a student is in violation of district policy. Penalties may include one or more of the following:

- suspension;
- dismissal; and/or
- legal action including local, state, and federal prosecution.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Students are expected to arrive at school in a physical and mental state conducive to learning. Arrival at school under the influence of a substance or in possession of a substance that may impair performance of the student or the performance of others is prohibited.
2. Students taking prescription medication that may affect work performance must report this to the instructor before beginning the school day. Certain learning activities may not be permitted when a student is affected by a legal prescription medication.
3. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a legal and lawful manner while on district property and while engaged in district activities both on and off campus.

INSTRUCTOR AND INSTRUCTIONAL DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLITIES

1. Instructors will be aware of and report to the Instructional Director reasonable suspicion that a student is under the influence of, in possession of, or distributing a controlled substance.
2. Instructional Directors will determine violations of school policy. Instructional Directors will facilitate reporting to the police, parents, and partner high school. Instructional Directors will work with other Pioneer Technology Center administration to determine penalties.

LEGAL SUBSTANCES

Certain legal substances have laws governing their use. Pioneer Technology Center upholds the law regarding these substances and will impose penalties and legal prosecution when violations of the law occur. Intentional misuse of legal chemicals and other substances used in industry is against Pioneer Technology Center policy and will result in penalties.

TOBACCO – Cigarettes and tobacco in any form are illegal for minors and anyone under the age of 21. Giving

cigarettes or tobacco in any form to a anyone under the age of 21 is illegal and can result in criminal prosecution.

ALCOHOL – Alcohol is illegal for minors under the age of 21. Giving alcohol to a minor under the age of 21 is illegal and can result in criminal prosecution.

CANNABIS – Not allowed in any form on the Pioneer Technology Center Campus or Grounds.

WARNING SIGNS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Physical Signs	Behavioral Signs	Cultural Signs
poor coordination	low motivation	drug symbols or slogans on clothes
slurred speech	low self-esteem	talking in coded language
incoherent speech	low energy levels	hostility when authorities talk about drugs
bloodshot eyes	inappropriate anger	bragging about unsafe acts or drug use
dilated pupils	mood swings	group of friends has reputation for drugs,
pinpoint pupils	secretive attitude	breaking rules, and antisocial behavior
extreme sleepiness	tardiness	possession of drug paraphernalia
hyperactivity	absenteeism	inappropriate laughter
short attention span	personality change	defensiveness of others in drug culture
cannot concentrate	dishonesty	excessive resistance to school/family activities
memory lapses	change in friends	overuse of cover up scents—room deodorizers,
inattention to grooming	drop in grades	mouth wash, cologne
poor hygiene	incomplete assignments	excessive amounts of time alone or sitting in car
unhealthy appearance	forgetfulness	staying home as little as possible
weight loss	irresponsible actions	confrontations with law enforcement or school
weight gain	frequent rule breaking	authorities
persistent runny nose	refusing to communicate	

DANGEROUS EFFECTS OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

CANNABIS *(Marijuana, Hashish)*—Side Effects: Relaxed inhibitions, increased appetite, disorientation, psychological dependence, paranoia, fatigue, impaired coordination and reflexes, dry mouth and throat. **Long-term effects:** Physical dependence.

NARCOTICS *(Opium, Heroin, Morphine, Codeine, Dilaudid, Demerol, Methadone, Percodan, Darvon)*—**Side Effects:** Drowsiness, slowed breathing, constricted pupils, nausea, physical and psychological dependence, convulsions, coma, death. **Withdrawal:** Watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, loss of appetite, irritability, tremors, panic, cramps, nausea, chills, sweating.

DEPRESSANTS *(Phenobarbital, Nembutal, Seconal, Tuinal, Ativan, Dalmane, Valium, Librium, Xanax, Serax, Tranxene, Versed, Halcion, Restoril, Placidyl)*—**Side Effects:** Slurred speech, disorientation, drunken behavior without the smell of alcohol, physical and psychological dependence, dilated pupils, rapid pulse, coma, death. **Withdrawal:** Anxiety, insomnia, tremors, convulsions.

STIMULANTS *(Cocaine, Methamphetamine, Dexadrine, Ritalin, Ionamin)*—**Side Effects:** Increased alertness, excitation, increased pulse and blood pressure, insomnia, loss of appetite, agitation, physical and psychological dependence, psychosis, brain injury, death.

HALLUCINOGENS *(LSD, Mescaline, Peyote, PCP)*—**Side Effects**: Delusions, hallucinations, distorted perception of time and space, psychological and physical dependence, psychosis, brain injury, death.

INHALANTS *(Common household and office products)*—**Side Effects:** Interferes with the exchange of oxygen by

replacing it with vapor, double vision, slowed reflexes, severe headaches, nausea, vomiting, convulsions, psychological and physical dependence, respiratory difficulty and damage, perforated nasal septum, confusion, mood swings, delusions, hallucinations, brain damage, death.

PREVENTION PROGRAM

Pioneer Technology Center provides students the opportunity to participate in Red Ribbon Week activities highlighting awareness and prevention of drug / alcohol abuse and anti-bullying.

DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT

Drug addiction is a treatable disorder. There are a variety of treatment options available including short- and long-term treatment plans. The ultimate goal of all drug abuse treatment is to enable the patient to achieve lasting abstinence, but the immediate goals are to reduce drug use, improve the patient's ability to function, and minimize the medical and social complications of drug abuse. Drug addiction treatment information is available from a variety of resources including private physicians, licensed counselors and the Kay County Health Department. Pioneer Technology Center staff will assist students in locating treatment option information.

- The confidential and anonymous resource for persons seeking treatment for mental and substance use disorders in the United States and its territories. FindTreatment.gov

CAMPUS SECURITY REPORT/CRIME STATISTICS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide information about the Student Right to Know Act regarding campus security and campus crime statistics to current and prospective students and employees of Pioneer Technology Center. The report explains the school's security guidelines for reporting emergencies and crimes and security guidelines regarding campus facilities.

REPORTING CAMPUS CRIMES AND EMERGENCIES

It is everyone's responsibility to be aware of suspicious activity or behavior on campus. Any student or staff member who observes suspicious or criminal activity while on the Pioneer Technology Center campus should report directly to an administrator. Pioneer Technology Center officials will notify the proper local authorities and/or place emergency telephone calls if needed. A campus security report form will be completed as a follow-up to the suspected crime. These forms can be obtained from the Receptionist in either building. The completed form should be turned in to any Instructional Director.

ACCESS TO CAMPUS FACILITIES

Pioneer Technology Center sits on 46 acres of land with controlled access and exits. The main building is open to the public from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday. School personnel are on duty during these hours. The west covered entrance and the north covered entrance are the only public access doors unlocked during regular operational hours. During class hours, security functions are performed by Pioneer Technology Center employees. Adequate exterior lighting is present and is automatically activated via the use of photocells and timers.

INFORMATION PROGRAMS ON CAMPUS SECURITY/CRIME PREVENTION

Students and employees are informed of campus security policy and procedures at the beginning of and throughout each school year during student orientations and annual staff development in-service.

HOW TO AVOID VICTIMIZATION

We offer these tips for your personal safety and property security:

- Report strangers and suspicious activity.
- Avoid getting into vulnerable/no exit places.
- Do not hesitate to call police when confronted by persons.
- Report all incidents and losses to the police immediately.
- At night, walk in groups of at least two.
- Walk with confidence and avoid walking near bushes and parked vehicles.
- Familiarize yourself with the emergency telephone numbers or use 911.
- When parking, remove valuables from plain view and lock your vehicle.
- Record the account number or make copies of credit cards and other valuables in your wallet.
- Write your name in textbooks.
- Do not leave books, book bags, school supplies, coats or other items in unsecured places.

CAMPUS SEX CRIMES PREVENTION ACT COMPLIANCE

In compliance with the Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, Pioneer Technology Center provides the following website to enable its campus community access to information about registered sex offenders: https://sors.doc.ok.gov/ords/svorp/sors/r/sors/disclaimer

Computer resources and assistance are available through an Instructional Director.

CAMPUS CRIME STATISTICS

Crimes on Campus	***2020***	***2021***	***2022***	***2023***	***2024***	***2025***
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Offenses Forcible and Non-forcible	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft on Campus	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests for Drug Abuse Violations	0	3	0	0	2	2
Liquor Law Violations	-	3	0	0	0	0
Arrests for Weapons Possessions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hate Crimes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Assault (Violence)	0	1	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0

NOTE: The complete Campus Security Report is posted to the Pioneer Technology Center website https://www.pioneertech.edu/page/legal-and-consumerThe report is updated annually on October 1.

Consumer Information: https://www.pioneertech.edu/page/legal-and-consumer

MISREPRESENTATION

Pioneer Technology Center prohibits employees from making false and erroneous statements to students, prospective students, and any member of the public, accrediting agencies, or the Department. The U.S. Department of Education takes misrepresentation seriously and if a school engages in any type of misrepresentation regarding its programs, charges, or employability, it may revoke Pioneer Technology Center's participation agreement, impose limitations, deny participation, or initiate a proceeding against the institution.

OIG Contact Information
Regional Office Telephone: Dallas, TX (214)-661-9530
Office of Inspector General:
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-1510

OIG Referrals
34 CFR 668.16 (g)
IRS Publication 17

PIONEER TECHNOLOGY CENTER

2026-2027 STUDENT HANDBOOK

APPENDIX A—School Board Policies

CKDA—Smoking and Tobacco Free Campus

EFBCA—Network Systems & Internet Acceptable Use

EFBCB—Internet Safety

EFEAA – Artificial Intelligence and Tools Use in the School District

EGG - Prohibition of Race and Sex Discrimination in Curriculum and Complaint Process

EHBDBA-Parent-Participation-in-the-School-District (Bill of Rights)

FDBA—Tuition Fees

FFAB—Immunizations, Students

FFACA—Medication, Administering to Students

FFFF-R1—School Bus Program (Regulations)

FL – Student Records

FLE—Transfer and Release of Confidential Information

FNAA – Freedom of Expression

FNCA-R—Student Conduct, Dress Code

FNCC—Hazing

FNCD – Bullying

FNCD-P—Bullying (Investigation Procedures)

FNCD-R—Prohibiting Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (Regulation)

FNCF—Drug-Free Schools

FNCGA—Weapons-Free Schools

FNG – Electronic Communication Devices

FO—Student Conduct, Behavior and Discipline

FO-R4—Student Discipline

FNCE-R - Dangerous Weapons, Non-Intoxicating Beverages, Etc. (Regulation)

GJ-A—Sexual Harassment of Students

GJ-P—Grievance Procedure for Filing, Processing and Resolving Discrimination Complaints

GKF – Use of Multiple Occupancy restrooms and Changing Areas

SMOKING AND TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS - CKDA

The use of any tobacco products and the use or possession of simulated tobacco products is specifically prohibited on Pioneer Technology Center campus, which includes buildings, land and vehicles used by the school.

NOTE: The term "Tobacco Products" includes all forms of tobacco, but is not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for spit tobacco use, smoking, or both. This term also includes herbal tobacco products, simulated tobacco products that imitate or mimic tobacco products, including but not limited to e-cigarettes, "vapes", cloves, bidis, and kreteks.

REFERENCE: 63 O.S. §1-1522, et seq.
20 U.S.C. §6083

NETWORK SYSTEMS & INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE - EFBCA

A. Purpose Statement. Pioneer Technology Center of Kay County, Oklahoma (the "Technology Center") provides its guests, students and employees with access to the Technology Center's computer network system, including Internet access, in an effort to expand the informational and communication resources in furtherance of the Technology Center's goal of promoting educational excellence. It is hoped that the expanded use of these resources will enhance students' research capabilities, increase faculty and staff productivity and result in better communication between the Technology Center and its patrons.

The guidelines provided in this policy are designed to promote the efficient, ethical and legal provisions, his or her account will be terminated and future access could be denied. The user's signature on the internet Access Agreement is a legally binding obligation, affirming that the user has read the terms and conditions of the Internet Acceptable Use Policy, understands the policies and agrees to abide by all terms and conditions described in the policy or subsequently implemented by the Technology Center's Director of Technical Services. Students' use of the Technology Center's system will also be governed by a student code of conduct.

B. Internet Access – Terms and Conditions

1. **Acceptable Use**. **THE USE OF THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER'S SYSTEM, WHETHER BY GUESTS, STUDENTS, FACULTY OR STAFF, MUST BE IN SUPPORT OF EDUCATION AND CONSISTENT WITH THE EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER**. The use of any other organizations' network or computing resources must comply with the rules and regulations appropriate for that network. **THE TRANSMISSION OR RECEIPT OF ANY MATERIAL IN VIOLATION OF ANY UNITED STATES OR STATE LAW OR REGULATION AND THE TRANSMISSION OR RECEIPT OF ANY MATERIAL INCONSISTENT WITH THE EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER IS PROHIBITED**. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening, indecent, lewd or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. Use of the Technology Center system for commercial activities is not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.

2. **Parental Consent**. In order for a secondary student to gain access to the Technology Center system, the student's parent or guardian must be provided a copy of the Internet Acceptable Use Policy and sign the Internet Access Agreement requesting that their child be given Internet access under the terms and conditions described in this policy. Parents may withdraw their consent at any time. **THERE IS, HOWEVER, A WIDE RANGE OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH THE INTERNET WHICH EITHER IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR ACCESS BY MINORS, HAS NO EDUCATIONAL VALUE OR DOES NOT MEET WITH THE PARTICULAR VALUES OF THE FAMILIES OF THE STUDENT. THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER'S SYSTEM AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY CONTAINS DEVICES AND RESTRICTIONS ON USE INTENDED TO PREVENT ACCESS TO INAPPROPRIATE MATERIAL OR INFORMATION. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER TO GUARANTEE THAT STUDENTS WILL NOT BE EXPOSED TO INAPPROPRIATE MATERIAL THROUGH THEIR USE OF THE INTERNET. THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER BELIEVES THAT PARENTS BEAR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATING ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR AND FAMILY VALUES TO THEIR CHIDLREN. THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

ENCOURAGES PARENTS TO DISCUSS WITH THEIR CHILDREN WHAT MATERIAL IS AND IS NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR THEIR CHILDREN TO ACCESS THROUGH THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER SYSTEM.

3. **Privilege of Use**. The Technology Center system and its Internet access is a privilege afforded to students, staff and employees of the Technology Center. Use of these resources is not a right and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. Inappropriate use is any use prohibited by the terms of this policy or use determined by the Technology Center system administrators to be inappropriate under particular facts and circumstances. Prior to receiving Internet access, users will be required to successfully complete an Internet training program administered by the Technology Center.

4. **Inappropriate Use**. See policy EFBCA-R – Code of Conduct for Internet, Computer Network and Social Media Access.

5. **Limitation of Liability**. The Technology Center makes no warranties of any kinds, whether express or implied, for the services provided and will not be responsible for any damages which you may suffer through use of the Technology Center system or the Internet, including, but not limited to, the loss of information or files or the interruption of service. The Technology Center is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through use of the Technology Center system or the Internet. The Technology Center is not responsible for any financial obligations which may be incurred through use of the Technology Center system.

6. **Security**. Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves multiple users. Users are responsible for their individual account and should take precautions to prevent others from accessing that account. Under no conditions should a user provide their personal password to another person. If you identify a potential security problem on the Technology Center system or the Internet, you must notify the system administrator immediately. You should not demonstrate the problem to others, nor should you intentionally attempt to identify potential security problems. In either instance, your actions may be misinterpreted as an illegal attempt to gain unauthorized access. Any attempt to log on to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with the Technology Center system or any other computer system may be denied further access.

7. **Vandalism**. Vandalism of Technology Center hardware, software or the system itself will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy the property or data of the Technology Center, of another user or of any other network connected to the Internet or all or any portion of the Technology Center's computer network system or any other network or system connected to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses or any actions that disrupt, "crash" or "bomb" all or any portion of the Technology Center's computer system. All system users shall avoid the accidental spread of computer viruses by strict adherence to Technology Center policies governing the downloading of software. No system user may use the system to "hack" or attempt to gain unauthorized access to any other computer system, network or site or any unauthorized portion of the Technology Center's system.

8. **Inappropriate Material**. Access to information shall not be restricted or denied solely because of the political, religious or philosophical content of the material. However, system users must realize that rights go hand-in-hand with responsibilities and agree not to use the Technology

Center system to access information or to distribute information or material which is:

(a) Obscene to minors, meaning (i) material which, taken as a whole, lacks serious literacy, artistic, political or scientific value for minors and, (ii) when an average person applying contemporary community standards, would find that the written material, taken as a whole, appeals to an obsessive interest in sex by minors.
(b) Libelous, meaning a false and unprivileged statement about a specific individual, which tends to harm the individual's reputation.
(c) Vulgar, lewd or indecent, meaning material which, taken as a whole, an average person would deem improper for access by or distribution to minors because of sexual connotations or profane language.
(d) Display or promotion of unlawful products or services, meaning material which advertises or advocates the use of products or services prohibited by law from being sold or provided to minors.
(e) Group defamation or hate literature, meaning material which disparages a group or a member of a group on the basis of race, religious affiliation, ethnic or national origin, gender identity or preference, or handicapped condition or advocates illegal conduct or violence or discrimination toward any particular group of people. This includes racial and religious epithets, "slurs", insults and abuse.
(f) Disruptive to school operations, meaning material which, on the basis of past experience or based upon specific instances of actual or threatened disruptions relating to the information or material in questions, is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation of school activities or school discipline.

9. **Employee Access**. In order for any employee of the Technology Center to gain access to the Technology Center system, the employee must sign the Employee Internet Access Agreement.

10. **Application and Enforceability**. The terms and conditions set forth in this policy shall be deemed to be incorporated in their entirety in the Internet Access Agreement executed by each system user. **BY EXECUTING THE INTERNET ACCESS AGREEMENT, THE SYSTEM USER AGREES TO ABIDE BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS CONTAINED IN THIS ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY. THE SYSTEM USER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT ANY VIOLATION OF THIS ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY MAY RESULT IN ACCESS PRIVILEGES BEING REVOKED, DISCIPLINARY ACTION BEING TAKEN, INCLUDING, AS TO STUDENTS, DISCIPLINARY ACTION UNDER THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER'S STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICY AND, AS TO EMPLOYEES, ANY SUCH DISCIPLINE AS MAY BE ALLOWED BY LAW, INCLUDING TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT**.

- **See Policy Forms folder for EFBCA agreements for Students and Employees**

INTERNET SAFETY - EFBCB

Introduction

It is the policy of Pioneer Technology Center to:

1. Prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;

2. Prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity;

3. Prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and

4. Comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Pioneer Technology Center online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Pioneer Technology Center staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of Pioneer Technology Center Network Administration or designated representatives.

Pioneer Technology Center staff will provide age-appropriate training for students who use the Pioneer Technology Center's Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote the Pioneer Technology Center's commitment to:

1. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the Pioneer Technology Center's Internet Safety Policy;

2. Student safety with regard to:

    a. safety on the Internet;
    b. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
    c. cyber bullying awareness and response.

3. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA").

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the District's acceptable use policies.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS AND TOOLS USE IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT - EFEAA

Artificial Intelligence ("AI") is a powerful tool that's changing how we teach, learn, and do business that the District welcomes with reasonable guardrails. The incorporation of AI offers unprecedented opportunities for enhancing teaching methods, expanding learning resources, and fostering innovative educational experiences. However, AI also presents unique risks, challenges, and responsibilities, particularly in terms of ethical use, data privacy and security, and the accuracy and integrity of academic work. In general, AI should be used conscientiously by employees. In all instances, caution must be exercised as AI users remain solely responsible for the content of their assignments or work product. Further, the use of AI tools may violate Board policy and/or legal obligations, including those related to disclosure or use of personally identifiable information and other confidential material.

This Policy serves to responsibly harness the potential of these AI technologies while also safeguarding the interests and well-being of our students, teachers, and professional staff. Through this Policy, the District endeavors to (i) prepare our students, teachers, and professional staff for the future and (ii) equip them with the knowledge and skills to use these systems and tools wisely and ethically. The District will continue to support our teachers in incorporating AI into their teaching practices in ways that enrich the teaching and learning experience while upholding the District's educational standards and values. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the District's disciplinary policies, up to and including termination of employment or student expulsion from the institution.

Any AI tool used by the technology center and/or its employees for technology center business shall comply with applicable federal and state student data privacy and security laws including, but not limited to, the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and must meet recognized industry standards, audit, and security standards.

Definitions

- Artificial Intelligence (AI): Technology that enables machines to perform tasks that typically require human intelligence, such as learning, reasoning, problem-solving, data collection, distillation, and analysis, and understanding natural language. AI includes machine learning and generative AI.

- Machine Learning (ML): A subset of AI that involves the development of algorithms that allow computers to learn from and make predictions or decisions based on data.

- Generative AI: AI capable of generating text, images, or other media in response to prompts.

General Guidelines

1. AI systems and tools must comply with data privacy and security laws and policies. All AI applications must comply with relevant federal, state, and local laws, as well as District policies, including, but not limited to, those related to data privacy, copyright and intellectual infringement cybersecurity, and nondiscrimination.
2. The use of AI must protect the privacy and security of student and staff data. Personally identifiable information (PII) must not be shared or processed through AI applications without explicit consent, except as permitted by law. Additionally, parties using AI are encouraged to review applicable privacy policies of the AI provider before use.
3. AI systems and tools will serve to enhance the District's commitment to high-quality learning.

4. Safeguards are essential to the use of AI systems and tools to minimize bias, promote fairness, and preserve the rigor and integrity of learning,
5. The use of AI systems and tools by students, teachers and professional staff must account for the context of teaching and learning and should be adopted, implemented and utilized in ways that maximize equity of access, use and benefit.
6. Transparency and Accountability: AI tools used in the District such as those for grading, analyzing student data, or automating tasks must be used transparently and responsibly. Staff should be clearly informed when they are using or receiving input from an AI system. For example: If a tool suggests grades or feedback, it should be clear that these come from AI. If a dashboard flags a student for certain interventions or opportunities, staff should know it's based on automated analysis. While deep technical knowledge isn't required, users should have a basic understanding of what the tool does, what data it uses, and its limitations. AI should support, not replace, human judgment especially when it comes to decisions affecting students.

Student Use Guidelines:

Certain assignments may permit, encourage or require the use of AI systems and tools. In each case, it will be clearly stated in the assignment or specified by the teacher. Use beyond the specified guidelines of the teacher or assignment should be understood as prohibited. It is each student's responsibility to assess the validity and applicability of any AI output that is submitted with an assignment.

1. Teacher Permission: In general, the use of AI technology by students in the completion of an assignment will not be allowed without permission from the teacher. Permission may be granted in blanket form to be applicable for the duration of the class or on a case-by-case basis. If a student has any question whether AI is permitted by a teacher or appropriate for use, it is the student's responsibility to confirm with the teacher prior to utilizing AI. Using AI without express permission may negatively impact a student's grade or result in dismissal from the class, applicable program, or
technology center. Furthermore, AI use by students should be supervised and guided within the relevant educational framework.

2. Students are allowed to use AI for explanations of concepts, exploration of new topics of interest, and seeking guidance on research directions. However, students should be mindful that some AI is prone to "hallucinations", false answers/information, or outdated information. Accordingly, AI can generate erroneous, misleading, and/or biased information. Thus, students must always verify the information provided by AI using reliable sources such as textbooks, scientific papers, and reputable educational websites. Students must verify that any response from an AI tool that they intend to rely on, or use is appropriate, accurate, not a violation of any other individual or entity's property or privacy rights, and consistent with the District's academic policies.

3. Students should not upload or input any personal, confidential, proprietary, or sensitive information into any AI tool. Examples include passwords and other personal information such as names, likenesses, social security numbers, credit card or bank account numbers.

4. Compliance with Laws and Policies All AI applications must comply with relevant federal, state, and local laws, as well as District policies, including, but not limited to, those related to data privacy, copyright and intellectual infringement cybersecurity, and nondiscrimination.

5. Offenses or violations of this Policy will be addressed by the teacher and professional staff. Procedures should be clearly established in the student discipline code or academic integrity policies.

Staff Use Guidelines:

1. Teachers and professional staff may consult AI for ideas, outlines and to enhance the educational experience, such as supplementing lesson plans, providing differentiated instruction, and aiding in curriculum development.

2. Teachers and professional staff must ensure that their use of any AI tool complies with applicable laws such as those governing data and student privacy and District policies, including, without limitation, those regarding student information. All tools are compliant if no protected information is entered into the tool.

3. Teachers and professional staff should not upload or input any PII, confidential, proprietary, or sensitive information, including any such District or student information/records into any AI tool. Examples include passwords, personal information such as names, likeness, social security numbers, credit card or bank account numbers and other credentials, personnel material, information from non-public District documents, including those identified as or understood to be confidential or sensitive (based on their nature or context) or any other non-public District information that might be harmful to the District if disclosed.

4. Teachers and district professional staff should guide students in using AI.

5. Teachers and professional staff should carefully evaluate the appropriateness of AI for educational purposes on a case by case basis, considering their appropriateness for each educational context, accuracy, reliability, and alignment with curriculum standards.

6. Teachers and professional staff must supervise student use of AI to ensure it is being used appropriately and constructively in the learning process.

7. Teachers who suspect plagiarism or use of AI that violates district policy should first have a conversation with a student to ensure that they understand expectations for acceptable use. Teachers should consult with administration to determine appropriate steps to investigate any possible violation of policy. AI detection tools will not be the basis of information relied upon in an investigation when it is believed that policy has been violated with regard to the use of AI by students.

Prohibited Use:

1. Bias and Discrimination: AI systems must not be used in ways that perpetuate or amplify bias or discrimination. Regular audits should be conducted by users to identify and mitigate biases in AI algorithms.
2. Unauthorized Access: Users must not attempt to circumvent AI security measures or access AI systems without proper authorization.
3. Ethical Concerns: AI applications that engage in unethical behavior, such as surveillance without consent or manipulation of users, are strictly prohibited.

4. Unequal Access: If any assignment permits the use of AI tools, the tools will be made available to all students, considering that some may already have access to such resources outside of school.
5. Replacement for Human Interaction: AI should not replace essential human elements of teaching and mentoring. While AI can augment teaching, it must not substitute human interaction or replace tailored and personalized instruction.
6. Decision Making: The responsibility for decisions informed by AI tools shall remain with school employees and shall not be fully delegated to an AI tool, system or vendor. AI tools shall not be used as the primary basis for student grading, discipline, placement, promotion, retention or other high-stakes educational decisions.
7. Plagiarism: Use of AI to engage in plagiarism, cheating, or dishonesty or to substitute, in whole or in part, AI work for student work is strictly prohibited.
8. Harassment and/or Bullying: Students and employees are not to use AI to engage in bullying, harassment, and/or abuse. AI should not be used to circumvent compliance with district policy or law.
9. Student Data: Technology center employees shall not input into AI tools any student information or data considered "personally identifiable" within the meaning of FERPA. No exception is made for "private" or subscription-based AI models.

District Level Guidelines:

Approved tools and their uses should be determined by the appropriate school district personnel after consideration of security, privacy, data usage, and academic integrity and quality standards, regulations, and values.

Reviewing and Monitoring:

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains current with technological advancements and legal requirements. The use of AI technologies will be regularly monitored to ensure compliance with this policy and to identify any areas for improvement.

Reference: OKLA. STAT. tit. 70 § 11-120

Note: This policy contains verbiage from both OSSBA policy and RFR AI Policy recommendations

PROHIBITION OF RACE AND SEX DISCRIMINATION IN CURRICULUM AND COMPLAINT PROCESS - EGG

The board of education hereby directs that neither the district, any employee, nor an independent contractor of the district shall teach or include in a course for students or employees the following discriminatory principles:

(1) One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex,
(2) An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously,
(3) An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex,
(4) Members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex,
(5) An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex,
(6) An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex,
(7) Any individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race or sex, or
(8) Meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race to oppress members of another race.

A "course" shall include any program or activity where instruction or activities tied to the instruction are provided by or within a public school, including courses, programs, instructional activities, lessons, training sessions, seminars, professional development, lectures, coaching, tutoring, or any other classes.

Any individual may file a complaint alleging that a violation has occurred of enumerated items 1-8 above. In order for a complaint to be accepted for investigation, it must:

(A) Be submitted in writing, signed and dated by the complainant, including complaints submitted through electronic mail that include electronic signatures;
(B) Identify the dates the alleged discriminatory act occurred;
(C) Explain the alleged violation and/or discriminatory conduct and how enumerated items 1-8 above have been violated;
(D) Include relevant information that would enable a public school to investigate the alleged violation; and
(E) Identify witnesses the school may interview. The school will not dismiss a complaint for failure to identify witnesses.

The district hereby designates PTC Compliance Officer(s) as the employees responsible for receiving complaints. The district will ensure that the employee is unbiased and free of any conflicts of interest. Complaints may be provided via telephone at 580-762-8336 and via email to Info@pioneertech.edu. This contact information shall also be accessible on the school district's website.

Upon receipt of a complaint, the complainant shall receive notification from the designated employee that the complaint has been received and whether it will be investigated within ten (10) days of receipt.

The school district shall investigate all legally sufficient complaints and decide as to whether a violation

occurred. The school district shall receive, process and investigate complaints in the same manner as all other complaints of discrimination. The investigation process shall be completed within forty-five (45) days of receipt of a claim. Within ten (10) days of resolution of the complaint, the designated employee shall report the resolution to the State Department of Education.

No individual shall be retaliated against for (1) filing a complaint; (2) exercising any right or privilege conferred by or referenced within 210:10-1-23 of the Accreditation Standards; (3) exercising any right or privilege secured by a law referenced in 210:10-1-23 of the Accreditation Standards. Any school employee who retaliates against a complainant may be subject to disciplinary action by the school district or by the State Board of Education.

Any teacher who files a complaint or otherwise discloses information that the teacher reasonably believes is a violation of the prohibited concepts listed above shall be entitled to Whistleblower Protections.

Any teacher or other school employee who, willfully, knowingly, and without probable cause makes a false report may be subject to disciplinary action by the school district or by the State Board of Education.

LEGAL REFERENCE: 70 O.S. § 24-158
State Accreditation Standard 210:10-1-23

See also - Policy GJ - Nondiscrimination

A POLICY ON THIS ISSUE IS REQUIRED BY THE STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION FOR OKLAHOMA SCHOOLS

PARENT PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT - EHBDBA

The board of education, in consultation with parents, teachers, and administrators, has developed and adopted this policy to promote and encourage the involvement of parents and guardians of children within the school district.

1. Parent participation in the schools is encouraged to improve parent and teacher cooperation in such areas as homework, attendance and discipline. At the beginning of each school year, each teacher shall provide parents with contact information so that a parent has the opportunity to contact the teacher or administration to address concerns related to homework, attendance and discipline.

2. Parents may request additional information from the administration to learn about the course of study for their children and review learning materials, including the source of any supplemental educational materials.

3. Parents who object to any learning material or activity on the basis that it is harmful may withdraw their children from the activity or from the class or program in which the material is used. Objection to a learning material or activity on the basis that it is harmful includes objection to a material or activity because it questions beliefs or practices in sex, morality or religion. Parents are hereby informed that the withdrawal of a child from any state mandated courses could prevent their child from being eligible to receive a high school diploma.

4. If the school district offers any sex education curricula pursuant to Section 11-105.1 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes or pursuant to any rules adopted by the State Board of Education, parents may opt their child out of sex education instruction if the child's parent provides written objection to the child's participation in the sex education curricula.

5. Parents are hereby notified and given the opportunity to withdraw their children from any instruction or presentations regarding sexuality in courses other than formal sex education curricula pursuant to Section 11-105.1 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

6. Parents may learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and activities that are part of the school curriculum, as well as extracurricular clubs and activities that have been approved by the school. A list of school clubs that have been approved by the board of education is available from the administration upon request.

7. Specific parent rights and responsibilities provided under the laws of this state, include the following:
    a. the right to opt out of a sex education curriculum if one is provided by the school district,

    b. open enrollment rights,

    c. the right to opt out of assignments,

    d. the right to be exempt from the immunization laws of the state pursuant to Section 1210.192 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

    e. the promotion requirements prescribed in Section 1210.508E of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statues,

f. the minimum course of study and competency requirements for graduation from high school prescribed in Section 11-103.6 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

g. the right to opt out of instruction on the acquired immune deficiency syndrome pursuant to Section 11-103.3 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

h. the right to review test results,

i. the right to participate in gifted programs pursuant to Sections 1210.301 through 1210.308 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

j. the right to inspect instructional materials used in connection with any research or experimentation program or project pursuant to Section 11-106 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

k. the right to receive a school report card,

l. the attendance requirements prescribed in Section 10-106 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

m. the right to public review of courses of study and textbooks,

n. the right to be excused from school attendance for religious purposes,

o. policies related to parental involvement pursuant to this section,

p. the right to participate in parent-teacher associations and organizations that are sanctioned by the board of education of a school district, and

q. the right to opt out of any data collection instrument at the district level that would capture data for inclusion in the state longitudinal student data system except what is necessary and essential for establishing a student's public school record.

8. Additional parents' rights may be specified in Oklahoma Administrative Code.

Parents may submit a written request for information during regular business hours to either the school principal at the school site or the superintendent at the office of the school district. Within ten (10) days of receiving the request for information, the school principal or superintendent, shall deliver the requested information to the parent or provide a written explanation of the reasons for the denial of the requested information. If the request is denied or the parent does not receive the requested information within fifteen (15) days after submitting the request, the parent may submit a written request for the information to the board of education. The board of education shall formally consider the request at the next scheduled public meeting if the request can be properly noticed on the agenda. If the request cannot be properly noticed on the agenda, the board of education shall formally consider the request at the next subsequent meeting of the board of education.

LEGAL REFERENCES: 70 O.S. § 10-106
70 O.S. § 11-103.3
70 O.S. § 11-103.6

70 O.S. § 11-105.1
70 O.S. § 11-106
70 O.S. § 1210.192
70 O.S. § 1210.301 through § 1210.308
70 O.S. § 1210.508E

THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY LAW.

TUITION FEES - FDBA

Students enrolling in Pioneer Technology Center programs may be charged tuition fees in accordance with board approved rates. The board of education will review the tuition fee schedule on an annual basis.

ADULT TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Tuition and Refunds

1. Upon request, enrollments are refunded less $10.00, if the student cancels enrollment before the second-class meeting. (This does not apply to 1 day or 3-hour courses). No refunds will be issued after the second-class meeting, whether or not the student attends any classes. Special circumstances may be considered and will be at the discretion of the school administration (i.e. natural disaster, death of spouse, severe illness, etc.)

2. Tuition for out-of-district post-secondary students is double that of in-district students; however, out-of-district students may enroll with the following options: (1) they may pay double tuition and be assured of enrollment in the program; or, (2) they may choose to wait until one week prior to class starting and enroll at in-district rates only after the in-district needs have been met and if space is available.

3. If, one week prior to the beginning of class, space is available, the district is authorized to provide free tuition for full-time employees, board members, spouses and dependent children of full-time employees or board members desiring to attend Pioneer Technology Center courses. Full-time employees of sending school districts may attend courses for one-half of normal tuition rates. District employees, board members, and fulltime employees of sending schools who receive this benefit are responsible for the cost of books and other non-tuition fees. Note: A PTC full-time employee, board member, spouse or dependent can guarantee a seat in any "high" demand course by paying for ½ of the tuition fee.

4. Pricing may be adjusted for special programs, promotions and referrals.

FULL-TIME PROGRAMS

There are no tuition fees for district secondary students enrolling in daytime courses. Out-of-district secondary and postsecondary students will be charged a tuition fee based on the length of instruction and residency status. Tuition for an out-of-district adult student shall be double the amount of an in-district adult student. Adult out-of-state tuition shall be double the amount of an out-of-district adult student. Tuition for non-district secondary students is established by the Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technology Education. This rate is updated annually and is available through the Bursar. Pricing may be adjusted for special programs. A chart of the currently approved tuition rates will be listed in the student handbook.

At the time of enrollment in full-time career majors, a $25.00 non-refundable enrollment fee is required of all adult students. Two weeks prior to a successful practical nursing applicant's start date; a $50 deposit toward tuition must be paid to secure his/her place in class. This deposit is applied toward tuition. A $25 school enrollment fee is due at this time also. This enrollment fee is non-refundable and does not apply toward tuition. The balance of the tuition shall be paid in full by the end of the second week the student is enrolled in school, unless payment arrangements have been made.

Students receiving financial support for tuition shall present a letter certifying the support agency. Such agencies may include Vocational-Rehabilitation, Workforce Investment, tribal programs, and scholarships.

Refunds

1. Institutional Refund of Tuition

If a student formally withdraws from school after enrolling in a full-time career major, a full refund of tuition will be made only if the withdrawal occurs within the first 10 school days of the defined payment period. A 50% refund will be made if the withdrawal occurs within 11-20 school days. After the 20th school day of the defined payment period, there will be no refund for that period.

For financial aid purposes, a student is considered to have dropped out when he/she has been absent for five (5) consecutive class days without contacting Pioneer Technology Center.

In addition to Pioneer Tech's refund policy, students receiving Federal and State financial aid are subject to the Federal and State financial aid refund policies as published by the Department of Education and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and referred to in the Consumer Information Guide.

In all cases, the non-refundable deposit will be withheld from any refund. The district reserves the right to withhold any amounts owed for tuition from any financial aid or other funds that come into the district's possession on behalf of the student.

For the purpose of this policy, out-of-district students are those who do not currently reside within the Pioneer Technology Center taxation district

REFERENCE: Board Minutes dated March 10, 1995
Board Minutes dated February 13, 1996
Board Minutes dated May 14, 1996
Board Minutes dated June 11, 1996
Board Minutes dated November 14, 2000

IMMUNIZATIONS
STUDENTS - FFAB

The Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education shall provide an environment for students to study, interact, and learn. Such an environment shall be reasonably free of known hazards which may threaten or endanger the health of our students or educators.

The board of education shall require that no child be admitted to this school unless and until certification from a licensed physician or authorized representative of the State Department of Health is presented to the school administrators that such child has received or is in the process of receiving the immunization required by the State Department of Public Health unless an exemption has been granted from the immunizations on medical, religious, or personal grounds. The local school administration through which a student is enrolled in Pioneer Technology Center classes may certify such evidence.

If a parent or guardian is unable to pay for the required immunizations, the school will refer the student to the State Department of Public Health for assistance.

The following immunizations are required by the State Department of Public Health prior to the enrollment of a child in public school:

5 DPT (Diphtheria - Pertussis - Tetanus) (unless the fourth dose was received after the fourth birthday)
4 Polio (unless the third dose was received after the fourth birthday)
2 Measles (Rubeola)
1 Rubella
1 Mumps

Beginning with the fall 1998 semester, all students entering kindergarten and first grade must provide documentation of having received three doses of hepatitis B vaccine. All students entering the seventh and eighth grades must provide documentation of having received three doses of hepatitis B vaccine. Every subsequent year, the hepatitis B requirements will be extended by one additional grade level.

Beginning with the fall 1998 semester, all students entering the seventh grade must provide documentation of having received two doses of hepatitis A vaccine. Beginning with the fall 1998 semester, all students entering kindergarten must provide documentation of having received two doses of the hepatitis A vaccine and chicken pox (varicella) vaccine. Every subsequent year, these requirements will be extended by one additional grade level. The State Department of Public Health has granted a 120 day grace period to receive the hepatitis A vaccine with all students entering kindergarten, first grade, seventh grade, and eighth grade in the fall 1999 semester required to provide documentation of vaccination.

Students may be required to have additional immunizations for certain programs.

REFERENCE: SB 887, SB 1239, & SB 1400 (70 O.S. §1210.191, et seq.)
Oklahoma State Department of Health Regulations

MEDICATION:
ADMINISTERING TO STUDENTS - FFACA

Giving medications to students at school requires the utmost care and caution on the part of the school staff. The danger of a student receiving an incorrect medication puts the student's health at risk and places the school and employees in legal jeopardy.

It is the policy of the Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education that if a student is required to take medication during school hours or while attending a school activity and the parent or guardian cannot be present to administer the medication or if circumstances exist that indicate it is in the best interest of the student that a prescribed medication be dispensed to that student, the instructional director, or the director's designee, may administer the medication only as follows:

1. Prescription medication must be in a container that indicates the following:

   A. student's name
   B. name and strength of medication
   C. dosage and directions for administration
   D. name of physician or dentist
   E. date, name of pharmacy, and
   F. whether the child has asthma or other disability which may require immediate dispensation of medication

   The medication must be delivered to the instructional director's office in person by the parent or guardian of the student unless the medication must be retained by the student for immediate self-administration. If it is not possible for the parent/guardian to deliver the medication in person, arrangements may be made by contacting the program area instructional director. The medication will be accompanied by written authorization from the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody that indicates the following:

   A. purpose of the medication
   B. time to be administered
   C. whether the medication must be retained by student for self-administration
   D. termination date for administering the medication
   E. whether the child has asthma or other disability which may require immediate dispensation of medication
   F. other appropriate information requested by the instructional director or the director's designee

   Students requiring medication while attending conferences or events that include overnight stays must have a completed authorization form and any special medical needs must be provided in writing to the activity sponsor.

2. Self-administration of inhaled asthma medication by a student for treatment of asthma, an anaphylaxis medication used to treat anaphylaxis, the self-administration of replacement pancreatic enzymes by a student for treatment of cystic fibrosis, and self- administration of medications to treat diabetes is permitted with written parental authorization. The parent or guardian of the student must also provide a written statement from the physician treating the student that the student has asthma, anaphylaxis or diabetes and is capable of, and has been instructed in the proper method of, self-administration of

medication. Additionally:

A. The parent or guardian must provide the school with an emergency supply of the student's medication to be administered as authorized by state law.

B. The school district will inform the parent or guardian of the student, in writing, and the parent or guardian shall sign a statement acknowledging, that the school district and its employees and agents shall incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the student.

C. Permission for the self-administration of asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes medication, or replacement cystic fibrosis enzymes is effective for the school year for which it is granted and shall be renewed each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the above requirements.

D. A student who is permitted to self-administer asthma, anaphylaxis, or diabetes medication shall be permitted to possess and use a prescribed inhaler, ~~or~~ anaphylaxis medication, or replacement pancreatic enzyme medication at all times.

E. Definitions:

1. **Medication** means a metered dose inhaler or a dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms, prescribed by a physician and having an individual label, or an anaphylaxis medication used to treat anaphylaxis, including but not limited to Epinephrine, prescribed by a physician and having an individual label, or replacement pancreatic enzymes prescribed by a physician and having an individual label.

2. **Self-administration** means a student's use of medication pursuant to prescription or written direction from a physician.

3. Students shall be permitted to possess and self-apply sunscreen that is regulated by the Food and Drug Administration without the written authorization of a parent, legal guardian, or physician. Students applying sunscreen are prohibited from applying sunscreen during instructional time. Aerosol spray must be applied outside of school buildings and away from other students. Students shall not be allowed to apply sunscreen to other students. Students who do not conform to these rules will be disciplined by the administration in accordance with school discipline policies.

4. Other prescription medication may be administered only with the written request and permission of a parent, guardian, or person having legal custody when other alternatives, such as resting or changing activities, are inappropriate or ineffective. The medication will be administered in accordance with label directions or written instructions from the student's physician and the apporopriate form(s) must be completed and on file in the full-time programs office.

The district will require annual training for teachers and school employees who are directly responsible for students on the topics of food allergies, recognizing anaphylaxis, and instruction on how to administer Epinephrine. The training should be completed before the school year begins or upon hiring the teacher or school employee. Documentation certifying completion of the required training shall be retained in the

personnel file of the teacher or school employee. The training may be provided online or in person by the school nurse or a recognized food allergy and anaphylaxis training program.

The instructional director, or director's designee, will:

A. Inform appropriate school personnel of the medication being administered
B. Keep an accurate record of the administration of the medication
C. Keep all medication in a locked cabinet except medication retained by a student per physician's order
D. Return unused prescription medication to the parent/guardian or to the student with written permission from the parent/guardian.

The parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of the student is responsible for informing the designated official of any change in the student's health or change in medication.

This policy statement will be provided to a parent or guardian upon receipt of a request for long-term administration of medication.

Students who act outside of the guidelines of this policy will be subject to discipline as outlined in policies FO, FO-R, FNCE and FNCF.

NOTE: Pioneer Technology Center does not have a school nurse. The nurses on staff are teachers and cannot act as a school nurse. Their opinions may be requested, but are not to be confused as being directive in nature. The instructional director of a program area is the individual who makes the decision regarding the individual welfare of the student.

Students with additional medical needs can work with administration to develop a plan to address their specific medical needs.

REFERENCE: 10 O.S. §170.1
59 O.S. §353.1
70 O.S. §1-116, et seq.

SEE ALSO:

Policy:
FO – Student Conduct, Behavior and Discipline
FOD – Suspension of Students
FNCE – Reporting Students Under the Influence
FNCF – Drug-Free Schools

Forms:
Medication Administration Authorization Form – Administered by School Personnel
Medication Administration Authorization Form – Administered by Student
Authorization to Self-Carry/Self-Administration of Medication and/or Procedures at School and After School Activities

THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY LAW

SCHOOL BUS PROGRAM
(REGULATIONS) – FFF-R1

In accordance with the policy of the board of education, the following rules and regulations shall govern the conduct of school bus passengers:

1. Students and other school bus passengers shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with good classroom behavior while waiting for and traveling on school buses. Misconduct will be brought to the attention of the students' program administrator by the school bus driver.

2. The noise level on school buses must remain at a low level to enable the driver to hear emergency and train signals. Therefore, passengers must not shout, sing, or otherwise cause any disturbance that may distract the driver.

3. Tobacco use is not permitted on school buses. (See policy CKDA.)

4. Pagers, or other wireless electronic communications devices are not permitted on school buses unless under the provision provided in policy FNG. (See policy FNG.)

5. School bus windows must remain closed unless the driver permits them to be opened. When windows are open, passengers must not throw objects from windows or extend any part of the body through a window.

6. Any passenger who defaces or vandalizes a school bus in any way shall be immediately suspended from riding school buses. No suspended student shall be permitted to resume the school bus privilege until all damages for which the student was responsible are paid.

7. For misconduct other than vandalism, the student's parent/guardian and the home school principal shall be notified of a first occurrence. The program administrator shall take whatever reasonable action is deemed necessary. For a second occurrence, the student shall be placed on probation in addition to the above notification and bus privileges shall be withdrawn. The loss of bus privileges may cause a student to be ineligible to attend the Pioneer Technology Center.

8. School bus departure schedules are set by the class schedule. Students must board the bus on time. Drivers are not to pick up students after leaving the designated pickup point. Students missing the bus to the technology center are to immediately report to their home high school principal.

9. Students must board the school bus at designated bus stops and at school bus boarding areas on school premises. Students must remain orderly until the bus comes to a complete stop and boarding permission is given by the driver. Seats may be assigned at the driver's discretion. Passengers must be seated immediately. Seats may not be held for later passengers, and must be shared when necessary.

10. After the bus is en route, passengers must remain seated until the bus is stopped. Upon exiting the bus, passengers must move away from the bus. The school bus will not move until the passenger can be observed by the driver.

11. If a student is denied transportation for any reason, the parent(s) and home high school must be notified. The bus driver shall not put a student off the bus other than at the student's regular stop without written permission from the parent and the home high school principal.

SECONDARY STUDENT RECORDS -FL

It is the policy of this board of education that the Executive Director of Instructional and Support Services will be the legal custodian of all student records.

Students and parents will have access to their school records. The school will notify parents and adult students annually of the following:

1. The type of records kept;
2. The procedure for inspecting and copying these records;
3. The right for interpretation;
4. The right to challenge data thought to be erroneous, the procedures for correcting or expunging erroneous data or inserting a rebuttal statement;
5. The right to lodge a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if mandates are not adequately implemented.

The educational records or school records include all materials directly related to a student which a school maintains. Records and notes maintained by a teacher, administrator, school physician, or school psychologist for his or her own use, and which are not available to others are exempted from this definition.

The school will require a prior written consent before information may be divulged to third parties, unless the disclosure meets an exception defined in FL-R. An exception to this rule exists for school district employees who have legitimate interests in viewing the records, as well as officials in other schools in which the student seeks to enroll. A school district in which a student is enrolled or is in the process of enrolling in may request the student's education records from any district in which the student was formerly enrolled to ascertain safety issues with incoming students and ensure full disclosure. The records, including the student's disciplinary records, will be forwarded to the requesting district within three (3) business days. Disciplinary records shall include but not be limited to all information that relates to a student assaulting, carrying weapons, possessing illegal drugs, including alcohol, and any incident that poses a potential dangerous threat to students or school personnel.

When schools transfer records to new educational institutions, the schools must notify parents of the transfer, and of their right to review and contest the material. State and national educational organizations which require student data for confidential research and statistical purposes are exempted from the parental consent prerequisite. An exemption also exists for material under court order. Parents must be notified of such order prior to release.

The district will release individual student records from the current or previous school year to a school district where the student was previously enrolled if the release of such records is for the purposes of evaluating educational programs and school effectiveness.

The district may disclose personally identifiable information to third parties, without prior written consent, in order to conduct studies, audits, and evaluations of the educational programs of the school district. In such case, the district will take reasonable steps to ensure that all authorized representatives of the third party are FERPA compliant with the information provided for the purposes of the study, audit, or evaluation of the educational program.

The district may disclose, without the consent or knowledge of the eligible student or parent, personally identifiable information in the educational records of a student to the Attorney General of the United States

or his or her designee in response to an ex parte order in connection with the investigation or prosecution of terrorism crimes. The district is not required to record such disclosure of information and is protected from liability for disclosing such information in good faith.

The superintendent is directed to establish procedures to ensure compliance with the Family Educational and Privacy Act and other applicable acts and regulations.

REFERENCE: 34 CFR 99.1
18 USC §§2331 and 2332(g)(5)(B)
20 USC 1232
51 O.S. §24A.16 – Student Directory Information
70 O.S. §6-115
70 O.S. §24.101.4
70 O.S. §24-114

POSTSECONDARY STUDENT RECORDS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. (An "eligible student" under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution at any age.) These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the Pioneer Technology Center receives a request for access. A student should submit to the appropriate program registrar a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the school official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to ask Pioneer Technology Center to amend a record should write the Executive Director of the enrolled program, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed.

If Pioneer Technology Center decides not to amend the record as requested, Pioneer Technology Center will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before Pioneer Technology Center discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

Pioneer Technology Center discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is typically includes a person employed by Pioneer Technology Center in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a

person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of Pioneer Technology Center who performs an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for Pioneer Technology Center.

Upon request, the school also discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

[NOTE TO POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION: FERPA requires a school to make a reasonable attempt to notify each student of these disclosures unless the institution states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request or the disclosure is initiated by the student.]

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Pioneer Technology Center to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

    Student Privacy Policy Office
    U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland
    Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202

[NOTE: In addition, a school may want to include its directory information public notice, as required by § 99.37 of the regulations, with its annual notification of rights under FERPA.]

See the list below of the disclosures that postsecondary institutions may make without consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the student, § 99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to record the disclosure. Eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A postsecondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining prior written consent of the student —

- To other school officials, including teachers, within Pioneer Technology Center whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(*1*) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(*3*) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university's State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State- supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their

behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)

- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§ 99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10))
- Information the school has designated as "directory information" under § 99.37. (§ 99.31(a)(11))
- To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of § 99.39. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with
  respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding. (§ 99.31(a)(13))
- To the general public, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of § 99.39, if the school determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the school's rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him or her. (§ 99.31(a)(14))
- To parents of a student regarding the student's violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the school, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the school determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21. (§99.31(a)(15))

REFERENCE: 34 CFR 99.1
18 USC §§2331 and 2332(g)(5)(B)
20 USC 1232
51 O.S. §24A.16
70 O.S. §6-115
70 O.S. §24.101.4
70 O.S. §24-114

TRANSFER AND RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION - FLE

It is the policy of the Board of Education to adhere strictly to Oklahoma and Federal law concerning the transfer and release of confidential information including student records.

For the purposes of this policy, "confidential information" means any information regarding a child receiving services supported in whole or in part by state or federal funds, a family member of such child, or other persons residing in the home of such child, and which is required by state or federal law or regulation to be maintained in a confidential manner.

The school district will transfer and release confidential information in accordance with this policy to:

(1) The Department of Human Services,
(2) The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services,
(3) The State Department of Health,
(4) The State Department of Education,
(5) The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education,
(6) The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth,
(7) The J.D. McCarty Center for Handicapped Children,
(8) The Department of Corrections,
(9) Private agencies receiving public funds pursuant to a grant or contract with one of the agencies listed in (1) through (8) and providing institutional, community residential or community-based services as defined by Title 10, Section 7001-1.3 of the Oklahoma Statutes, to children and family,
(10) Persons and agencies subject to the rules promulgated by the agencies listed in (1) through (8), and
(11) Statutorily-constituted juvenile bureaus.

Unless otherwise permitted by state or federal law or regulation, confidential information will only be released to the above-described entities pursuant to (1) a court order or (2) an informed consent that has been executed by (a) the parent or guardian of the child or other person authorized by state or federal law to execute such consent, if the subject of the confidential information is a child or (b) the individual who was the subject of the confidential information or other person authorized by law to execute such consent on his or her behalf, if the subject of the confidential information is an adult.

The school district will follow the rules promulgated by the State Department of Education for authorizing access to and the transfer or release of confidential information for the purpose of gathering statistical information or conducting studies or research otherwise authorized by law.

The school district may charge $.10 per page for all copies made pursuant to this policy plus the actual cost of mailing the copies.

REFERENCE: 10 O.S. §620.1, et seq.
10 O.S. §7001-1.3

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION - FNAA

The technology center board of education hereby adheres to Oklahoma Law providing that outdoor areas of campuses of public institutions of higher education, which include technology center schools overseen by the State Board of Career and Technology Education, are public forums for the campus community.

Policy

The outdoor areas of any campus of the technology center are deemed public forums for the campus community, and the technology center will not create "free speech zones" or other designated areas of campus outside of which expressive activities are prohibited. The technology center may maintain and enforce reasonable time, place and manner restrictions narrowly tailored in service of a significant institutional interest when the restrictions employ clear, published, content- and viewpoint-neutral criteria and provide for ample alternative means of expression. Any such restrictions shall allow for members of the campus community to spontaneously and contemporaneously assemble and distribute literature. Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted as applying to student expression taking place elsewhere on campus.

Any person who wishes to engage in noncommercial expressive activity on campus shall be permitted to do so freely, as long as the person's conduct is not unlawful and does not materially and substantially disrupt the functioning of the technology center.

Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted as preventing the technology center from prohibiting, limiting or restricting expression that the First Amendment does not protect or prohibiting harassment as defined in this policy.

Space reserved or rented from the technology center for a specific purpose shall not be deemed as an area wherein noncommercial expressive activity may occur during the duration of time that the group has exclusive use or control of that space.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the technology center from maintaining and enforcing reasonable time, place and manner restrictions that are narrowly tailored to serve a significant institutional interest only when such restrictions employ clear, published, content- and viewpoint-neutral criteria. Any such restrictions shall allow for members of the campus community to spontaneously and contemporaneously assemble, speak and distribute literature.

The technology center will make public in its *Full-Time Programs Student Handbook*, on its website and through its orientation programs for students the policies, regulations and expectations of students regarding free expression on campus consistent with this policy.

The technology center will develop materials, programs and procedures to ensure that those persons who have responsibility for discipline or education of students, including but not limited to administrators, campus police officers, and instructors, understand the policies, regulations and duties of the technology center regarding free expression on campus.

Reporting Requirement

By December 31st each year, the technology center will publicly post on its website and submit to the Governor and Legislature a report that details the course of action implemented to comply with the requirements of Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 2120. A report shall also be submitted in the instance of any changes or updates to the chosen course of action. The report provided on the website shall be:

a. Accessible from the technology center's website home page by use of not more than three links;
b. Searchable by key words and phrases; and
c. Accessible to the public without requiring registration or use of a user name, password or another user identification.

The technology center's report will include the following information:

a. a description of any barriers to or incidents of disruption of free expression occurring on campus, including but not limited to attempts to block or prohibit speakers and investigations into students or student organizations for their speech. The description shall include the nature of each barrier or incident, as well as what disciplinary action, if any, was taken against members of the campus community determined to be
b. responsible for those specific barriers or incidents involving students without revealing those students' personally identifiable information, and
c. any other information the technology center deems valuable for the public to evaluate whether free expression rights for all members of the campus community have been equally protected and enforced.

In the event the technology center is sued for an alleged violation of First Amendment rights, a supplementary report, with a copy of the complaint or amended complaint, will be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature within thirty (30) days.

Definitions

"Campus community" means students, administrators, faculty and staff at the technology center and their invited guests;

"Expressive activities" include, but are not limited to, any lawful verbal, written, audio-visual or electronic means by which individuals may communicate ideas to one another, including all forms of peaceful assembly, protests, speeches and guest speakers, distribution of literature, carrying signs and circulating petitions.

"Harassment" means only that expression that is unwelcome, so severe, pervasive and subjectively and objectively offensive that a student is effectively denied equal access to educational opportunities or benefits provided by the technology center.

"Materially and substantially disrupts" means when a person, with the intent to or with knowledge of doing so, significantly hinders another person's or group's expressive activity, prevents the communication of the message or prevents the transaction of the business of a lawful meeting, gathering or procession by:

a. engaging in fighting, violent or other unlawful behavior, or
b. physically blocking or using threats of violence to prevent any person from attending, listening to, viewing or otherwise participating in an expressive activity. Conduct that "materially disrupts" shall not include conduct that is protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Section 22 of Article 2 of the Oklahoma Constitution. Such protected conduct includes but is not limited to lawful protests in the outdoor areas of campus generally accessible to the members of the public, except during times when those areas have been reserved in advance for other events, or minor, brief or fleeting nonviolent disruptions of events that are isolated and short in duration;

"Outdoor areas of campus" means the generally accessible outside areas of campus where members of the campus community are commonly allowed, such as grassy areas, walkways or other similar common areas and does not include outdoor areas where access is restricted from a majority of the campus community.

"Student organization" means an officially recognized group at the technology center, or a group seeking official recognition, comprised of admitted students that receive or are seeking to receive benefits at the technology center.

LEGAL REFERENCE: 70 O.S. § 2120

STUDENT CONDUCT
DRESS CODE – FNCA-R

The Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education believes that the majority of the students in the public schools recognize their own individuality and have no need to express themselves in extreme dress or grooming styles. Generally, dress and grooming standards as determined by the students and their parents will not be questioned. The only requirements the board of education insists upon are that students' dress and grooming shall not lead school officials to reasonably believe that such dress or grooming will materially disrupt, interfere with, or detract from school activities, or create a health or other hazard to the student's safety or to the safety of others.

HAZING – FNCC

It is the policy of this school district that no student or employee of the district shall participate in or be members of any secret fraternity or secret organization that is in any degree related to the school or to a school activity. No student organization or any person associated with any organization sanctioned or authorized by the board of education shall engage or participate in hazing.

For the purposes of this policy, hazing is defined as an activity which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization sanctioned or authorized by the board of education.

"Endanger the physical health" shall include, but is not limited to, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping; beating; branding; forced calisthenics; exposure to the elements; forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug, or controlled dangerous substance; or other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual.

"Endanger the mental health" shall include any activity, except those activities authorized by law, which would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual.

Any hazing activity upon which the initiation or admission into or affiliation with an organization sanctioned or authorized by the board of education is conditioned, directly or indirectly, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if the student willingly participates in such activity.

This policy is not intended to deprive school district authorities from taking necessary and appropriate disciplinary action toward any student or employee. Students or employees who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action which may include expulsion for students and employment termination for employees.

A copy of this policy will be furnished to each student and teacher in this school district.

REFERENCE: 21 O.S. §1190

BULLYING - FNCD

THE SCHOOL SAFETY and BULLYING PREVENTION ACT(70 OKLA. STAT. § 24-100.2)

The Oklahoma Legislature established the *School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act* with the express intent of prohibiting student harassment, intimidation, and bullying.

It is the policy of this school district that bullying of students by other students, personnel, or the public will not be tolerated. Students are expected to be civil, polite, and fully engaged in the learning process. Students who act inappropriately are not fully engaged in the learning process. This policy is in effect while the students are on school grounds, in school vehicles, at designated bus stops, at school-sponsored activities, or at school-sanctioned events, andwhile away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management, and welfare of the school district. Bullying of students by electronic communication is prohibited whether or not such communication originated at school or with school equipment, if the communication is specifically directed at students or school personnel and concerns harassment, intimidation, or bullying at school. The school district is not required to provide educational services in the regular school setting to any student who has been removed from a public school or private school in Oklahoma or another state by administrative or judicial process for an act of using electronic communication with the intent to terrify, intimidate or harass, or threaten to inflict injury or physical harm to faculty or students.

As used in the School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act, "bullying" means any pattern of harassment, intimidation, threatening behavior, physical acts, verbal or electronic communication directed toward a student, group of students, personnel, or the public that results in or is reasonably perceived as being done with the intent to cause negative educational or physical results for the targeted individual or group and is communicated in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission, work flow/process, or the education of any student. Isolated action does not meet the state's definition of bullying. However, the administration will investigate isolated incidents or actions and apply appropriate discipline under the student discipline code. This policy addresses bullying which is specifically prohibited.

Bullying shall be subject to the same disciplinary consequences as other misconduct, including misconductidentified in the Discipline Code.

Bullying has been defined as a "pattern of harassment, intimidation, threatening behavior, physical acts, verbal or electronic communication directed toward a student, group of students, personnel, or the public that results in or is reasonably perceived as being done with the intent to cause negative educational or physical results for the targetedindividual or group and is communicated in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission, work flow/process, or the education of any students."

1. Bullying includes, but is not limited to any gesture, written or verbal expression, or physical act that areasonable person should reasonably believe or know will:

    A. Harm another student, group of students, personnel, or the public;
    B. Damage another student's, group of students, personnel, or the public property;
    C. Place another student, group of students, personnel, or the public in reasonable fear of harm to thestudent's person or damage to the student's property; or

D. Insult or demean any student, group of students, personnel, or the public,

2. **Conduct** constitutes bullying if conducted in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission, work flow/process, or the education of any student, group of students, personnel, or the public. This includes, but is not limited to gestures, written, verbal, or physical acts, or electroniccommunications.

3. **"Electronic Communication"** means the communication of any written, verbal, video content, pictorial, orAI generated information by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, a cellular telephone or other wireless telecommunication device, or computer.

4. **"Threatening Behavior"** means any pattern of behavior or isolated action, whether or not it is directed at another person, that a reasonable person would believe indicates potential for future harm to students, schoolpersonnel, the public, or school property.

Bullying complaints will be treated with confidentiality and urgency. Complaints may be taken to any Pioneer Technology Center employee or board member. Employees or board members must report suspected bullying, even if nocomplaint has been received. The superintendent, staff members or any board member of PTC, upon receiving a report (formal, informal or anonymous) of harassment, intimidation, or bullying shall notify a District Compliance Officer.

The District Compliance Officer's shall enforce this policy by doing the following as quickly as reasonably possible:

1. Obtain an oral or written statement, from the individual who is alleged to have been harassed, intimidated, orbullied, which contains information necessary to conduct a full investigation of the matter. This informationshould include, but is not limited to, the name of the alleged perpetrator, the person(s) being harassed, the nature, context and extent of the prohibited activity, the dates of the prohibited activity and the names of anywitnesses;

2. Take reasonable and age appropriate, effective steps to separate and protect the individual who is allegedly being harassed, intimidated, or bullied from the alleged perpetrator, until the matter can be fully investigatedand the appropriate remedial steps taken;

3. Keep the individual who is allegedly being harassed, intimidated, or bullied reasonably apprised, to the extent allowed under federal and state privacy laws and regulations, of the investigation and the actions takenas a result of the investigation;

4. Conduct a full and complete investigation, to the extent reasonably possible and appropriate to the age of those involved, regarding the alleged harassment, intimidation, or bullying, which would include, but not be limited to, interviewing the individual allegedly bullied, any witnesses, review of any supporting documents,and interviewing the alleged perpetrator; See ***FNCD-P Bullying (Investigation Procedures)***

5. Determine if bullying is actually occurring; false statements will result in disciplinary or remedial action.

6. Based on good judgment, common sense and the facts, as revealed by the investigation, taken as a whole andthe totality of the circumstances, such as the nature, extent, age of those involved, context and gravity of suchactivities or incidents, take or recommend the taking of appropriate and effective measures reasonably calculated to end the bullying and prevent a reoccurrence, including

but not limited to, appropriate discipline as identified in the Pioneer Technology Center Student Discipline code, or for employees, suspension, demotion, forfeiture of pay or benefits (as permitted by law), termination, or reassignment. Parents and guardians of victims and perpetrators will be notified of documented and verified bullying as quickly as reasonably possible.

7. Report documented and verified bullying to law enforcement if the acts may constitute criminal activity or reasonably have the potential to endanger school safety;

8. Determine the severity of incidents and their potential for future violence.

Education:

Student and Staff Education and Training

All staff will be provided with access to a copy of this policy and shall be required to complete professional development training in school bullying prevention, identification, response and reporting that meets the requirements of Oklahoma law and shall include recommendations from the district Safe Schools Committee. This policy is included in the student handbook and staff handbook which is posted annually on the PTC website and is available for public review. The district is committed to providing appropriate and relevant training to staff regarding identification of behavior constituting bullying of students and the prevention and management of such conduct.

Students will receive annual training regarding identifying, preventing, addressing, and reporting incidents of bullying via educational programs. These programs may include, but are not limited to, classroom discussions, assemblies, multimedia and presentations. The purpose of the educational programs are to assist students in the identification of bullying behaviors, reporting procedures and the consequences for violation of school policy.

The district will implement a research-based educational program as designed and developed by the Oklahoma State Department of Education for students and parents to prevent, identify, respond to and report bullying.

Parent information and resources are available on the district Website.

Counseling / Support:

Upon completion of an investigation school administration may communicate with the school counselor to recommend that available community mental health care, substance abuse or other counseling options be provided, if appropriate to the student. This may include information about the types of support services available to all students, staff, and families affected by bullying.

The school counselor may request the disclosure of any information concerning students who have received mental health care, substance abuse or other counseling should the harassment, intimidation, bullying indicate an explicit threat to the safety of students or school personnel provided, the disclosure of information does not violate the provisions or requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Section 2503 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes, Section 1376 of Title 59 of Oklahoma Statutes, or any other state or federal laws relating to the disclosure of confidential information.

The District Compliance Officer shall serve as the Bullying Coordinator. PTC will notify the state board

of educationwithin 15 days of the appointment of a coordinator, and will provide the OSDE with a copy of this policy by December 10th of each school year. District bullying statistics will be reported to the appropriate agency.

A copy of this policy will be furnished to each student and teacher in this school district and posted throughoutthe building. This policy is published in the student handbook and is accessible on the district website.

REFERENCE: 21 O.S. §850.0
70 O.S. §24-100.2

- **See Policy Forms policy for FNCD-E, Harassment/Bullying Incident Report Form**

CROSS-REFERENCE: Policy GJ-A, Sexual or Other Harassment
Policy GJ-P, Grievance Procedures, Discrimination/Complaints
Policy FNCC, Hazing
Policy FO, Secondary Student Behavior and Discipline
Policy FOA, Adult Student Behavior and Discipline Policy
GJ-A, Sexual Harassment of Students

THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY LAW

BULLYING
(INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES) – FNCD-P

The following procedures will be used by any person for the filing, processing, and resolution of a reported incident of harassment, intimidation, bullying, or threatening behavior. The procedures are to be followed by the administration of the school district in an effort to determine the severity of the incident and the potential to result in future violence.

Definitions

"Bullying" means any pattern of harassment, intimidation, threatening behavior, physical acts, verbal or electronic communication directed toward a student, group of students, personnel, or the public that results in or is reasonably perceived as being done with the intent to cause negative educational or physical results for the targeted individual or group and is communicated in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission, work flow/process, or the education of any student.

"Electronic communication" means the communication of any written, verbal, pictorial information, AI generated content, or video content by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, a mobile or cellular telephone or other wireless communication device, or a computer.

"Threatening behavior" means any pattern of behavior or isolated action, whether or not it is directed at another person, that a reasonable person would believe indicates potential for future harm to students, school personnel, or school property.

Procedures

The procedure for investigating reported incidents of bullying is as follows:

1. The matter should immediately be reported to the compliance officer(s), who will serve as the site district bullying incident coordinator. If the bullying involved an electronic communication, a printed copy of the communication as well as any identifying information such as email address or web address shall be provided to the compliance officer(s). As much detailed information as possible should be provided to the compliance officer(s)in written form to allow for a thorough investigation of the matter.

2. Upon receipt of a written report, the compliance officer(s)shall contact the superintendent or superintendent's designee and begin an investigation to determine the severity of the incident and the potential for future violence.

3. If, during the course of the investigation, it appears that a crime may have been committed the compliance officer(s)and/or superintendent shall notify local law enforcement and request that the alleged victim also contact law enforcement to report the matter for potential criminal investigation.

4. If it is determined that the school district's discipline code has been violated, the compliance officer(s)shall follow district policies regarding the discipline of the student. The compliance officer(s)shall make a determination as to whether the conduct is actually occurring.

5. Upon completion of the investigation, the compliance officer(s) or superintendent or his/her designee may recommend that available community mental health care substance abuse or other counseling options be

provided to the student, if appropriate. This may include information about the types of support services available to the student bully, victim, and any other students affected by the prohibited behavior. If such a recommendation is made, the administration shall request disclosure of any information that indicates an explicit threat to the safety of students or school personnel provided the disclosure of information does not violate the provisions or requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Section 2503 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes, Section 1376 of Title 59 of Oklahoma Statutes, or any other state or federal laws relating to the disclosure of confidential information.

6. Upon completion of an investigation, timely notification shall be provided to the parents or guardians of a victim of documented and verified bullying. This information should be provided within 10 days of the conclusion of the investigation. ***See also FNCD – Bullying - pg. 2, #6-8***

7. Upon completion of an investigation, timely notification shall be provided to the parent or guardian of the perpetrator of the documented and verified bullying. This information should be provided within 10 days of the conclusion of the investigation.

Reports may be made anonymously. However, no formal disciplinary action shall be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report. Reports shall be made immediately to the compliance officer(s)by any school employee that has reliable information that would lead a reasonable person to suspect that a person is a target of bullying.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for enforcing this policy. The compliance officer(s)should notify the superintendent and his/her designee within twenty-four (24) hours of any report of bullying. Upon completion of an investigation, the compliance officer(s)should notify the superintendent and his/her designee of the findings of the investigation. Documentation should also be provided to the superintendent and his/her designee to establish that timely notification was provided to the parents of a minor victim and the parents of a minor perpetrator.

Students or staff members who report bullying or other inappropriate behavior in good faith, or who participate as witnesses in an investigation, are protected from retaliation. Retaliation of any kind—including threats, intimidation, exclusion, harassment, cyberbullying, spreading rumors, or any other adverse treatment intended to discourage or punish a student or staff member for reporting a concern—is strictly prohibited. Any student or staff member found to have engaged in retaliatory behavior will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with school policy. Students or staff members who believe they have experienced retaliation should report it immediately to a Compliance Officer, teacher, school counselor, administrator, or other trusted school employee so that the matter can be promptly investigated and addressed. If an employee of the district is found to have engaged in retaliatory action against a student or staff member who has reported bullying, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken which could include termination of employment.

Any person who knowingly makes a false report shall receive disciplinary consequences and any accusations found to be false will be removed from the falsely accused student's records.

Unsubstantiated bullying complaints will be forwarded to the appropriate PTC administrator or staff member to be addressed accordingly through any applicable district policy. Notification of the completion of the investigation will be provided to the complainant and or the parent/guardian of minor students within 10 days of the conclusion of the investigation.

PROHIBITING HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING (REGULATION) – FNCD-R

The Pioneer Technology Center's student and staff conduct code prohibits bullying. This regulation further explains the negative effects of that behavior and seeks to promote strategies for prevention.

Statement of Board Purpose in Adopting Policy

The board of education recognizes that bullying causes serious educational and personal problems, both for the student-victim and the initiator of the bullying. The board observes that this conduct:

1. Has been shown by national and state studies to have a substantial adverse effect upon school district operations, the safety of students and faculty, and the educational system at large.

2. Substantially disrupts school operations by interfering with the district's mission to instruct students in an atmosphere free from fear, is disruptive of school efforts to encourage students to remain in school until graduation, and is just as disruptive of the district's efforts to prepare students for productive lives in the community as they become adults.

3. Substantially disrupts healthy student behavior and thereby academic achievement. Research indicates that healthy student behavior results in increased student academic achievement. Improvement in student behavior through the prevention or minimization of intimidation, harassment, and bullying towards student-victims simultaneously supports the district's primary and substantial interest in operating schools that foster and promote academic achievement.

4. Substantially interferes with school compliance with federal law that seeks to maximize the mainstreaming of students with disabilities and hinders compliance with Individual Educational Programs containing objectives to increase the socialization of students with disabilities. Targets of bullying are often students with known physical or mental disabilities who, as a result, are perceived by bullies as easy targets for bullying actions.

5. Substantially interferes with the district's mission to advance the social skills and social and emotional well- being of students. Targets of intimidation, harassment, and bullying are often "passive-target" students who already are lacking in social skills because they tend to be extremely sensitive, shy, display insecurity, anxiety and/or distress; may have experienced a traumatic event; may try to use gifts, toys, money, or class assignments or performance bribes to protect themselves from intimidation, harassment, or bullying; are often small for their age and feel vulnerable to bullying acts; and/or may resort to carrying weapons to school for self-protection. Passive-target victims who have been harassed and demeaned by the behavior of bullies often respond by striving to obtain power over others by becoming bullies themselves, and are specifically prone to develop into students who eventually inflict serious physical harm on other students, or, in an effort to gain power over their life or situation, commit suicide.

6. Substantially disrupts school operations by increasing violent acts committed against fellow students. Violence, in this context, is frequently accompanied by criminal acts.

7. Substantially disrupts school operations by interfering with the reasonable expectations of other students that they can feel secure at school and not be subjected to frightening acts or be the victim of mistreatment resulting from bullying behavior.

Bullying often involves expressive gestures, speech, physical acts that are sexually suggestive, lewd, vulgar, profane, or offensive to the education or social mission of this school district, and at times involves the commission of criminal acts. This behavior interferes with the curriculum by disrupting the presentation of instruction and also disrupts and interferes with the student-victim's or bystander's ability to concentrate, retain instruction, and study or to operate free from the effects of bullying. This results in a reluctance or resistance to attend school.

Definition of Terms

1. Statutory definition of bullying:

70 O.S. §24-100.3(c) of the School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act defines the terms "bullying," as including, but not limited to a pattern of harassment, intimidation, threatening behavior, physical acts, verbal or electronic communication~~,~~ directed toward a student or group of students that results in or is reasonably perceived as being done with the intent to cause negative educational or physical results for the targeted individual or group and is communicated in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission or the education of any student that a reasonable person should recognize will:

A. Harm another student, group of students, personnel, or the public;

B. Damage another student's property, group of students, personnel, or the public;

C. Place another student, group of students, personnel, or the public in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or damage to the student's property; or

D. Insult or demean any student, Group of students, personnel, or the public in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission, work flow/process, or the education of any student.

2. The "Reasonable Person" Standard

In determining what a "reasonable person" should recognize as an act placing a student in "reasonable" fear of harm, staff will determine "reasonableness" not only from the point of view of a mature adult, but also from the point of view of an immature child of the age of the intended victim along with, but not limited to, consideration of special emotional, physical, or mental needs of the particular child; personality or physical characteristics, or history that might cause the child to be particularly sensitive to efforts by a bully to humiliate, embarrass, or lower the self esteem of the victim; and the discipline history, personality of, and physical characteristics of the individual alleged to have engaged in the prohibited behavior.

3. General Display of Bullying Acts

Bullying, for purposes of this section of the regulation, includes harassment and intimidation, and vice versa. According to experts in the field, bullying in general is the exploitation of a less powerful person by an individual taking unfair advantage of that person, which is repeated over time, and which inflicts a negative effect on the victim. The seriousness of a bullying act depends on the harm inflicted upon the victim and the frequency of the offensive acts. Power may be, but is not limited to, physical

strength, social skill, verbal ability, or other characteristics. Bullying acts by students have been described in several different categories.

A. Physical Bullying includes harm or threatened harm to another's body or property, including, but not limited to, what would reasonably be foreseen as a serious expression of intent to inflict physical harm or property damage through verbal or written speech or gestures directed at the student-victim, when considering the factual circumstances in which the threat was made and the reaction of the intended victim. Common acts include tripping, hitting, pushing, pinching, pulling hair, kicking, biting, starting fights, daring others to fight, stealing or destroying property, extortion, assaults with a weapon, other violent acts, and homicide.

B. Emotional Bullying includes the intentional infliction of harm to another's self-esteem, including, but not limited to, insulting or profane remarks, insulting or profane gestures, or harassing and frightening statement, when such events are considered in light of the surrounding facts, the history of the students involved, and age, maturity, and special characteristics of the students.

C. Social Bullying includes harm to another's group acceptance, including, but not limited to, harm resulting from intentionally gossiping about another student or intentionally spreading negative rumors about another student that results in the victim being excluded from a school activity or student group; the intentional planning and/or implementation of acts or statements that inflict public humiliation upon a student; the intentional undermining of current relationships of the victim-student through the spreading of untrue gossip or rumors designed to humiliate or embarrass the student; the use of gossip, rumors, or humiliating acts designed to deprive the student of awards, recognition, or involvement in school activities; the false or malicious spreading of an untrue statement or statements about another student that exposes the victim to contempt or ridicule or deprives the victim of the confidence and respect of student peers; or the making of false statements to others that the student has committed a crime, or has an infectious, contagious, or loathsome disease, or similar egregious representations.

D. Sexual Bullying includes harm to another resulting from, but not limited to, making unwelcome sexual comments about the student; making vulgar, profane, or lewd comments or drawings or graffiti about the victim; directing vulgar, profane, or lewd gestures toward the victim; committing physical acts of a sexual nature at school, including the fondling or touching of private parts of the victim's body; participation in the gossiping or spreading of false rumors about the student's sexual life; written or verbal statements directed at the victim that would reasonably be interpreted as a serious threat to force the victim to commit sexual acts or to sexually assault the victim when considering the factual circumstances in which the threat was made and the reaction of the intended victim; off-campus dating violence by a student that adversely affects the victim's school performance or behavior, attendance, participation in school functions or extracurricular activities, or makes the victim fearful at school of the assaulting bully; or the commission of sexual assault, rape, or homicide. Such conduct may also constitute sexual harassment – also prohibited by Pioneer Technology Center.

Procedures Applicable to the Understanding of and Prevention of Bullying of Students

1. Student and Staff Education and Training

All staff will be provided with a copy of the district's policy on prevention of bullying of students. All students will be provided a summary of the policy and notice that a copy of the entire policy is available on request. Pioneer Technology Center is committed to providing appropriate and relevant training to staff regarding identification of behavior constituting bullying of students and the prevention and management of such conduct.

Students, like staff members, shall participate in an annual education program that sets out expectations for student behavior and emphasizes an understanding of bullying of students, the district's prohibition of such conduct, and the reasons why the conduct is destructive, unacceptable, and will lead to discipline. Students shall also be informed of the consequences of bullying conduct toward their peers.

Student Reporting

Students are encouraged to inform school personnel if they are the victim of or a witness to acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Staff Reporting

An important duty of the staff is to report acts or behavior that the employee witnesses that appears to constitute harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Employees, whether certified or noncertified, shall encourage students who tell them about acts that may constitute harassment, intimidation, or bullying to complete a report form. For young students, staff members given that information will need to provide direct assistance to the student.

Staff members who witness such events are to complete reports and to submit them to the compliance officer(s). Staff members who hear of incidents that may, in the staff member's judgment, constitute bullying, are to report all relevant information to the compliance officer(s).

Parental Responsibilities

Parents/guardians will be informed in writing of the district's program to stop bullying. An administrative response to bullying may involve certain actions to be taken by parents. Parents will be informed of the program and the means for students to report bullying acts toward them or other students. They will also be told that to help prevent bullying at school they should encourage their student to:

1. Report bullying when it occurs;
2. Take advantage of opportunities to talk to their-student about bullying;
3. Inform the school immediately if they think their student is being bullied or is bullying other students;
4. Watch for symptoms that their student may be a victim of bullying and report those symptoms; and
5. Cooperate fully with school personnel in identifying and resolving incidents.

Discipline of Students

In administering discipline, consideration will be given to alternative methods of punishment to insure that the most effective discipline is administered in each case. In all disciplinary action, teachers and administrators will be mindful of the fact that they are dealing with individual personalities. The faculty may consider consultation with parents to determine the most effective disciplinary measure.

In considering alternatives of corrective actions, the faculty/administration of the school district will consider those listed below. However, the school is not limited to these alternative methods, nor does this list reflect an order or sequence of events to follow in disciplinary actions. The board of education will rely upon the judgment and discretion of the administrator to determine the appropriate remedial or corrective action in each

instance.

1. Conference with student
2. Conference with parents
3. In-school suspension
4. Detention
5. Referral to counselor
6. Behavioral contract
7. Changing student's seat assignment or class assignment
8. Requiring a student to make financial restitution for damaged property
9. Requiring a student to clean or straighten items or facilities damaged by the student's behavior
10. Restriction of privileges
11. Involvement of local authorities
12. Referring student to appropriate social agency
13. Suspension or Dismissal
14. Performing Campus-site services for the school district
15. Other appropriate disciplinary action as required and as indicated by the circumstances which may include, but is not limited to, removal from eligibility to participate or attend extracurricular activities as well as removal from the privilege of attending or participating in the graduation ceremony, school activities, and/or class trips.

The above consequences will be imposed for any person who commits an act of bullying as well as any person found to have falsely accused another as a means of retaliation, reprisal, or as a means of bullying. Strategies will be created to provide counseling or referral to appropriate services, including guidance, academic intervention, and other protection for students, both targets and perpetrators, and family members affected by bullying, as necessary.

The school district is not required to provide educational services in the regular school setting to any student who has been removed from a public school or private school in Oklahoma or another state by administrative or judicial process for an act of using electronic communication with the intent to terrify, intimidate or harass, or threaten to inflict injury or physical harm to faculty or students.

Publication of Policy

Annual written notice of this policy will be provided to parents, guardians, staff, volunteers, and students with age appropriate language for students. Notice of the policy will be posted at various locations within each school site, including but not limited to, cafeterias, school bulletin boards, and administrative offices. The policy will be posted on the school district's website at www.pioneertech.edu and at each school site that has an Internet website. The policy will be included in all student and staff handbooks.

Review of Policy

The Compliance Officers will annually review this policy and provide recommendations to the Executive Director of Full-Time Programs. The superintendent shall make a formal recommendation of policy changes to the board of education at a lawfully convened meeting under an appropriately worded agenda item. After the policy is modified, the policy shall be disseminated to all parents, students, staff and the community.

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS - FNCF

It is the policy of the Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education that in recognition of the clear danger resulting from illicit drug and alcohol abuse and in good faith effort to promote the health, safety, and well being of students, employees, and the community, the board has implemented a drug and alcohol education and prevention program.

Students are hereby notified that the use, possession, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol is wrong and harmful. Therefore, standards of conduct that are applicable to all schools in this district, prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as part of any of its activities.

Disciplinary sanctions will be imposed on students who violate standards of conduct required by this policy. Such sanctions will be consistent with local, state and federal laws, up to and including probation, suspension, and expulsion, as well as referral for prosecution. Completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program may also be recommended.

Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and reentry programs will be made available through the school office.

The standards of conduct and the disciplinary sanctions imposed by this policy will be part of the required notification to parents and students which will include the following:

"The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments, P.L. 101-226 requires that State, as well as local educational agencies, must certify that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees." (Federal Regulations can be examined through the school office.)

Parent/Guardian signature certifies acknowledgement of access to a Student Handbook of Guidelines and Policies for Students and Parents which includes district policy relating to adoption and implementation of a drug prevention program for students.

REFERENCE: Public Law 101-226
70 O.S. §1210.221, et seq.

POLICIES:

FO - Student Conduct, Behavior and Discipline
FO-R4 – Student Discipline Possession of Alcoholic Beverages or CDS, Regulation
FOD – Suspension of Secondary Students
FOD-R – Suspension of Secondary Students, Regulation
FNCE - Reporting Students Under the Influence
FNCE-R – Dangerous Weapons, Nonintoxicating Beverages, Etc.
FNF - Search of Students
FNF-R – Search of Students, Regulation
FNFBA - Drugs, Alcohol and Contraband Searches
FNFBA-R - Drugs, Alcohol and Contraband Searches, Regulation

WEAPONS-FREE SCHOOLS - FNCGA

It is the policy of this school district to comply fully with the Gun-Free Schools Act.

1. Any student in this school district who uses or possesses a firearm at school, at any school-sponsored event, or in or upon any school property including school transportation or school-sponsored transportation may be removed from school for not less than one full calendar year.

   Firearms are defined in Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 921, as (A) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (B) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (C) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (D) any destructive device including any explosive, incendiary or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine or any device similar to the above.

   Such firearm or weapon will be confiscated and released only to a law enforcement authority.

Any student who violates this policy will be subject to discipline on a case-by-case basis which may include suspension up to one full calendar year or longer (for firearms) or for any term less than one calendar year (for weapons other than firearms) as determined by the superintendent or the superintendent's designee.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be referred to the appropriate criminal or juvenile justice system. Any firearms found on the premises shall be reported to law enforcement and will immediately be turned over to local law enforcement as per state law requirements.

Students with disabilities are subject to this policy and will be disciplined in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If the violation is found by the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) team to be unrelated to the student's disability, the student may be suspended for one calendar year at the discretion of the superintendent. If the student's IEP team determines that the violation is related to the student's disability, the student may be suspended for up to ten days and placed up to 45 days in an alternative educational setting.

An exception to this policy may be made for students participating in a PTC Criminal Justice / CLEET Class or an authorized, extracurricular activity or team involving the use of firearms or archery equipment. In addition, exceptions will be made for a gun, knife, bayonet or other weapon in the possession of a member of a veterans group, the national guard, active military, the Reserve Officers' Training Corp (ROTC) or Junior ROTC, in order to participate in a ceremony, assembly or educational program approved by the principal or chief administrator of a school district where the ceremony, assembly or educational program is being held; provided, however, that the gun or other weapon that uses projectiles is not loaded and is inoperable at all times while on school property.

2. Oklahoma Statutes, Title 21, Section 1280.1 prohibits any person, except a peace officer or other person authorized by the board of education of the district, to have in such person's possession on any public or private school property or while in any school bus or vehicle used by any school for transportation of students or teachers any weapon as defined below:

"...any pistol, revolver, shotgun or rifle whether loaded or unloaded, or any blackjack,

loaded cane, billy, hand chain, metal knuckles, or any other offensive weapon, whether such weapon is concealed or unconcealed."

The school district also prohibits the possession of any knife that is brought to school that could be utilized in a manner to harm another. Whether or not a student will be disciplined for the possession of a knife will be determined on a case by case basis.

A handgun may be carried in a motor vehicle pursuant to a valid handgun license authorized by the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act onto property set aside by a public or private elementary or secondary school for the use or parking of any vehicle; provided, however, said handgun shall be stored and hidden from view in a locked motor vehicle when the motor vehicle is left unattended on school property.

The superintendent or designee may modify the provisions of this policy on a case-by-case basis. However, any substantial modification must be reported to the board of education at its next meeting.

REFERENCE: 18 U.S.C. §921
21 O.S. §1271.1, §1280.1

NOTE: The district is required to include, in each application to the State Department of Education for assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, a description of the circumstances surrounding any expulsions imposed under this policy, including the name of the school; the number of students expelled from the school, and the type of weapons concerned.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES - FNG

It is the policy of the Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education that a student may possess a wireless telecommunications device while on school premises, or while in transit under the authority of the school, or while attending any function sponsored or authorized by the school upon prior written consent of both the student's parent or guardian, and the superintendent or the superintendent's designee.

During class/shop/lab times, electronic communication devices are to be used for educational purposes only. Electronic communication devices which distract from the learning environment will not be allowed. Failure to follow policy may warrant disciplinary action.

STUDENT CONDUCT, BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE - FO

The Board of Education of Pioneer Technology Center ("Pioneer") adopts the following policy and procedures dealing with student behavior.

Pioneer Technology Center serves adult and secondary students. A behavior and discipline code is provided to inform students of the standards of conduct required and of the consequences of misconduct. School laws that prescribe procedures applicable to secondary students are, in many instances, not applicable to adult students.

- Reference to "parent" in this policy refers to a student's parent or legal guardian.
- Reference to "administrator" means Program Administrator or the Pioneer staff member to whom the administration has delegated the responsibility for student discipline.
- Reference to the "Superintendent" refers to the Superintendent of Schools or the Superintendent's designee.
- Removal or dismissal refers to taking a student out of a course or program for a short period, a long period, or permanently.

General Expectations

The Board of Education recognizes that students do not surrender any rights of citizenship while in attendance at Pioneer. The school is a community with rules and regulations. Those who enjoy the rights and privileges it provides must also accept the responsibilities that inclusion demands, including respect for and obedience to school rules and standards of conduct.

Student Conduct

The Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education believes that an important responsibility of any school system is to teach acceptable social conduct. We believe that such conduct may be taught by example and by providing appropriate incentives. The board also believes that reasonable standards of conduct must be established and that adherence to those standards must be insisted upon.

In accordance with the policy of the board of education, the following standards of conduct are established for the Pioneer Technology Center school system.

All students are expected to act as ladies and gentlemen with due consideration for the rights and needs of others. Individual language, grooming, dress, and conduct of good taste are essential qualities of successful employees. Therefore, only the best is expected of Pioneer Technology students.

For the purpose of this policy, a student is defined as any person regularly enrolled in a full-time educational program provided by, or approved by, the board of education and carried on in premises owned or controlled by the school district. Students in school buildings, on school grounds, using district property, or attending a district-sanctioned event shall not engage in any of the following:

1. Any conduct, the purpose of which is to obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with teaching, research, service, administrative or disciplinary functions, or any other activity sponsored or approved by the board of education.

2. Physical, emotional, or mental abuse of, or threat of harm to, any person on school owned or controlled property or at any school attended, sponsored, or supervised event or function. This includes antisemitism, which is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews.

3. Damage, or threat of damage, to property of the school, regardless of the location, or to property of a member of the community or a visitor to the school, when such property is located on school-owned, controlled, attended, or supervised premises.

4. Forceful or unauthorized entry into or upon, or occupation of, school district facilities including buildings and grounds.

5. Unlawful use, possession, distribution, sale, or trade of drugs, alcohol, or controlled/dangerous substances, or any substance or material believed to be drugs, alcohol or any chemical substance, or any substance which is capable of causing or producing mood alteration or behavioral changes.

6. Conduct or speech that violates commonly accepted standards of society within the community.

7. Failure to comply with the reasonable and lawful directions of school district officials or law enforcement officers, acting in the performance of their duties, or failure to identify themselves to such officials or officers when directed to do so.

8. Any conduct constituting a breach of any federal, state, or city law or ordinance or duly adopted policy of the board of education.

Any student violating policies or regulations may be subject to warning, reprimand, probation, or suspension, expulsion or dismissal in addition to any civil or criminal proceedings or prosecution.

Adult students enrolled in full-time educational programs may attend class with high school students. It is of paramount importance that each adult enrolled in day classes be an example for secondary students in all areas, including attendance, dress, language, attitudes, and class and laboratory efforts. Adults enrolled in classes with high school students should be a positive, motivational force in the school life of their high school classmates.

Adults are held to standards of conduct that are not less than those for secondary students attending Pioneer. Educational opportunities available to adult students may be cut short or terminated in instances where an adult student's conduct violates the approved standards or when a student, for other reasons, cannot fulfill program requirements essential to successful program completion.

Adult students do not have due process rights pursuant to Pioneer Technology Center policy. Pioneer Technology Center administration will consider the best interest of the student in violation of the policy, the other students impacted by the violating student and the educational climate of the school when making decisions regarding discipline, suspension or dismissal of an adult student. The disciplinary decision(s) is final and cannot be appealed.

Behavior and Discipline Code

The following behaviors at school, while in school vehicles or going to or from or attending school events will result in disciplinary action, which may include in-school placement options or out-of-school suspension

(secondary students) or including the possibility of dismissal (adult students):

1. Adjudication as a delinquent for an offense that is not a violent offense. For purposes of this section, "violent offense" shall include those offenses listed as the exceptions to the term "nonviolent offenses" as specified in
   Section 571 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes. "Violent offense" shall include the offense of assault with a dangerous weapon, but shall not include the offense of assault;
2. Arson;
3. Attempting to incite or produce imminent violence directed against another person because of his or her race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender or sexual orientation by making or transmitting or causing or allowing to be transmitted, any telephonic, computerized or electronic message;
4. Attempting to incite or produce imminent violence directed against another person because of his or her race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender or sexual orientation by broadcasting, publishing or distributing or causing or allowing to be broadcast, published or distributed, any message or material;
5. Bullying; (see policy FNCD)
6. Cheating;
7. Conduct that threatens or jeopardizes the safety of others;
8. Cutting class, sleeping, or refusing to work in class;
9. Disruption of the education process or operation of the school;
10. Extortion;
11. Failure to attend assigned detention, alternative school or other disciplinary assignment without approval;
12. Failure to comply with state immunization requirements;
13. False reports or false calls;
14. Fighting;
15. Forgery;
16. Gambling;
17. Hazings (initiations) in connection with any school activity;
18. Inappropriate attire;
19. Inappropriate behavior or gestures;
20. Inappropriate public behavior;
21. Indecent exposure;
22. Intimidation or harassment because of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, age, religion, disability or veteran status, including but not limited to: (a) assault and battery; (b) damage, destruction, vandalism or defacing any real or personal property; or threatening, by word or act, the acts identified in (a) or (b);
23. Obscene language;
24. Physical or verbal abuse;
25. Plagiarism;
26. Possession or use of a caustic substance not related to course work;
27. Possession or distribution of obscene materials;
28. Possession, threat or use of a dangerous weapon, including firearms, and related instrumentalities (i.e., bullets, shells, gunpowder, pellets, etc.); (see policy FNCGA)
29. Possession, use, distribution, sale, conspiracy to sell or possess or being in the chain of sale or distribution, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages, low-point beer as defined by Oklahoma law, (i.e., 3.2 beer) and/or any controlled/dangerous substance, counterfeit drugs, or other abusable chemical substances as defined by policy FNCE-R (see also policies FO-R4, FNCE)

30. Possession or distribution of any controlled/dangerous substances as defined in the Uniform controlled Dangerous Substances Act; counterfeit drugs, or other abusable chemical substances as defined by policy FNCE-R (see also policies FNCE, FNCE-R)
31. Possession of illegal and/or drug related paraphernalia;
32. Profanity;
33. Sexual or other harassment of individuals, including, but not limited to, students, school employees, volunteers;
34. Theft;
35. Threatening behavior (whether involving written, verbal or physical actions);
36. Truancy;
37. Use or possession of tobacco products and the use or possession of simulated tobacco products is specifically prohibited at Pioneer Technology Center. (see policy CKDA)
38. Use or possession of missing or stolen property if property is reasonably suspected to have been taken from a student, school employee, or the school;
39. Using racial, religious, ethnic, sexual, gender or disability-related epithets;
40. Use of the school's technology resources (i.e., computers, electronic mail, internet, and similar resources) in a manner prohibited by policies and regulations, or in any manner not authorized by school officials or in violation of law;
41. Vandalism;
42. Violation of the Board of Education or school policies, rules or regulations;
43. Vulgarity;
44. Willful damage to school property;
45. Willful disobedience of a directive of any school official.
46. Offenses or violations related to the use of Artificial Intelligence systems and tools. (See Policy EFEAA)

Students suspended or dismissed for a violent offense directed toward an instructor shall not be allowed to return to the instructor's classroom without the instructor's prior approval. Whether an offense is considered a violent offense, requiring an instructor's approval as a condition of return to a particular classroom, shall be based on applicable provisions of the Oklahoma school law regarding student suspension and applicable criminal law distinguishing between violent and nonviolent offenses.

In addition, conduct occurring outside of the normal school day or off school property that has a direct and immediate negative effect on the discipline or educational process or effectiveness of the school, will also result in disciplinary action, which may include in-school placement options, out-of-school suspension, expulsion or dismissal.

The Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education believes that the school's primary goal is to educate, not to discipline. However, education includes establishing norms of social behavior and assisting students in understanding and attaining those norms. Occasionally, corrective actions are necessary for the benefit of the individual and the school. The teacher in a public school has the same rights as a parent or guardian to control and discipline a child while the child is in attendance, in transit to or from the school, or participating in any authorized school function. Further, it is the policy of the district that students may be disciplined for any misconduct related to the programs or activities of the district. No teacher or administrator will administer formal discipline to his or her own child on behalf of the school except in cases of disruption in the classroom or common areas. Disciplinary matters concerning children of school employees will be handled by the appropriate principal or the superintendent or the superintendent's designee. The superintendent's child will be disciplined by someone other than the superintendent.

Each student shall be treated in a fair and equitable manner. Disciplinary action will be based on a careful assessment of the circumstances surrounding each infraction. The following are some examples of these circumstances:

The seriousness of the offense;
The effect of the offense on other students;
Whether the offense is physically or mentally injurious to other people;
Whether the incident is isolated or habitual behavior;
The manifestation of a disability;
Any other circumstances which may be appropriately considered.

In administering discipline, consideration will be given to alternative methods of punishment to insure that the most effective discipline is administered in each case. In all disciplinary action, teachers and administrators will be mindful
of the fact that they are dealing with individual personalities. The faculty may consider consultation with parents to determine the most effective disciplinary measure.

In considering alternatives of corrective actions, the faculty/administration of the school district will consider those listed below. However, the school is not limited to these alternative methods, nor does this list reflect an order or
sequence of events to follow in disciplinary actions. The board of education will rely upon the judgment and discretion of the administrator to determine the appropriate remedial or corrective action in each instance.

1. Conference with student
2. Conference with parents
3. In-school suspension
4. Detention
5. Referral to counselor
6. Behavioral contract
7. Changing student's seat assignment or class assignment
8. Requiring a student to make financial restitution for damaged property
9. Requiring a student to clean or straighten items or facilities damaged by the student's behavior
10. Restriction of privileges
11. Involvement of local authorities
12. Referring student to appropriate social agency
13. Suspension
14. Other appropriate disciplinary action as required and as indicated by the circumstances which may include, but is not limited to, removal from eligibility to participate or attend extracurricular activities as well as removal from the privilege of attending or participating in the graduation ceremony, school dances, prom, prom activities, and/or class trips.

Parents, guardians, and students enrolled in this school district shall be notified at the beginning of each school year that this policy is in effect. A copy of this policy will be made available upon request to parents or guardians at any time during the school year.

Parents, guardians, and students residing in this school district are also advised by means of this policy statement and by the student handbook that students in this district shall have no reasonable expectation of privacy rights towards school officials, in school lockers, desks, or other school property. School personnel shall have access to school lockers, desks, and other school property at any time and no reason shall be necessary for such search. Student property may be searched with reasonable suspicion.

Teachers, parents, guardians, and students are invited and encouraged to participate in the formulation of disciplinary policies, rules, and regulations by suggesting to administrator's appropriate means of discipline for specific infractions.

Dismissal of Students Because of Failure to Meet or Comply with Essential Program Requirements

Pioneer's program offerings include those that incorporate requirements essential to successful completion of the program. An example is the clinical hours which are a part of and necessary for completion of many health care programs. When a student cannot complete essential program requirements the student may be dismissed from a program for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to conduct, behavior, or other inability to meet mandatory parts of the program.

Adult Students Attending the Technology Center by Virtue of a Special Program

In some instances, adult students are participating in programs offered by Pioneer as a result of their eligibility established by terms of a federal or state program. In these instances, the programs establish eligibility requirements as well as minimum standards which students must meet in order to remain a part of the program and recipient of program benefits. Student participation and dismissal of the student may be governed by the program criteria. Students have no property interest in these programs and, as a result, those who violate expectations related to
attendance, participation, and otherwise fail to meet the obligations which accompany participation, may be removed from the program with notice to the student and the program director. Whether to allow the student to return to the program, and, if so, under what conditions, will be a joint decision of the designated school representatives and the designees for the federal or state program. The student's dismissal shall include written notice to the program or project director of the student's dismissal and the reasons for dismissal.

Immediate Removal of a Student

Whenever an alleged violation of the Student Conduct, Behavior and Discipline Code is reported to an administrator, he or she will ascertain whether the immediate removal of the student is required. This determination will be based on whether the student's continued presence on campus would create, in the administrator's judgment, a dangerous and/or disruptive situation with regard to the continued operation and management of the school system. If dismissal is found necessary, the administrator shall document the justification in a report and immediately forward it to the Superintendent, and also immediately contact the student.

In instances involving a student's dismissal or removal from a program, Pioneer will utilize procedures that are fair and reasonable. The complete cooperation of students is encouraged to assure that all students have an opportunity to benefit from the educational opportunities available. Conduct which violates policies, rules and practices or which interferes with or disrupts learning must and will be addressed by school administration. Policy FOD-R, describes the procedure that will be used when it is necessary to remove a secondary student from a program. Removal may involve a short or long period or may involve a permanent removal.

Readmission

A dismissed student is eligible to be readmitted upon proper application for readmission. However, the administration may consider the student's prior disciplinary and incident record in determining whether to

grant a student's request for readmission.

Notification of Policy

Copies of any procedural regulations and the *Student Conduct, Behavior and Discipline Policy* shall be distributed to all students annually, and students are responsible for compliance with the school's behavior and conduct standards. Questions as to the interpretation of any part of the policy should be presented to the appropriate administrator.

Administrative Actions

Administrative actions called for in this policy may be taken by the administrator designated by this policy or the Superintendent. An administrator, whether a program administrator, superintendent, or other administrator in charge, may appoint a designee to act in his/her place. With the exception of the Superintendent, designees must be approved by the Superintendent.

REFERENCE: **10 O.S. §7115**
70 O.S. §6-114
70 O.S. §24-101.3

POLICIES: **FO-R4 - Secondary Student Discipline, Possession of Alcoholic Beverages or CDS, Regulation**
FOD – Suspension of Secondary Students
FOD-R – Suspension of Secondary Students, Regulation
FNCE - Reporting Students Under the Influence
FNCE-R – Dangerous Weapons, Nonintoxicating Beverages, Intoxicating Beverages, Controlled Dangerous Substances, Counterfeit Drugs, or Other Abusable Substances
FNCF - Drug-Free Schools
FNF - Search of Students
FNF-R - Search of Students, Regulation
FNFBA - Drugs, Alcohol and Contraband Searches
FNFBA-R - Drugs, Alcohol and Contraband Searches, Regulation
CKDA – Smoking and Tobacco Free Campus

THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY LAW.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE
POSSESSION OF NONINTOXICATING BEVERAGES, INTOXICATING BEVERAGES, CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES, COUNTERFEIT DRUGS, OR OTHER ABUSABLE CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES (REGULATION) – FO-R4

Possession, use, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, conspiracy to sell, distribute or possess or being in the chain of sale or distribution, or being under the influence of (a) alcoholic beverages, low-point beer (as defined by Oklahoma law), (b) any mind altering substance, except for medication taken for legitimate medical purposes pursuant to district policy, including but not limited to prescription medications for which the individual does not have a prescription, or medications used outside their intended therapeutic purpose, (c) paint, glue, aerosol sprays, salts, incense and other substances which may be used as an intoxicating substance, or (d) any substance believed or represented to be a prohibited substance, regardless of its actual content is not permitted in school buildings, on school property, or at school functions.

Violation of This Policy Will Result in The Following Consequences:

1. When possible, the parent/guardian will be notified.

2. The law enforcement agency will be notified of any criminal activity and school officials will cooperate fully.

3. The student may be required to submit to any or all of the following tests: blood, breath, polygraph.

4. 1st Violation: The student will be suspended for no less than 20 days.

    - The consequences may be lessened if:
        - The student elects to participate in a drug/alcohol assessment. (Proof of a drug/alcohol assessment must be provided.)
        - Information provided by the student leads to student(s) involved in the sale, distribution, use or possession of nonintoxicating beverages, intoxicating beverages, controlled dangerous substance, counterfeit drug, or other abusable chemical substance as defined by policy FNCE-R.

    2nd Violation: The student will be suspended for the remainder of that semester and the following semester.

These consequences will be imposed independently of court action

Any school employee who suspects that a student is violating this policy must report the name of the student and details to an Instructional Director. The Instructional Director shall immediately notify the superintendent and a parent or legal guardian of the student.

A student may be searched when there is reasonable suspicion that a student may be hiding evidence of a wrongdoing.

Students suspected of violating this policy should be referred for counseling and parents should be notified.

Due Process will be observed in the administration of this policy.

Definitions

Drug — Any chemical that in sufficient amounts will alter a person's ability to function normally on a mental or physical task. Drugs include, but are not limited to, nonintoxicating and intoxicating beverages, controlled dangerous substances, counterfeit drugs, abusable chemical substances, hallucinatory drugs, marijuana, steroids, glue, paint, or materials expressly prohibited by federal, state, or local law. (See also policy FNCE-R)

Possession — Possession includes having the drug on the person, in the immediate vicinity of their person, or among the personal possessions (locker, automobile, etc.) of the individual.

Abusive Use — The taking of more or less of a drug than what is prescribed so to alter the person's ability to function normally on a mental or physical task.

The counselors of Pioneer Technology Center may be of some help to students and parents in suggesting possible areas of drug/alcohol assessment, counseling and rehabilitation centers in our area.

REFERENCE:

FO - Student Conduct, Behavior and Discipline
FOD – Suspension of Secondary Students
FOD-R – Suspension of Secondary Students, Regulation
FNCE - Reporting Students Under the Influence
FNCE-R – Dangerous Weapons, Nonintoxicating Beverages, Intoxicating Beverages, Controlled Dangerous Substances, Counterfeit Drugs, or Other Abusable Substances
FNCF - Drug-Free Schools
FNF - Search of Students
FNF-R - Search of Students, Regulation
FNFBA - Drugs, Alcohol and Contraband Searches
FNFBA-R - Drugs, Alcohol and Contraband Searches, Regulation

DANGEROUS WEAPONS, NONINTOXICATING BEVERAGES, INTOXICATING BEVERAGES, CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES, COUNTERFEIT DRUGS, OR OTHER ABUSABLE CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES (REGULATION) FNCE-R

Any student found to be in possession of or distributing or offering to distribute dangerous weapons; nonintoxicating beverages or intoxicating beverages; or controlled dangerous substances, counterfeit drugs, or any other abusable chemical substance, including prescription medication, may face disciplinary action (see Policy FO-R4). A report and/or notification shall be provided to the proper legal authorities.

This regulation shall also apply to students who possess or distribute or offer to distribute substances, of whatever composition, that are represented by the seller or distributor to be narcotics or behavioral or mood changing substances. Students will not distribute medications to other students, since students may have allergic or other adverse reactions to even nonprescription medications.

Students may be disciplined for distributing nonprescription or prescription medications or look-alike, fake, counterfeit, or "turkey" drugs or any other abusable chemical substance to other students, even though such medications or fake drugs are not illegal drugs. Such distribution is prohibited in school buildings, on school property, or at any school-sponsored event.

Reference Policies:

FNCE – Reporting Students Under the Influence
FO-R4 – Student Discipline – Possession of Alcoholic Beverages or any Illegal/Abusable Chemical Substances

SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF STUDENTS – GJ-A

The policy of this school district forbids discrimination against, or harassment of any student on the basis of sex. The Pioneer Technology Center Board of Education will not tolerate sexual harassment by any of its employees or students. This policy applies to all students and employees including non-employee volunteers whose work is subject to the control of school personnel. Policy GJ-B applies to sexual harassment of employees.

1. Sexual Harassment is defined as conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

   a. An employee of the school district conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the school district on a student's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct. This is referred to as quid pro quo sexual harassment;

   b. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a student equal access to the school district's educational program or activity; or

   c. Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking as defined by federal law.

   For the purpose of this policy, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

   Verbal or physical sexual advances, including subtle pressure for sexual activity; touching, pinching, patting, or brushing against; comments regarding physical or personality characteristics of a sexual nature; and sexually-oriented "kidding" "teasing," double meanings, and jokes.

   Demeaning comments about a girl's ability to excel in a class historically considered a "boy's" subject, privately talking to a student about sexual matters, hugging or touching a student inappropriately may constitute sexual harassment.

   Writing graffiti that names a student or otherwise identifies a student is potentially slanderous and constitutes sexual harassment. Graffiti of any kind will not be tolerated on school property. The superintendent is directed to cause any graffiti or unauthorized writings to be removed immediately. Use of e-mail, the internet, or technology may constitute sexual harassment as much as use of in-person, postal mail, handwritten or other communication.

   Any of the aforementioned conduct that effectively deprives a student of equal access to educational opportunities or benefits provided by the school.

2. Specific Prohibitions

   A. Administrators and Supervisors

      1. It is sexual harassment for an administrator, supervisor, support employee, or teacher to use his or her authority to solicit sexual favors or attention from students.

      2. Administrators, supervisors, support personnel, or teachers who either engage in sexual harassment of students or tolerate such conduct by other employees shall be subject to

sanctions, as described below.

3. The "off-duty" conduct of school personnel that has or will have a negative impact on the educational process of the school or constitutes an illegal or inappropriate relationship with a student may subject the employee to disciplinary action which could include termination of employment. Any romantic or sexual affiliation between school personnel and students, including students who have reached the age of majority (18), during school hours will have a negative impact on the educational process and shall constitute a violation of school policy. Such violations may result in suspension of the student and suspension or termination for the employee. Any sexual affiliation between teachers and students under the age of 20 constitutes a crime under Oklahoma law and will most likely result in the suspension of certification by the State of Oklahoma.

Notice of this policy and grievance procedure, including how to file or report sexual harassment and how the district will respond shall be provided to applicants for admission and employment, students, parents or legal guardians, and unions or professional organizations holding agreements with the school district.

4. Reporting Allegations of Sexual Harassment

A. It is the express policy of the board of education to encourage student victims of sexual harassment to come forward with such claims.

1. Students who feel that administrators, supervisors, support personnel, teachers, or other students are subjecting them to sexual harassment are encouraged to report these conditions, or have their parents report these conditions, to the appropriate administrator or teacher. If the student's immediate administrator or teacher is the alleged offending person, the report will be made to the next higher level of administration or supervision or to any responsible adult person. The employee to whom the report was made will provide notice of the report to the Title IX coordinator. The Title IX coordinator should then provide the appropriate paperwork to the student or parent/guardian so that the student (complainant) may file a formal complaint with the Title IX coordinator by mail, e-mail or as directed by the Title IX coordinator.

2. Every attempt will be made to maintain confidentiality; however, absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed because of due process concerns that arise in sexual harassment investigations. No reprisals or retaliation will be allowed to occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of sexual harassment.

B. Upon notice from an employee that a student or parent/guardian has reported possible sexual harassment, the Title IX coordinator will promptly contact the student (alleged victim) to discuss the availability of supportive measures, consider the student’s wishes with regard to supportive measures, and explain the process that will be involved with a formal complaint.

5. Grievance Procedure.

A. Equitable Treatment. Both the alleged victim (complainant) and the alleged respondent (respondent) will be treated equitably by the school district.

B. Objective Evaluation of Evidence. All evidence both inculpatory and exculpatory will be evaluated objectively. Credibility determinations will not be made based upon the party's status as complainant, respondent, or witness.

C. Conflict of Interest. Any person serving as the Title IX coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any person designated to facilitate the process shall not have a conflict of interest against complainants and respondents generally or against the particular complainant and respondent.

D. Presumption. There will be a presumption that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.

E. Timeliness. The grievance process will proceed in a timely manner. Any delay in the process for good cause such as law enforcement involvement, absence of a party, witness or advisor, translation, or accommodation needs will be documented, and written notice provided to both parties explaining the reason for the delay.

F. Possible outcomes. A description or listing of possible disciplinary outcomes and remedies that may be implemented following a determination of responsibility must be provided to both parties.

G. Standard of Review. The school district will utilize a preponderance of the evidence standard to determine responsibility. *** <u>The standard selected by the school district will need to be the same standard that is applied to all formal complaints including those against employees.</u>

H. Privileged Information. The school district will not require, allow or use evidence or questions that constitute or seek legally privileged information, unless the privilege is waived.

6. Written Notice. Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the school district will provide written notice to all known parties in sufficient time to give the respondent time to prepare a response before an initial interview. The written notice must include:

A. Notice of the grievance process, including any informal resolution process;

B. Notice of the allegations, including sufficient details to allow the respondent to prepare a response;

C. A statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the conduct and that responsibility will be determined at the conclusion of the grievance process;

D. Notice of the parties' right to have an advisor and to inspect and review evidence. The advisor may but is not required to be an attorney.

E. Notice of any provision in the student discipline code that prohibits knowingly making false statements or providing false information in the grievance process.

If in the course of an investigation, the school district obtains additional information about the respondent or complainant that was not included in the original written notice, notice of the additional allegations must be provided in writing to both parties.

7. Investigation of the Allegations. The school district will designate an investigator to conduct a thorough

investigation of allegations. Contact information for the investigator will be provided to both the complainant and the respondent.

A. The burden of proof and of gathering evidence remains on the school district.

B. An equal opportunity will be provided to both parties to present witnesses and evidence during the investigation.

C. Neither the complainant or respondent will be prohibited from discussing the allegations or gathering and presenting evidence to the investigator.

D. Both parties will have the opportunity to have others present during interviews or related proceedings. This may include an advisor who may but is not required to be an attorney.

E. Written notice of the date, time, participants, purpose and location of any investigate interview, hearing, or other meeting shall be provided to the party who is invited or expected to attend.

F. Both parties and their advisors, if any, will be provided an opportunity to review all evidence that is directly related to the allegations in the formal complaint. This would include any evidence on which the school district does not intend to rely and any exculpatory or inculpatory evidence from any source. Such evidence must be provided prior to the completion of the final investigation report and in time to give the parties at least ten (10) days to prepare a written response, which the investigator must consider prior to completing the investigation report.

G. A written investigation report will be provided that summarizes the relevant evidence. This report will be provided to the parties and their advisors, if any, for their review and written response at least ten (10) days before a hearing or determination of responsibility.

8. Hearing. The Title IX coordinator will determine whether a live hearing is necessary on a case-by-case basis if both parties request or consent to such a hearing (the live hearing component is optional for secondary students and mandated for post-secondary students). Regardless of whether a live hearing is held, or a written hearing is conducted, each party will have ten (10) days from the receipt of the investigation report to submit written, relevant questions that the party wants asked of another party or witness. Both parties will be provided with the answers and follow up questions. Federal law determines when questions regarding a complainant's prior sexual behavior or sexual predisposition are considered relevant in a hearing provided by a school district.

9. Determination of Responsibility. A decisionmaker, the Executive Director, Full Time Programs, who is not the Title IX coordinator or the investigator, will apply a preponderance of the evidence standard to determine responsibility, and will issue a written determination of responsibility that:

A. Identifies the allegations that potentially constitute sexual harassment;

B. Describes the school district's procedural steps taken from the receipt of the complaint to the determination;

C. Includes findings of fact to support the determination;

D. Includes conclusions regarding applicants of the discipline code to the facts;

E. Includes a statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination of responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions, and whether remedies to restore or preserve equal access to the school's educational programs or activities will be provided to the complainant; and

F. The procedures and permissible basis for appeals.

10. Appeals. Within ten (10) days of a determination of responsibility, dismissal of a complaint or any allegations therein either party may appeal for one of the following reasons:

A. A procedural error affected the outcome.

B. New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time of the determination and could affect the outcome;

C. Conflicts of interest on the part of the Title IX coordinator(s), investigator or decision maker that affected the outcome.

If an appeal is made, the school district will provide written notice to both parties of the appeal. Both parties will be provided an equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of or challenging the determination within ten (10) days of the written notice to both parties of the appeal being filed. The appeal will be heard by an appeal decision maker, the Executive Director, Business and Industry Services, who is not the Title IX coordinator, the investigator or the original decisionmaker. The appeal decisionmaker cannot have a conflict of interest or bias against complainants and respondents generally or the particular complainant and respondent. The appeal decisionmaker will receive training as mandated by law. The decision of the appeal decisionmaker will be final and nonappealable. The written decision of the appeal decisionmaker will be provided within ten (10) days of the deadline for written statements supporting or challenging the initial determination. The written decision will be provided simultaneously to both parties.

11. Recordkeeping. The school district will keep records related to reports of alleged sexual harassment for a minimum of seven (7) years. Records maintained will include investigation records, disciplinary sanctions, remedies, appeals, and records of any action taken including supportive measures. Records will document in each instance that the school district's response was not indifferent and that measures were taken to restore or preserve equal access to educational programs or activities. If the school does not offer supportive measures in response to a report, the records should document why the response was not clearly unreasonable under the known circumstance.

The district will also post the training materials used to train Title IX coordinators, investigators, and decisionmakers on the district website at: pioneertech.edu. These materials will also be available to the public.

12. Retaliation. The board of education prohibits retaliation by the school district or any employees of the school district against any person for the purpose of interfering with Title IX rights or because the person has participated or refused to participate in any manner in a proceeding under Title IX regulations. Complaints of retaliation will be addressed under the district's grievance process, policy GJ-P.

Charging a person with a discipline violation or code of conduct violation based on a person's knowingly making a materially false statement in bad faith in an investigation is not retaliation.

REFERENCE: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
42 U.S.C. §2000e-2
29 C.F.R. §1604.1, et seq.
U.S. Department of Education of Education, OCR, Title IX Regulations Addressing Sexual Harassment.

Policy GJ-P, Grievance Procedure for Filing, Processing and Resolving Discrimination complaints
Policy FO, Student Conduct, Behavior and Discipline
Policy GJ-B, Sexual Harassment – Employee
Form GJ-A1, Sexual Harassment Incident Report Form
Form GJ-A2, Sexual Harassment Written Notice to Known Parties
Form GJ-A3, Sexual Harassment Written Report

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE FOR FILING, PROCESSING AND RESOLVING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS – GJ-P

Both the alleged victim (complainant) and the alleged respondent (respondent) will be treated equitably by the school district.

1. Definitions

   A. Discrimination Complaints: A written complaint alleging any policy, procedure or practice which discriminates on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, (including sexual harassment), religion, disability or veteran status.

   B. Complainant: Any person enrolled in or employed by PTC who submits a complaint alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex/gender, (including sexual harassment), age, religion, disability or veteran status. Complaints related to student sexual harassment will be investigated following PTC policy GJ-A. For purpose of any complaint alleging a violation of Section 504, in addition to those identified as possible complainants in this paragraph, members of the public may also be potential complainants. For purposes of this policy, a parent or guardian's complaint or grievance shall be handled in the same manner as a student's complaint would be.

   C. Title IX, ADA, Title VI and VII and 504 Compliance Officer(s): The person(s) designated to coordinate efforts to comply with and carry out responsibilities under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and any other state and federal laws addressing equal educational opportunity. The Compliance Officer(s) under Title IX, ADA, Title VI and VII and 504 is responsible for processing complaints and serves as moderator and recorder during hearings. The Compliance Officer(s) of each statutory scheme may be the same person or different persons.

   D. Respondent: The person alleged to be responsible for the alleged discrimination contained in a complaint. The term may be used to designate persons with responsibility for a particular action or those persons with supervisory responsibility for procedures and policies in those areas covered in the complaint.

   E. Day: Day means a working day when PTC's main administrative offices are open. The calculation of days in complaint processing shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

2. Pre-Filing Procedures

   Prior to the filing of a written complaint, the student or employee is encouraged to visit with the Executive Director, Full Time Programs, or Instructional Director or the District's Title IX, ADA, Title VI and VII or 504 Compliance Officer(s), as applicable, and reasonable effort should be made at this level to resolve the problem or complaint.

3. Filing and Processing Discrimination Complaints

   A. The Complainant submits a written complaint to the Compliance Officer(s), as applicable, stating

the basis, nature and date of the alleged discrimination, the names of persons responsible (where known) and requested action. If the applicable Compliance Officer(s) is the person alleged to have committed the discriminatory act(s), then the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent for assignment. If neither the Superintendent or Compliance Officer(s) is an appropriate person to receive the grievance it may be submitted to the President or a member of the Board of Education. Complaints must be submitted within 30 days of alleged violation or date Complainant has become knowledgeable of alleged violation. Complaint forms are available from the offices of the District's Title IX, ADA, Title VI and VII and 504 Compliance Officer(s).

B. The Compliance Officer(s) conducts an investigation within 10 days of receiving the complaint, to the extent reasonably possible, which may include but not be limited to, interviewing the Complainant, any witnesses, review of documents and interviewing the Respondent. The Compliance Officer(s) will, among other actions, ask the Respondent to (a) confirm or deny facts; (b) indicate acceptance or rejection of the Complainant's requested action; and (c) outline alternatives.

   As to complaints of discrimination by students and school employees, the Compliance Officer(s) will disclose the complaint, the identity of the Complainant and information regarding the person who allegedly committed the discriminatory act only to the extent necessary to fully investigate the grievance and only when the disclosure is required or permitted by law. If a complainant wishes to remain anonymous, the Compliance Officer(s) will advise him or her that such confidentiality may limit PTC's ability to fully respond to the complaint. If a Complainant asks to remain anonymous, the Compliance Officer(s) will still proceed with its investigation.

C. The Respondent will submit a written answer within 10 days to the applicable Compliance Officer(s).

D. Within 5 days after receiving Respondent's answer, the applicable Compliance Officer(s) will refer the written complaint and Respondent's written answer to the Superintendent or his/her designee for a hearing. If any person charged with decision making responsibility at any level of this grievance procedure is the person alleged to have committed the discriminatory act(s), then a different decision maker will be appointed to maintain impartiality. The Compliance Officer(s) will schedule the hearing with the Complainant, the Respondent and Superintendent (or designee). The hearing will be conducted within 10 days after the Compliance Officer(s) receives Respondent's answer.

E. At the hearing, the Superintendent (or designee) will review the information collected through the investigation and may ask for additional oral or written evidence from the parties and any other individual he or she deems relevant. The applicable Compliance Officer(s) will make arrangements to audiotape any oral evidence presented.

F. Within 5 days after the hearing, the Superintendent will issue a written decision to the Complainant, Respondent and applicable Compliance Officer(s).

G. If the Complainant or Respondent is not satisfied with the decision, he or she must notify the applicable Compliance Officer(s), in writing, within 5 days and request an appeal to the Board of Education. The written appeal shall contain a specific statement of the basis for the appeal.

H. The applicable Compliance Officer(s) will notify the Board of Education, in writing, within 5 days after receiving the appeal. The Clerk will place the appeal on a board agenda within 30 days from the date of notification to the Board of Education.

I. The Board will act as an appellate body by reviewing the decisions and the oral and written evidence presented and making a decision. At the Board meeting, the Board may ask for oral or written evidence from the parties and any other individual it deems relevant. The Clerk will make arrangements to audiotape any oral evidence presented. Within 5 days of the meeting, the Board will issue a final decision in writing to all parties involved.

4. General Provisions

A. Extension of time: Any time limits set by these procedures may be extended by mutual consent of the parties involved. The total number of days from the date the complaint is filed until the complaint is resolved shall be no more than 120 days.

B. Access to Regulations: Upon request, PTC shall provide copies of any district policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex/gender, age, religion, disability or veteran status.

C. Confidentiality of Records: Complaint records will remain confidential, to the extent allowed by law, unless permission is given by the parties involved to release such information. All complaint records will be kept separate from any other records of PTC. No complaint record shall be entered in any personnel file unless adverse employment action is taken against an employee. Complaint records shall be maintained on file for no less than four years after complaint resolution.

D. Representation: The Complainant and the Respondent may have a representative assist them through the grievance process and accompany them to any hearing.

E. Retaliation: No reprisals or retaliation will be allowed to occur as the result of the good faith reporting of a discrimination complaint.

F. Basis of Decision: At each step in the grievance procedure, the decision maker will take or recommend the taking of appropriate measures based on the facts, as revealed by the investigation and hearing, taken as a whole, and the totality of the circumstances, such as the nature, extent, context and gravity of the activities, incidents, or behavior.

G. Standard of Review. The school district will utilize a preponderance of the evidence standard to determine responsibility. *** The standard selected by the school district will need to be the same standard that is applied to all formal complaints including those against employees.

H. Section 504 Due Process Procedures: For information concerning due process procedures under Section 504, the Complainant should contact the 504 Compliance Officer(s).

REFERENCE: Policy GJ, Nondiscrimination
Policy GJ-A, Sexual Harassment of Students
Policy GJ-B, Sexual Harassment - Employee
Form GJ-P1, Discrimination Complaint Form

Oklahoma Constitution, Article 1, Section 6
Title 6, Title 7, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972
Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375
Equal Pay Act, as amended by the Education Amendments of 1972
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, §504
Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975
Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986
Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12101
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC §1400, et seq.

USE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY RESTROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS - GKF

Pursuant to SB615 (2022), each multioccupancy restroom and changing area located in public schools serving students in prekindergarten through twelfth grades shall be designated as either for the exclusive use of the male sex or for the exclusive use of the female sex.

- "Sex," for the purposes of this policy is defined as the physical condition of being male or female based on genetics and physiology, as identified on the individual's original birth certificate.
- "Multiple occupancy restroom or changing area" is defined as an area in a public school or public charter school building designed or designated to be used by more than one individual at a time, where individuals may be in various stages of undress in the presence of other individuals. The term may include but is not limited to a school restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room.
- "Family restroom" is defined as a restroom designated by Pioneer Technology Center as a family restroom. Family restrooms shall be for the sole use of a parent or parents and their children.
- "Individual," for the purposes of this policy is defined as any student or employee of the District.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR MISUSE OF SCHOOL BATHROOMS AND CHANGING FACILITIES

All individuals are expected to comply with Oklahoma law. Individuals who fail to comply with Oklahoma law regarding the use of school bathrooms or changing facilities may be disciplined as follows:

If an individual does not wish to comply by using the appropriate restroom or changing room based on sex as defined herein, the District shall provide a reasonable accommodation by providing access to a single-occupancy restroom or changing room. The District also has family restrooms available, as designated, to be used exclusively by parent(s) and their children.

If a student refuses to comply with the use of the appropriate restroom or changing room based on sex as defined herein or the single-occupancy restroom or changing room accommodation, the student shall be disciplined pursuant to the District's student behavior policy.

If a district employee refuses to comply with the use of the appropriate restroom or changing room based on sex as defined herein or the single-occupancy restroom or changing room accommodation, the employee shall be disciplined pursuant to the appropriate District policy and Oklahoma law based on the employee's position within the District.

Patrons may be removed from the premises for interfering with peaceful orderly conduct in accordance with 21 O.S. § 1375 and 1376.

This policy does not apply to individuals entering the multioccupancy restroom or changing facility designated for the opposite sex under the following circumstances:

1. For custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes; or
2. To render emergency medical assistance.

If a complaint is filed with the State Department of Education that the district or an employee is not complying with Oklahoma law on this topic, the board of education will have fifteen (15) days to request an opportunity to appear before the State Board of Education and/or submit a written response to address the allegations.
LEGAL REFERENCE: 70 O.S. Section 1-125.

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* CONTACT INFORMATION *

Pioneer Technology Center Campus 580.762.8336
Pioneer Technology Center Toll Free Number..... 1.866.612.4782
Extensions:
Attendance/Registrar 4280
Counselor 4313
Financial Aid 4228
Testing Center 4279
Pioneer Technology Center Full Time Programs Fax..... 580.762.1175
Pioneer Technology Center Website..... www.pioneertech.edu
PTC Financial Aid Institution Code.....011206