

Patchogue-Medford Secondary Schools

STUDENT RULES & CONSEQUENCES

2025-2026 rev. 9/18/25

The following is a summary of selected rules and potential consequences for infractions at our middle Schools and high school. Parents/guardians are asked to review these rules with their child(ren). An electronic acknowledgement is required and must be completed using the link provided on the final page. A full list of school rules and policies can be found in the Student/Parent Handbook, available on each school's webpage at pmschools.org, and will also be shared via ParentSquare.

All secondary students have the responsibility to:

- ✓ Contribute to maintaining a safe and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other people and property. Our school is a public place and behavior and actions should represent such.
- ✓ Be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules, and regulations dealing with student conduct.
- ✓ Attend school every day, in person, unless legally excused, and be in class on time, and prepared to learn.
- ✓ Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
- ✓ Follow directions given by teachers, administrators, and/or other school personnel in a respectable positive manner.
- ✓ Safeguard of all school district issued electronic devices to students.
- ✓ Seek help in solving problems.
- ✓ Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
- ✓ Accept responsibility for their actions.
- ✓ Conduct themselves as representatives of the district when participating or attending school sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.
- ✓ Immediately notify school personnel if bullied, harassed, intimidated and/or feels they were disrespected.
- ✓ Be open to active participation in resolving conflicts through Restorative Practices.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Restorative Practices are a framework for building community and responding to challenging behavior through authentic dialogue, coming to an understanding, and making things right. When conflict occurs, Restorative Practices encourage dialogue between the victim and offender and emphasize the values of empathy, respect, honesty, acceptance, responsibility, and accountability.

Restorative Practices focus on a multi-tiered approach:

- Tier 1:** Build and Strengthen Relationships (School-wide Prevention)
- Tier 2:** Responding to Conflict and Harm (Targeted Interventions)
- Tier 3:** Re-Entry Support

Tiered behaviors examples:

- Tier 1:** Lateness, truancy, minor class disruptions
- Tier 2:** Excessive lateness, gross disruptions, profanity
- Tier 3:** Physical altercations, use/possession of drugs, weapons

Our secondary schools have implemented Restorative Practices to enhance our approach to discipline, focusing on prevention and positive responses to problematic behavior.

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RULES/INFRACTIONS	CONSEQUENCES <i>(May be one or more of the following and bullets are not in order of response/action)</i>
<p><u>Possession of Potentially dangerous items/objects:</u> Possession of potentially dangerous objects/items are not permitted. Examples may include but are not limited to guns, razors, box cutters, knives, or other potential weapons.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Item(s) will be confiscated and not returned ▶ 5 Day Out-of-School Suspension ▶ Involvement of legal authorities ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing/Expulsion
<p><u>Use, Possession, Sale of Drugs:</u> Possession, use, or being under the influence of any controlled and/or illegal substance is not permitted. Examples may include but is not limited to drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, synthetic drugs/items etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Item(s) will be confiscated and not returned ▶ 5 Day Out-of-School Suspension/Superintendent’s Hearing ▶ Involvement of legal authorities ▶ As part of the reentry process, students will be expected to attend several meetings with support staff to reflect on and improve behavior. These meetings are designed to support the students’ successful return and expected behavior moving forward in our school community.
<p><u>Use, Possession, Sale of vapes/electronic cigarettes/vape paraphernalia, or other tobacco products:</u> The following items are not permitted on school grounds, bus, and/or off-campus school sponsored event: Possessing an electronic cigarette, vaporizer, vapor pen/e-cigarette, liquid nicotine, nicotine vaporizer, or any other device that can be used for vaporizing, cigarettes, cigars, pipes; possessing or using chewing or smokeless tobacco. Electronic cigarettes and vapor pens shall include any refill, cartridge, and/or any other component of an electronic cigarette or vapor pen.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parent/Guardian Contact ▶ Item(s) will be confiscated and not returned ▶ Being in possession of vaping paraphernalia and/or vaping (inside or outside of the building and off grounds for off campus school-sponsored events) will result in a 3 Day Out-of-School Suspension. ▶ Repeated occurrences will result in a 5 Day Out-of-School Suspension with a Principal Conference and/or Superintendent’s Hearing. ▶ As part of the reentry process, students will be expected to attend several meetings with support staff to reflect on and improve behavior. These meetings are designed to support the students’ successful return and expected behavior moving forward in our school community.

Fighting/Aggressive Acts:

- ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact
- ▶ 5 Day Out-of-School Suspension depending on the severity/description of the incident and/or if a repeated occurrence
- ▶ Restorative Mediation/Restorative Conference upon return to school, or in our Positive Alternative for Student Suspension (P.A.S.S) Program. This is optional for all parties, but highly recommended to resolve/prevent any future occurrences and/or events and to repair strained/harmed relationships
- ▶ Involvement of legal authorities
- ▶ Principal’s Conference
- ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing/Expulsion

Physical /Verbal Abuse of Staff:

- ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact
- ▶ **Physical Abuse:** 5 Day Out-of-School Suspension depending on the severity/description of the incident and/or if repeated occurrence
- ▶ Restorative Conference with Staff Member
- ▶ Involvement of legal authorities
- ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing/Expulsion
- ▶ **Verbal Abuse:** 2-5 Day Out-of-School Suspension depending on the severity/description of the incident and/or if repeated occurrence
- ▶ Restorative Conference with Staff Member
- ▶ Involvement of legal authorities
- ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing/Expulsion

**Bullying/Harassment/Cyber
Bullying/Discrimination/DASA:**

Bullying, Harassment, Cyber Bullying, Discrimination is prohibited on school property, school transportation, and at school-sponsored (on or off campus) events and functions. Acts of bullying and harassment are prohibited, whether they are committed directly or indirectly, in person (face-to-face), or remotely using electronic technology, and whether on school property, at a school function, on a school or coach bus, or off property when there is a nexus to the school environment. PMHS prohibits acts of bullying and harassment that create a hostile environment at school for the victim, infringe on the rights of the victim at school, or materially and substantially disrupt the educational process or the orderly operation of the school. No student shall be subjected to discrimination based on a person’s actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, and sex by school employees or students on school property or at a school function.

- ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact/Restorative Conference
- ▶ Restorative Mediation/Restorative Conference - this is highly recommended to resolve/prevent any future occurrences and/or events
- ▶ Documented Warning/Detention/ISS/OSS depending on the severity/description of the incident and/or if a repeated occurrence
- ▶ Involvement of legal authorities
- ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing/Expulsion
- ▶ DASA Investigation according to the Board of Education Policy #5159
- ▶ Please see Board of Education Policies #5159 and #5170 for a full and comprehensive explanation of this item.

Media Recording:

Students are not permitted to make audio, video, and/or take photos without prior permission from the principal. Students are not permitted to distribute audio or video recordings and/or pictures to other electronic devices that may result in the embarrassment, humiliation and/or harassment of students and/or school personnel. This includes the transmission of photographs, videos, or any other image or other recording that shows exposed private parts of the human body in a lewd or indecent manner.

- ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact/Restorative Conference
- ▶ Detention/ISS/OSS depending on severity/description of the incident and/or a repeated occurrence
- ▶ Repeated occurrences may result in ISS/OSS
- ▶ Involvement of legal authorities
- ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing/Expulsion depending on severity, repeated infractions

Sexual Harassment:

Sex-based harassment can be comprised of two types of behavior: sexual harassment and/or gender-based harassment. Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, which can include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Gender based harassment includes verbal, nonverbal or physical aggression, intimidation or hostility that is based on actual or perceived gender and sexual stereotypes. Sexual or gender-based harassment of a student can deny or limit the student’s ability to participate in or to receive benefits, services, or opportunities from the school’s program.

- ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact
- ▶ 5 Day Out-of-School Suspension
- ▶ Involvement of legal authorities
- ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing/Expulsion
- ▶ Please see Board of Education Policy #2452 for a full and comprehensive explanation of this item

<p><u>Written/Verbal/Electronic Threats:</u> Written, verbal, and/or electronic statement(s) regarding bombs, firearms or weapons being used in school or against any student(s) and/or staff member(s).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Automatic 5 Day Out-of-School Suspension ▶ Involvement of legal authorities ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing/Expulsion
<p><u>Stealing/Attempting to Steal:</u> Intentionally taking into possession school district property, the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee, or any person lawfully on school property, or at a school-sponsored event.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ ISS/OSS depending on severity/description of incident and/or if a repeated occurrence ▶ Restorative Mediation/Restorative Conference upon return to building if applicable. ▶ Involvement of legal authorities
<p><u>Unauthorized Possession of School Property:</u> Unauthorized possession of school property, including but not limited to other student’s identification cards, school passes, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Warning/Detention/ISS/OSS depending on severity/description of incident and/or if a repeated occurrence.
<p><u>Vandalism:</u> Intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee, or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson. Additionally, this also applies to school district property or at a school-sponsored event.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Involvement of legal authorities ▶ Warning/Detention/ISS/OSS depending on severity/description of incident and/or if a repeated occurrence.
<p><u>Insubordination:</u> Insubordination is failing to comply with the reasonable directives of teachers, school administrators, or any other school personnel in charge of students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Warning/Detention/ISS/OSS depending on severity/description of the incident and/or if repeated occurrence ▶ Restorative Conversation/Conference which could include student/teacher/parent/dean and/or administrator
<p><u>Electronic Devices:</u> The Board of Education recognizes that students may have personal electronic devices that can perform different functions. Such devices include “internet-enabled devices,” defined as any smartphone, tablet, smartwatch, or another device capable of connecting to the internet and enabling the user to access content on the internet, including social media applications. However, these devices do not include any such devices supplied by the district for educational purposes. Other personal electronic devices include those that are not</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 1st incident: Item(s) will be confiscated and the Parental/Guardian contacted. Students will be permitted to retrieve electronic device(s) from the Main Office at the end of the school day. ▶ 2nd incident: Item(s) will be confiscated and the Parent/Guardian contacted. Parent/Guardian will be required to retrieve electronic device(s) from the Main Office. ▶ 3rd incident: Item(s) will be confiscated and the Parent/Guardian contacted. Parent/Guardian will be required to retrieve electronic device(s) from the Main Office.

<p>capable of connecting to the internet and accessing content on the internet, as well as fitness trackers, wireless headphones and earbuds, e-readers, voice recorders, cameras, and music devices. These devices can create significant distractions in the school environment, and negatively impact student mental health, contribute to disciplinary infractions, and reduce student engagement. Additionally, in an emergency, the use of personal electronic devices can distract students from following the directions of staff or emergency responders, contribute to the spread of misinformation, create congestion in the emergency response system, and interfere with the district’s emergency response protocols. Our district under the direction of state legislation will be implementing distraction free schools of personal Internet capable devices. Please review Board of Education Policy #5500 for more information.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 4th incident: Item(s) will be confiscated and the Parent/Guardian contacted. Parent/Guardian will be required to retrieve electronic device(s) from the Main Office. <u>Students will be assigned after school detention for failure to follow direction.</u> ▶ 5th incident and thereafter: Item(s) will be confiscated and the Parent/Guardian contacted. Parent/Guardian will be required to retrieve electronic device(s) from the Main Office. <u>Students will be assigned ISS for failure to follow direction.</u>
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<p><u>Inappropriate Language in Hall/Classroom/School Sponsored Events:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Warning/Detention/ISS/OSS depending on severity/description of incident and/or if repeated occurrence ▶ Restorative Conversation/Conference which could include student/teacher/parent/dean/and/or administrator
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<p><u>Student Identification Cards:</u> Students are required to carry a school issued identification card at all times. If students continue to excessively not have an ID card one may be provided at a cost. Not having an ID card delays entry into the building and cafeteria. It also serves as a safety item as all individuals need to be able to be identified and produce an ID as verification of that identity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation ▶ Student provided with a card and billed for excessive times without having one. ▶ Students may be assigned detention for multiple occurrences (middle school).
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<p><u>Attendance:</u> Please adhere to Attendance Policy (14 days for a semester or every other day course and 28 days for a full year course) as per Board of Education Policy #5110 Please note: A student may earn a passing grade in a course academically but still fail to receive seat time credit due to attendance requirements. In such cases, the student may be required to retake the course through credit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact/Restorative Conversation ▶ All students are required to scan their PMHS issued identification card upon entering the building for daily attendance ▶ Various official school notification of absences/lateness periodically via Parent/Student Portal, phone system, mail
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recovery or summer school to earn the necessary credit.	
<p><u>Parent Portal/Parent Square Tampering:</u> Students are not permitted to create fake Parent Portal/Parent Square accounts and attempt to change parent/guardian and/or emergency contact information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Detention
<p><u>Pass System:</u> Students are required to secure a SmartPass from the adult in charge whenever they are leaving an assigned area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Warning/Detention ▶ Repeated occurrences may result in ISS/OSS ▶ No Pass List” for a period of time

<p><u>Lateness to Class:</u> All lateness to class will be addressed by the classroom teacher. Students will be held accountable as per our Late to Class protocol.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Late to class 3 times will result in a Restorative Conversation/Parent/Guardian Contact/Detention ▶ Late to class 6 times will result in ISS ▶ Repeated occurrences will result in additional disciplinary consequences.
<p><u>Truancy/Class Cutting:</u> All truanies to class will be addressed by the classroom teacher. Students will be held accountable as per our Truancy protocol.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Detention ▶ Truant to class may result in ISS ▶ Additional truanies will result in further disciplinary consequences.
<p><u>Unauthorized Area:</u> Students who do not have permission or authorization to be in any part of the building will be considered to be in an unauthorized area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Documented warning/ISS ▶ Repeated occurrences may result in additional days of ISS/OSS
<p><u>Leaving School Building:</u> Any student who leaves the school building and did not have permission or authorization.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ ISS for leaving school building but remains on school grounds ▶ Repeated occurrences may result in additional days of ISS/OSS
<p><u>Leaving School Grounds:</u> Any student who leaves the school grounds and did not have permission or authorization.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ 2 Days of ISS for leaving school grounds ▶ Repeated occurrences may result in additional days of ISS/OSS and/or possible ▶ Superintendent s Hearing

<p><u>Loitering:</u> Students must leave the building and school grounds upon dismissal and for early release (high school only). Students must be under the supervision of a staff member when staying after school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Documented Warning/Detention ▶ Repeated occurrences will result in ISS/OSS ▶ Early Release students may be assigned a study hall in lieu of an early release for repeated occurrences for failing to leave school grounds.
<p><u>Student I.D. & Passes for Bus Transportation:</u> Students are required to carry their school issued student I.D. cards for normal school arrival and dismissal. Bus drivers are required to check student’s I.D. cards throughout the school year. Students are required to secure a Late Bus Pass from the adult who supervised them for that period of time after school in order to gain access to after-school late buses. Students should also be prepared to show their student I.D. along with their bus pass when boarding the late buses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Documented Warning ▶ Students may be denied access to bus transportation including both dismissal and after school late buses.
<p><u>Missing detention:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Reassigned once without penalty ▶ Future occurrences will result in a parent conference which may result in ISS/OSS
<p><u>Participating in Extracurricular Activities:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ A student who is suspended (either in or out of school will become ineligible for ALL extracurricular activities once 6 days of suspension have been accumulated for the remainder of the school year as per Board of Education Policy #6145.6
<p><u>Plagiarism/Cheating</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Please see Board of Education Policy #5129 for a full and comprehensive explanation of this item
<p><u>Emergency School Drills/Evacuations:</u> Students are required to follow all direction(s) and conduct themselves in an appropriate manner during drills and evacuations as their safety and the safety of others require their undivided attention.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Documented Warning ▶ Detention/ISS/OSS depending on severity/description of incident and/or if a repeated occurrence ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing

<p><u>Student Parking Violations (high school):</u> Examples may include but not limited to unsafe driving, leaving school grounds in vehicle when student(s) should be in class, transporting students off of school grounds who should be in class and are cutting, parking on school property without a NYS Senior Driver’s license, parking on school property without an official PMHS parking sticker, parking on school property with a forged or “recreated” parking sticker, allowing another student to “forge” or recreate an assigned PMHS parking sticker. In addition to illegally parking in the community without the proper NYS driving license credentials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Detention/ISS/OSS depending on severity of the violation ▶ May immediately result in revocation of parking privilege ▶ May result in not being granted a parking sticker in the future if caught parking without an official (or forged) PMHS parking sticker ▶ Involvement of legal authorities ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing
<p><u>Dress Code/Head Gear:</u> No exposed under garments or inappropriate attire will be tolerated. Examples may include but are not limited to beach attire, halter tops, strapless tops, mesh shirts, crop tops, slippers, sagging pants (that includes sagging sweatpants), high-cut shorts, and/or any offensive or inappropriately worded clothing of any kind. This also includes clothing that may have cut-outs or slits in inappropriate places. No head gear of any kind is permitted that can obscure the identification of any person in the building (unless of religious or medical nature).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Restorative Conversation/change of clothing/re-adjust clothing/Warning ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact/Detention ▶ Repeated occurrences and/or refusal (insubordination) to change may result in ISS/OSS depending on severity of the event and/or if a repeated occurrence ▶ Head gear will be confiscated and returned to the parent ▶ Refusal (insubordination) to turn over the item(s) will result in ISS/OSS depending on severity of the incident/event and/or if a repeated occurrence
<p><u>Large Group Disruptions:</u> Engaging in any willful act that disrupts the normal operation of the school building/community. An example includes but is not limited to “Pranks” or any other incident/event.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Parental/Guardian Contact ▶ Restorative Conversation/Documented Warning/Detention/ISS/OSS depending on severity/description of incident and/or if repeated occurrence ▶ May also result in loss of school privileges/school events/extracurricular activities. ▶ Involvement of legal authorities ▶ Superintendent’s Hearing

Student Searches:

Under the principle of *in loco parentis*, school officials are legally permitted to act in the best interest of students while they are under school supervision. This includes the right to search for a student's belongings without prior parental permission when there is *reasonable suspicion* of a rule violation or safety concern. Such searches are based on specific observations and conducted respectfully. While student belongings can be searched with reasonable suspicion, lockers and desk-considered school property—may be inspected at any time to help maintain a safe and orderly school environment.

▶ Parental/Guardian Contact

▶ Student insubordination and refusal to comply with a search will result in a 5-day OSS.

Please Note:

- ✓ Rules/Infractions and Consequences are a combination of the PMSD Code of Conduct and our secondary school procedures and protocols and are not all encompassing.
- ✓ All applicable rules/infractions also apply to any after school, weekend, off-site Patchogue-Medford School District sponsored event that includes but is not limited to Sport Events, Extracurricular events, and School Trips.
- ✓ Parents/guardians/students must inform school personnel or use the *See Say Do Something* online reporting system if they become aware of concerning text messages, harassment, or inappropriate comments made in hallways or classrooms, so that these issues can be promptly addressed by school staff.

LIST OF POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCE:

1. Discussion with student: Documented Warning
2. Restorative Conversation/Conference where and when applicable
3. Detention assigned (1 or more days): Parent/Guardian contact by teacher and/or administrator and/or Dean.
4. Suspension (In-School or Out-of-School) assigned (1 to 5 days): Parent/Guardian contact by administrators and/or Dean, by telephone/in person.
5. Involvement of Legal Authorities: e.g., police, courts, and any other agency that might be of assistance.
6. Superintendent's Hearing at the recommendation of the principal who can only suspend for a maximum of 5 days and when he/she feels the act should be reviewed for additional days of suspension beyond 5 days.
7. Expulsion - an option that may be considered by the Superintendent and a Superintendent's Hearing whereby a student, according to age, may be excluded from the school permanently.
8. When a student is suspended a parent/guardian will receive a letter explaining the student's restrictions.

This document will be updated throughout the school year.
Please check our website periodically.