



SECTION VI

DISCIPLINE:
INTERVENTIONS &
CONSEQUENCES

MISCONDUCT THAT MAY RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION (POLICY 5500.07)

I. General

The district promotes a safe and supportive learning environment in schools, including during school-sponsored activities, during school-sponsored transportation, and at bus stops to protect students and staff from conduct that poses a threat to school safety. Students are expected to behave at school, during school-sponsored activities, during school-sponsored transportation, and at bus stops. Violations of the Code of Student Conduct or school rules may result in disciplinary action.

Principals shall provide consistent school-based discipline when appropriate and authorized by policy. In all instances, school discipline should be reasonable, timely, fair, age-appropriate, and should match the severity of the student's misbehavior. Any disciplinary action taken against a student who violates this policy must be based on particular circumstances of the student's misconduct.

Students have the right to attend school and have an opportunity to learn. Students can lose the right to attend school if they violate the Code of Student Conduct or a school rule that results in suspension or expulsion. During the period of suspension or expulsion, a student may not enter upon district property or attend any district or school-sponsored activity or event without the permission of an administrator. District staff are encouraged to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to law enforcement agencies unless otherwise required by law. Zero-tolerance offenses are described in s. 1006.13, F.S., and School Board Policy 5500.08.

Students who commit violent or disruptive behaviors that may pose a threat to the safety of school staff, whether at school, during a school-sponsored activity, during school-sponsored transportation, or at a bus stop, shall be assigned to an alternative education program or referred to mental health services identified by the school district, following the conclusion of school-based threat management, district threat management or both processes. Pursuant to s. 1006.07, F.S., referral to mental health services shall be in consultation with the School-Based Threat Management Team, District Threat Management Team, and/or both. Criminal penalties may also be imposed as determined by law enforcement agencies.

Recognizing that students may need additional support in the form of mental health services, Pinellas County Schools will ensure referrals for services are made in alignment with state and federal guidelines. Such referrals are not to be punitive or as a form of disciplinary action; however, may be made in conjunction with a disciplinary incident. Any student or family who is interested in learning more about mental health services available in their school can speak to any student services staff member at the school. These staff can also help with referrals to community agencies. For more information on services available in the community, families can call 211 or visit their website at: <https://www.firstcontact.org/>.

II. Misconduct That May Result In Discipline (Including Suspension, Reassignment or Expulsion)

Students may be disciplined for violations of the Code of Student Conduct or a school rule. There are generally four types of misconduct that result in discipline and have consequences ranging from a warning through expulsion. They are:

- A. hurt, harass or threaten others;
- B. damage property;
- C. disrupt class or school;
- D. or violate a criminal law.

Listed below are some acts that fall within these four (4) types of misconduct. These acts are not the only acts that may result in discipline (including suspension, reassignment or expulsion). They are only examples. Other acts that are not listed below may result in discipline (including suspension, reassignment or expulsion) if a student should have known that the act might hurt, harass, or threaten others, damage property, disrupt class or school, or violate a criminal law. Consequences may range from a warning through an expulsion.

A. Examples of Specific Acts:

Some, but not all, of the acts that may result in discipline are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. arson; | 6. computers or electronic devices, improper use of; |
| 2. blackmail; | 7. cyberstalking; |
| 3. bullying and cyberbullying | 8. defiance; |
| 4. cheating (teacher shall also record a "zero" for each act of cheating); | 9. disruptive demonstration, participation in; |
| 5. chemical spray, pepper, mace; possession of; | 10. drug paraphernalia as defined by Florida Law, possession of; |
| | 11. extortion; |
| | 12. failure to give correct name; |
| | 13. false alarm, making of (this includes pulling a fire alarm); |

14. falsifying or altering records (for example, computer records or attendance notes);
15. fighting;
16. gambling;
17. gang participation or display of gang-like behavior;
18. hazardous material, possession of;
19. hazing;
20. hitting someone;
21. interference with school personnel;
22. interference with the movement of another student;
23. leaving school grounds without permission;
24. physical force, use of against someone;
25. profanity;
26. recordings of fighting or acts of bullying, assault, or battery, whether staged or real; posting or disseminating or posting to the internet;
27. repeated misconduct;
28. school rule, violation of a; (e.g. dress code violation);
29. sexting;
30. sexual activity at school, at a school activity, or on a school bus;
31. sexual or other harassment;
32. stealing;
33. threatening to hurt someone;
34. tobacco, or other tobacco substitutes, possession of;
35. toy or replica gun or knife, possession of;
36. trespassing;
37. vandalism;
38. verbal abuse of another;
39. violation of the wireless communication device policy
40. other serious misconduct which will lead to disciplinary consequences include but are not limited to the aforementioned infractions.

B. Petty Acts of Misconduct

Petty acts of misconduct will not ordinarily be referred to law enforcement and will not ordinarily result in student arrest. Petty acts of misconduct are those that a principal reasonably believes do not pose a threat to the safety of students, staff, volunteers, others, or Board property. Examples include minor fights or disturbances. Also see the Interagency Agreement between Pinellas County School Board and law enforcement agencies regarding petty acts of misconduct.

C. Off-Campus Misconduct

Off-campus student misconduct can result in discipline in certain circumstances, including where the misconduct has a connection to school-related activities or incidents or if the misconduct is directed at a Board official or employee or their property.

III. Disciplinary Action

The use of corporal punishment is prohibited. However, school personnel may use reasonable force to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment. Any use of reasonable force shall be in accordance with School Board policy and State Board of Education rule. The prohibition against the use of corporal punishment also extends to parents or guardians on school grounds.

The following types of discipline may be used, as well as those found in the school discipline plan at each school.

A. Parent Shadow

With reasonable notice, and if the principal and the parent agree, the parent may attend classes with a student for a day or specific period of time.

B. Removal from Class

A teacher may require that a student be removed from class if their behavior has seriously disrupted the teaching or learning in the classroom and it has been documented. If a student is removed from a class, the principal may assign discipline. This discipline may include: assigning the student to another appropriate classroom, in-school suspension, an alternative education program, or the principal may recommend the student for suspension, transfer, or expulsion.

A student cannot be returned to that teacher's classroom unless the teacher consents or a school-based placement review committee has determined that doing so is in the best interest of the student or is the only available alternative. A decision on whether to return a student to the classroom must be made by the committee within five (5) days of the removal.

C. Detention

A student can be assigned detention either before school or after school. The school will give the student's parent twenty-four (24) hour notice before they serve the detention. For elementary and middle school students, the administrator must contact the student's parent and have a conversation with the student's parent before the student serves the detention. For high school students, the administrator must make an effort to contact the student's parent by telephone or email. If the administrator is unable to contact the student's parent by telephone or receive a response via email, the student will still be required to serve the detention. The administrator must document that an attempt to contact the student's parent was made. The student's parent is responsible for the student's transportation when they have detention.

D. Saturday School

A student can be assigned Saturday School if an administrator has contacted the student's parent at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance.

E. In-School Suspension

A student can be assigned and sent to designated rooms or programs (examples: IC, ABC) in their school during the school day. A student will receive full credit for class work completed while in the assigned room and the absence will be coded as Intervention (INT).

F. Student Work Assignments

If the student's parent and a school administrator agree, the administrator can assign the student to a work detail at the school for up to ten (10) hours for each offense. The principal will decide who will supervise the student's work.

G. Out-of-School Suspension

A student can be suspended either in-school or out-of-school for no more than three (3) consecutive days for one offense. With permission from the area superintendent/chief, additional out-of-school suspension days may be assessed up to a total of ten (10) school days. If a student is suspended, they cannot be on school grounds or attend any school activities.

H. Transfer

A student may be transferred to another school, including an alternative school. The principal must recommend the student's transfer in writing to the area superintendent/chief and provide the student's parent with a copy of the recommendation.

I. Disciplinary Reassignment

If the principal, after completing an investigation, determines that a student requires removal from the school, including but not limited to violent or disruptive behavior, the principal will make a recommendation to the area superintendent/chief. If the area superintendent/chief supports the recommendation for reassignment, the student will be suspended for no more than three (3) days and then assigned to an alternative school for up to three (3) semesters.

If the reassignment occurs with thirty (30) or more school days remaining in the current semester, the remainder of the current semester shall serve as one semester of the reassignment. Depending on the nature of the offense, the reassignment may extend up to two (2) additional semesters.

If the reassignment occurs with fewer than thirty (30) school days remaining in the current semester, the student shall be reassigned for the remainder of the current semester and up to three (3) subsequent semesters, depending on the nature of the offense.

A student may not appeal a disciplinary reassignment. They may only appeal the underlying suspension. Appeals of suspensions are described below.

J. Expulsion

An expulsion means that a student cannot attend any district school except as allowed by the Board. If a student is serving an expulsion during the last semester of their senior year, the student is not allowed to participate in their home school graduation ceremony. If a student commits an offense that is considered exceedingly serious, (a student causes critical human injury, extensive property damage, or excessive school disruption), the Board may decide not to allow the student to attend any school, including Teleschool. In this instance, referrals to community resources will be made.

IV. Suspensions and Expulsions

A. Suspension

The principal or principal's designee will investigate each incident of misconduct. Following the investigation, the principal or designee will determine if a suspension is warranted and will provide the student a discipline referral or other form of writing describing the incident and the intended consequence. The principal or designee can suspend a student from school for one (1) school day or no more than three (3) school days per incident.

1. Notification to Parent and Right to Appeal

The principal or designee will make every effort to contact the student's parent to notify them of the suspension. The student's parent will be sent a letter titled Written Notice of Suspension within twenty-four (24) hours of the decision. The student will be given a copy of that letter.

The student's parents have a right to appeal the suspension. To do so, they must notify the principal in writing within five (5) school days of the Written Notice of Suspension. Upon receipt of the appeal letter, the principal must arrange for a conference with the student's parents which may be by phone or in person. If the student's parent does not notify the principal in writing before the end of the student's suspension that they want to appeal within this timeframe, the suspension is final.

2. Appeal Conference

During the appeal conference, the principal will review the basis for the suspension including the evidence supporting the decision and the process followed for the investigation. If the parent believes the investigation requirements were not met, they must notify the principal during the conference that the student was not fully informed of the allegations against them, the student did not have an opportunity to rebut the allegations, or the investigation overlooked relevant information.

If the principal agrees that the decision to suspend the student requires further review, the decision may be postponed until after the review. The principal will provide the student and the parents a written decision within five (5) school days of the conference. During this time, the student will continue to serve the suspension. If the principal agrees that the suspension was not appropriate, any record of the suspension will be taken out of the student's record and the student will be given the opportunity to make up all schoolwork that was missed without penalty.

3. Appeal to Area Superintendent/Chief

The student's parent may appeal the principal's decision to the area superintendent/chief or designee by notifying them in writing within five (5) school days of the date of the principal's final decision. This appeal is limited in scope and only concerns the procedures followed by the principal in making the final decision to suspend the student. There will be no further investigation or interviews with witnesses about the incident, although the facts of the case may be reviewed. If the proper procedures were not followed, the matter will be sent back to the principal with directions to follow the correct procedures. The decision by the Area Superintendent is a final decision with no further right to appeal.

B. Expulsion

Based on the conduct of the student, the principal may suspend the student and recommend an expulsion to the superintendent. The principal's recommendation will contain a detailed explanation of the incident, the student's record of attendance, academics, and discipline. Based on the information received, the superintendent will determine whether to recommend an expulsion to the Board. If a student commits a zero-tolerance offense as described in s. 1006.13, F.S., and School Board Policy 5500.08, the superintendent will recommend an expulsion.

Under Florida law, a student may be expelled for a period of time not to exceed the remainder of the current school year and one (1) additional school year. The length of the expulsion may be specified in the number of semesters. If there are fewer than thirty (30) school days left in the current semester when the student's suspension begins, the expulsion will include that semester plus the designated semesters of the expulsion. A student who is serving an expulsion during the last semester of their senior year may not participate in the graduation ceremony.

1. Notification to Parent and Right to Appeal

The student's parent(s) will be notified in writing of the superintendent's recommendation as well as the facts supporting the recommendation. If the parent(s) contest the allegation, they may request a hearing. If a hearing is not requested, the facts are considered to be true, but the parent(s) may attend the Board meeting to discuss the expulsion recommendation.

A hearing request must be submitted to the staff attorney in accordance with the directions explained in the letter from the superintendent. A hearing will then be scheduled, and the parent(s) and the student will be notified in writing at least two (2) weeks in advance of the date, time, and place of the hearing.

2. Appeals Hearing

A local attorney, who is a volunteer and not employed by the school district will preside over the hearing as an impartial hearing officer. The student is entitled to have an attorney or other representative provide legal representation. Any fees for such representation will be the student's parents' responsibility.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 120, F.S., with a proposed recommended order provided to the Board from the hearing officer. The Board will issue the final order which may be appealed to the District Court of Appeal in Tampa. The student's parent must file to the District Court of Appeal within thirty (30) days of the date of the Board's order expelling the student.

What is School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR)?

- SESIR collects data on 26 incidents of crime, violence, and disruptive behaviors.
- This collection is limited to incidents that occur on school grounds, on school transportation, and at off-campus, school-sponsored events.
- Incidents can occur 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.
- Incidents are reported by schools via their district's data system which uploads the data to the Florida Department of Education.
- SESIR incidents must be reported to law enforcement per State Board Rule 6A-1.0017.
- Reporting to law enforcement may not always result in law enforcement action being taken.



SESIR CODES

Level 1

Aggravated Battery (BAT)
Arson (ARS)
Homicide (HOM)
Kidnapping (KID)
Sexual Battery (SXB)

Level 2

Burglary (BRK)
Drug Sale/Distribution (DRD)
Simple Battery (PHA)
Robbery (ROB)
Sexual Assault (SXA)
Weapons Possession (WPO)

Level 3

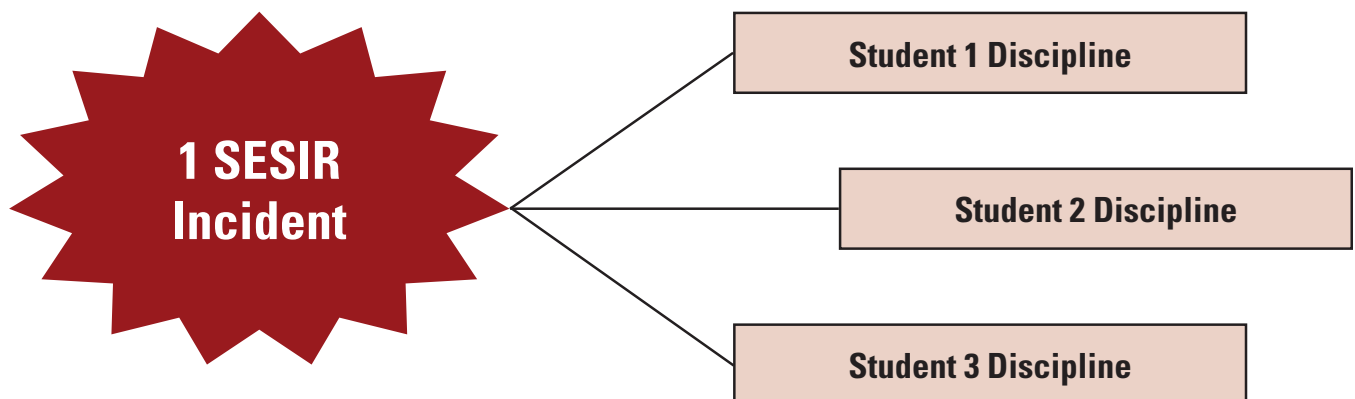
Disruption On Campus – Major (DOC)
Drug Use/Possession (DRU)
Fighting (FIT)
Hazing (HAZ)
Grand Theft (STL)
Sexual Harassment (SXH)
Sexual Offenses (Other) (SXO)
Threat/Intimidation (TRE)
Trespassing (TRS)
Criminal Mischief (Felony Vandalism) (VAN)
Other Major Offenses (OMC)

Level 4

Alcohol (ALC)
Bullying (BUL)
Harassment (HAR)
Tobacco (TBC)

SESIR Reporting

- SESIR incidents are per incident. Report only ONE incident even when there are multiple students involved in the same incident.
- Discipline actions are per student.



DEFINITIONS OF TERMS/ADMINISTRATIVE CODING

Some but not all definitions of terms and/or student conduct which are considered to be violations of the Code of Student Conduct are described in this section. The use of words, such as battery and arson, are not meant to be considered equivalent to or to carry the same standards and consequences as the same words, which are defined in the criminal context in the Florida Statutes. The School Board retains the flexibility and right to attach definitions found in Board Rule to such words without attaching any criminal standards set by the courts or legislature. When a student has committed an infraction, the misbehavior is to be classified according to the definition which best describes it.

The notation * next to the three-letter violation code listed below represents the School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR) definitions and guidelines required by the Department of Education. Some but not all offenses are SESIR related. SESIR collects data on 26 incidents of crime, violence, and disruptive behaviors. This collection is limited to incidents that occur on school grounds, on school transportation, and at off-campus, school-sponsored events. Incidents can occur 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. Incidents are reported by schools via their district's data system which uploads the data to the Florida Department of Education. SESIR incidents are per incident. Report only ONE incident even when there are multiple students involved in the same incident. Discipline actions are per student.

The number next to the violation represents the administrative coding of the offense which is entered into the student database.

Aggravated Battery * (BAT) – SESIR Level I / 03S – A battery where the attacker intentionally or knowingly causes more serious injury as defined in paragraph (8)(g) of this rule, such as: great bodily harm, permanent disability, or permanent disfigurement; uses a deadly weapon; or, where the attacker knew or should have known the victim was pregnant.

Alcohol * (ALC) – SESIR Level IV / 01 – Possession, sale, purchase, distribution, or use of alcoholic beverages. Use means the person is caught in the act of using, admits using or is discovered to have used in the course of an investigation. Alcohol incidents cannot be Drug-related.

Arson * (ARS) – SESIR – Level 1 / 26 – To intentionally damage or cause to be damaged, by fire or explosion, any dwelling, structure, or conveyance, whether occupied or not, or its contents. Fires that are not intentional, that are caused by accident, or do not cause damage are not required to be reported in SESIR.

Bullying * (BUL) – SESIR - Level IV / 38 – Systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees. Bullying includes instances of cyberbullying, as defined in Section 1006.147(3)(b), F.S. Bullying may include, but is not limited to, repetitive instances of teasing, social exclusion, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, theft, harassment, public or private humiliation, or destruction of property. If the physical harm or psychological distress is not the result of systemic or chronic behavior, evaluate for Harassment.

Burglary * (BRK) – SESIR – Level II / 27 – Unlawful entry into or remaining in a dwelling, structure, or conveyance with the intent to commit a crime therein.

Bus Misconduct / 14 – The act of engaging in conduct or behavior, which interferes with the orderly, safe, and timely transportation of students.

Cellular/Electronic/Communication Device / 37 – The act of utilizing any personal communication/electronic device such as, but not limited to alarm devices, pagers/beepers, cellular phones/ not use this code for students defying authority, disobeying or showing disrespect to others, using inappropriate language or gestures, minor fights or classroom disruptions.

Cheating / 15 – The act of inappropriately and deliberately distributing or using information, notes, materials, or work of another person in the completion of an academic exam, test, or assignment. Not telling the truth.

Criminal Mischief (Felony Vandalism) * (VAN) >\$1K – SESIR – Level III / 17S – Willfully and maliciously injuring or damaging by any means any real or personal property belonging to another, including, but not limited to, the placement of graffiti thereon or other acts of vandalism thereto. Incidents that fall below the \$1,000 threshold are not reportable in SESIR, but instead should be reported as locally defined incidents according to district policies.

Dangerous Object / 13 – The act of possessing or using devices which are designed to inflict or could inflict pain or injury to another individual. The act of possessing any item, although not specifically designed to do harm to another person, which is used to cause or attempt to cause injury or is used to put someone in reasonable fear of injury, or the item is considered disruptive on a school campus. This offense may include, but is not limited to, lighters, concealed self-defense chemical spray containing 2 ounces or less that is not used or threatened to be used.

Defiance of Authority/Willful Disobedience/ Insubordination/ 07 – A flagrant or hostile act challenging the authority of a school staff member, bus driver, or any other adult in authority. The act of deliberately refusing or failing to follow a direction or an order from a school staff member, bus driver, or any other adult in authority.

Disruption Classroom/Campus / 16 – The act of behaving inappropriately which disrupts the learning environment, which inhibits the instructor's ability to teach, or interferes with other students' opportunity to learn.

Disruption on Campus – Major * (DOC) – SESIR – Level III / 16S – Disruptive behavior that poses a serious threat to the learning environment, health, safety, or welfare of others. Examples of major disruptions include bomb threats, inciting a riot, or initiating a false fire alarm.

Dress Code / 39 – The act of failing to comply with the established dress code policy. Wearing or displaying any clothing, jewelry, accessories, makeup, tattoo, or any other appearance or apparel which may be considered gang related in any manner which is associated with being a member of or participating in a gang or gang related activity.

Drug Sale/Distribution * (DRD) – SESIR - Level II / 04D – The manufacture, cultivation, purchase, sale, or distribution of any drug, narcotic, controlled substance or substance represented to be a drug, narcotic, or controlled substance.

Drug Use/Possession Excluding Alcohol * (DRU) – SESIR – Level III / 04S – The use or possession of any drug, narcotic, controlled substance, or any substance when used for chemical intoxication. Use means the person is caught in the act of using, admits using or is discovered to have used in the course of an investigation.

Excessive Tardies to Class/School / 21 – The act of arriving late to a class or to school on a repeated basis.

Extortion/Blackmail / 48 – The willful or malicious threat of harm, injury, or violence to the person, property, or reputation of another with the intent to obtain money, information, services, or items of material worth. This offense may include, but is not limited to, threatening to accuse another of a minor offense or crime in order to obtain lunch money.

False and/or Misleading Information (FMI) / 45 – The act of Intentionally providing false or misleading information to or withholding valid information (knowingly not being truthful). The behavior does not disrupt the school campus.

Fighting/Major * (FIT) – SESIR – Level III / 05S – When two or more persons mutually participate in use of force or physical violence that requires either physical intervention or results in injury requiring first aid or medical attention. Lower-level fights, including pushing, shoving, or altercations that stop on verbal command are not required to be reported in SESIR.

Fighting/Minor (FIT) / 05 – The act of two or more persons mutually participating in use of force or physical violence that may or may not result in injury. This may include pushing, shoving, or altercations that stop upon verbal command.

Forgery – Non-Criminal / 25 – The act of making a false or misleading written communication to a school staff member with either the intent to deceive or under circumstances which would reasonably be calculated to deceive the staff member, or producing, possessing, or distributing any false document, item, or record represented to be an authentic school document, item, or record.

Gambling / 47 – Any unlawful participation in games (or activities) of chance for money and/or other things of value.

Grand Theft * (\$750 threshold) (STL) – SESIR – Level III / 12S – The unauthorized taking of the property of another person or organization, including motor vehicles, valued at \$750 or more, without threat, violence, or bodily harm. Incidents that fall below the \$750 threshold are not reportable in SESIR, but instead should be reported as locally-defined incidents according to district policies. Thefts of property of any value that involve a use of force, violence, assault, or putting the victim in fear must be reported as Robbery.

Harassment * (HAR) – SESIR - Level IV / 40 – (One-time, insulting behaviors) Any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal, or physical conduct that 1) places a student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property, 2) has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, or 3) has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school including any course of conduct directed at a specific person that causes substantial emotional distress in such a person and serves no legitimate purpose. Instances of Harassment that are chronic or repeated in nature should be evaluated for Bullying or Bullying-related.

Hazing * (HAZ) – SESIR – Level III / 41 – Any action or situation that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student at a school with any of grades 6 through 12 for purposes of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any school-sanctioned organization. "Hazing" includes but is not limited to: (a) pressuring, coercing, or forcing a student to participate in illegal or dangerous behavior, or (b) any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, or exposure to the elements.

Homicide (HOM) – SESIR - Level I / 28 – The unjustified killing of one human being by another.

Horseplay (HRP) / 44 – The act of engaging in rowdy, rough behavior that interferes with the safe or purposeful order of the school (this includes uncontrolled play, pranks, or pantsing)

Inciting a Disturbance (IAD) / 46 – The act of encouragement or contribution of any fight, disruption, and/or any violation of the Code of Conduct, that is reasonably foreseeable to negatively impact a student's ability to learn, a teacher's ability to teach or negatively impact the school community. Encouragement/contribution includes, but is not limited to using recording, displaying, posting an incident via an electronic device/social media, or through handwritten or verbal communication to incite a disturbance.

Kidnapping (KID) – SESIR – Level I / 29 – Forcibly, secretly, or by threat, confining, abducting, or imprisoning another person against their will and without lawful authority.

Leaving Campus without permission / 06 – The act of leaving school grounds without proper administrative authorization.

Missed Detention / 18 – The act of not attending a teacher or administratively assigned detention.

Missed Saturday School / 20 – The act of not attending administratively assigned Saturday School.

Other Major (OMC) – SESIR – Level III / 19S – (major incidents that do not fit within the other definitions) Any serious, harmful incident resulting in the need for law enforcement consultation not previously classified. This includes any drug or weapon found unattended and not linked to any individual; such incidents must be coded with the appropriate Related element (such as Drug-related or Weapon-related) and incident involvement must be reported as unknown. Examples include student producing or knowingly using counterfeit money, participating in gambling activities, possessing child pornography, or possessing drug paraphernalia.

Other Offenses / 19 – Any minor incident that does not fit within the other definitions.

Physical Conflict (Adult) (Elementary Age) / 03 – A student who engages in unacceptable behavior or conduct which is disruptive to the educational process and results in physical conflict, including pushing, pulling, shoving, or striking an adult. Behaviors that result in physical conflict may be the result of difficulties with sensory processing, reaction to perceived or minor provocation, or retaliatory or defensive actions due to interpersonal/group dynamics. Said behavior does not constitute a fight, physical attack, aggravated battery, or other serious breach of conduct.

Physical Conflict (Student) (Elementary Age) / 02 – A student who engages in unacceptable behavior or conduct which is disruptive to the educational process and results in physical conflict, including pushing, pulling, shoving, or striking another student. Behaviors that result in physical conflict may be the result of difficulties with sensory processing, reaction to perceived or minor provocation, or retaliatory or defensive actions due to interpersonal/group dynamics. Said behavior does not constitute a fight, physical attack, aggravated battery, or other serious breach of conduct.

Profanity/Obscene/Abusive Language / 08 – The act of using any profane, vulgar, or unnecessary crude utterance or gesture, whether directed toward a classmate, staff member, teacher, administrator, and volunteer, or merely done overtly.

Repeated Misconduct / 09 – Student misconduct that tends to seriously disrupt the school, school function, or extracurricular program or activity. Behavior that is chronic or continual even after the implementation of interventions and consequences.

Robbery * (ROB) – SESIR -Level II / 31 – The taking or attempted taking of money or other property from the person or custody of another with the intent to permanently or temporarily deprive the person or owner of money or other property, under the confrontational circumstances of force, or threat of force or violence, and/or by putting the victim in fear. A key difference in Grand Theft and Robbery is that Robbery involves violence, a threat of violence or assault, and putting the victim in fear.

Sexual Assault (SXA) – SESIR – Level II / 43 – An incident that includes fondling, indecent liberties, child molestation, or threatened rape. Both males and females can be victims of sexual assault.

Sexual Battery * (Rape) (SXB) – SESIR – Level I / 32 – Forced or attempted oral, anal, or vaginal penetration by using a sexual organ or an object simulating a sexual organ, or the anal or vaginal penetration of another by any body part or foreign object. Both males and females can be victims of sexual battery.

Sexual Harassment * (SXH) – SESIR – Level III /33 – Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, such as sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Harassing conduct can include verbal or nonverbal actions, including graphic and written statements, and may include statements made through computers, cellphones, and other devices connected to the Internet. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.

Sexual Offenses * (Other) (SXO) – SESIR – Level III / 34 – Other sexual contact, including intercourse, without force or threat of force. Subjecting an individual to lewd sexual gestures, sexual activity, or exposing private body parts in a lewd manner. (Law enforcement must be notified to investigate.)

Simple Battery * (PHA) – SESIR - Level II / 42 – An actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against their will, or the intentional causing of bodily harm to an individual

Skipping Class/Skipping School / 10 – The act of not reporting to class or school without receiving proper prior approval and/or following the established procedures for checking out of school.

Stealing/Theft <\$750 / 12 – The act of unauthorized taking, carrying, riding away, or concealing the property of another person, including motor vehicles, without threat, violence or bodily harm.

Threat/Intimidation * (TRE) – SESIR – Level III / 35 – An incident where there was no physical contact between the offender and victim, but the victim reasonably believed that physical harm could have occurred based on verbal or nonverbal communication by the offender. This includes nonverbal threats and verbal threats of physical harm which are made in person, electronically or through any other means.

Tobacco * (TBC) – SESIR – Level IV / 11 – The possession, sale, purchase, distribution, or use of tobacco or nicotine products on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, or on school transportation by any person under the age of 21. Tobacco incidents cannot be Drug-related.

Trespassing * (TRS) – SESIR – Level III / 36 – To enter or remain on school grounds/campus, school transportation, or at a school-sponsored event/off campus, without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry. Only incidents involving a student currently under suspension or expulsion, or incidents where any offender (student or non-student) was previously issued an official trespass warning by school officials, or where any offender was arrested for trespass are required to be reported in SESIR. Trespass incidents that did not have a prior official warning, did not result in arrest, or did not involve students under suspension or expulsion should be reported as locally defined incidents according to district policies.

Unauthorized Location / 23 – The act of being present in buildings, rooms, hallways, restrooms/changing facilities or other areas of a school campus restricted to students.

Vandalism (VAN) <\$1K / 17 – The act of intentional destruction, damage, or defacement of public or private property without consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

Weapons Possession* (WPO) – SESIR – Level II / 13S – Possession of a firearm or any instrument or object as defined by Section 790.001, F.S., that can inflict serious harm on another person or that can place a person in reasonable fear of serious harm.

RELATED ELEMENT DEFINITIONS

- Bullying-related:** An incident is bullying related if the incident includes systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees.
- Drug-related:** An incident is drug related if there is evidence that those involved in the incident were under the influence of drugs at the time of the incident; if they admit to using or being under the influence of drugs; if drugs were in the possession of individuals involved in the incident, based on testing or investigation done by a law enforcement officer as a result of the incident; or if the incident is somehow related to possession, use or sale of drugs. School are not required to test for drug use.
- Hazing-related:** An incident is hazing-related if the incident includes any action or situation that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student at a school with any grades from 6-12 for the purposes of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any school-sanctioned organization.
- Injury-related:** All SESIR incidents that result in serious bodily injury are required to be reported as Injury-related. Less serious bodily injury means incidents which require immediate first aid or subsequent medical attention. More serious injuries include death or injuries with substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, and protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty. Incidents where injury occurred, but first aid or medical attention is not needed, are not required to be reported in SESIR as Injury-related.
- Vaping-related:** All SESIR incidents that involve the use of non-combustible vaping products, including electronic cigarettes, vapes and vape pens, or any electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS) are required to be reported as Vaping-related, if the liquid used contains nicotine or a controlled substance. Schools are not required to test for nicotine or drugs in vaping devices. Incidents involving use or possession of vaping products that do not contain nicotine or controlled substances are not required to be reported in SESIR.
- Weapon-related:** All SESIR incidents are required to be reported as Weapon-related where anyone involved possessed or used a firearm or weapon or if the incident was related to possession, use or sale of firearm or weapons, as defined in Section 790.001, F.S.

WHAT IS THE DISCIPLINE CHART?

- The Discipline Chart on the following pages is a tool for administrators to assign interventions and/or consequences for student misconduct.
- This chart does not apply to classroom management as assigned by the teacher.
- The chart is designed to offer consistency across the district so that students are disciplined fairly from school to school when their behavior requires punishment beyond the classroom.
- The chart outlines the violations in the same way as the Code of Student Conduct but in a grid format. Each incident type contains interventions or consequences for each violation. Two types of action, either mandatory (must) or potential (possible), can be taken by administration depending upon circumstances.
- It is important to note that school administrators have the discretion to deviate from these guidelines by assessing an appropriate consequence other than stated in the chart if he or she determines that there are mitigating or aggravating circumstances.
- Repeated instances of the same behavior may result in more severe consequences.
- Administration will make every effort to contact parents/guardians regarding all disciplinary matters. Parent contact can be used as an intervention, a consequence, or as a result of a disciplinary issue.
- In matters relating to the disciplining of students with disabilities, the Board and the District shall abide by Federal and State laws regarding suspensions and expulsion.
- Should you require further explanation of the discipline chart, please call your school administrator.

2026-27 Discipline Chart

The District School Board of Pinellas County engages in the practice of progressive discipline.

Progressive discipline is a whole-school approach that utilizes a continuum of interventions, supports and consequences to address inappropriate student behavior and build upon strategies that promote positive behavior. When inappropriate behavior occurs, disciplinary measures should be applied within a framework that shifts the focus from one that is solely punitive to a focus that is both corrective and supportive.

Progressive discipline is designed to create the expectation that the degree of discipline will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior leading to discipline and that the previous disciplinary history of the student and all other relevant factors will be taken into account.

P = Potential Action M = Mandatory Action

*** Must be Reported to Law Enforcement

	Warning/Verbal Reprimand	Parent Contact	Referral to School Counselor	Behavioral Contract	Peer mediation	Parent/Student Conference	Detention	Parent shadowing	Student work detail	Youth Motivator/Mentor	In-School Suspension	Bus suspension	Recommendation for bus expulsion	Saturday School	Threat assessment	Alternate Bell Schedule (Secondary)	Out-of-School Suspension (1-3 days)	Restorative Alternative(s)	Suspension Extension	Administrative Transfer/Placement	Disciplinary Reassignment	Smoking Clinic	FACE IT (Alcohol/Drugs)	Recommendation for expulsion	Reported to Law Enforcement	Report as SESIR Incident	Confiscation of items or devices
Level I																											
*** Aggravated Battery (BAT) – SESIR / 03S		M									P					P	P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Arson (ARS) – SESIR / 26		M									P			P		P	P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Homicide (HOM) – SESIR / 28		M															M				P			M	M	M	
*** Kidnapping (KID) – SESIR / 29		M															M				P			M	M	M	
*** Sexual Battery (SXB) – SESIR / 32		M									P					P	P		P	P	P			M	M	M	
Level II																											
*** Burglary (BRK) – SESIR / 27		M									P					P	P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Drug Sale/Distribution (DRD) – SESIR / 04D		M									P					P	P		P	P	P		M	P	M	M	M
*** Robbery (ROB) – SESIR / 31		M									P					P	P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Simple Battery (PHA) – SESIR / 42		M	P	P		P	P				P				P	P	P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Sexual Assault (SXA) – SESIR / 43		M	P	P		P	P				P				P	P	P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Weapons (WPO) – SESIR / 13S		M															P		P	P	P			M	M	M	
Level III																											
*** Disruption – Campus (Major) (DOC) – SESIR / 16S		M												P	P	P	P	P		P	P			P	M	M	
*** Drug Use/Possession (DRU) – SESIR / 04S		M									P					P	P		P	P	P		M	P	M	M	M
*** Fighting (Major) (FIT) – SESIR / 05S		M									P				P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Hazing (HAZ) – SESIR / 41		M		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Grand Theft/Stealing or accessory to theft of property worth more than \$750 (STL) – SESIR / 12S		M									P			P		P	P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
Sexual Harassment (SXH) – SESIR / 33		M									P			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Sexual Offenses (Other) (SXO) – SESIR / 34		M									P					P	P	P	P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Threat/Intimidation (TRE) – SESIR / 35		M									P			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Trespassing (TRS) – SESIR / 36		M															P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Criminal Mischief (Felony Vandalism) > \$1000 (VAN) – SESIR / 17S		M									P			P		P	P		P	P	P			P	M	M	
*** Other Major Crime (OMC) – SESIR / 19S		M									P			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	M	M	
Level IV																											
Alcohol (ALC) – SESIR / 01		M									P					P	P			P	P		P	P	M	M	M
Bullying (BUL) – SESIR / 38		M		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	M	M	
Harassment (HAR) – SESIR / 40		M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	M	M	
Tobacco (TBC) – SESIR / 11		M									P					P	P					P	M		M	M	M

Every SESIR incident must include one of the approved DOE discipline action codes. Visit <https://www.fldoe.org/safe-schools/sesir-discipline-data/>

Notes:

1. Repeated instances of the same behavior may result in more severe consequences.
2. **Unless required by law, school principals have the discretion to deviate from these guidelines by assessing an appropriate consequence other than stated in the Discipline Chart if he or she determines that there are mitigating or aggravating circumstances.**
3. SRO and/or Schools Police are also available to discuss potential criminality of situations should the need arise.
4. Administration will make every effort to contact parents/guardians regarding all disciplinary matters. Parent Contact can be used as an intervention, a consequence, or as a result of a disciplinary issue.
5. In matters relating to the disciplining of students with disabilities, the Board and the District shall abide by Federal and State laws regarding suspensions and expulsion.
6. PCS recognizes discipline from other school districts.

Warning/Verbal Reprimand	Parent Contact	Referral to School Counselor	Behavioral Contract	Peer mediation	Parent/Student Conference	Detention	Parent shadowing	Student work detail	Youth Motivator/Mentor	In-School Suspension	Bus suspension	Recommendation for bus expulsion	Saturday School	Threat assessment	Alternate Bell Schedule	Out-of-School Suspension (1-3 days)	No 2 Bullying Program (Gr. 3 - 12)	Suspension Extension	Administrative Transfer/Placement	Disciplinary Reassignment	Smoking Clinic	FACE IT (Alcohol/Drugs)	Recommendation for expulsion	Reported to Law Enforcement	Report as SESIR Incident	Confiscation of items or devices
--------------------------	----------------	------------------------------	---------------------	----------------	---------------------------	-----------	------------------	---------------------	------------------------	----------------------	----------------	----------------------------------	-----------------	-------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------------------	------------------------------------	----------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------	----------------	-------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------------------

PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS LOCAL CODES

Bus Misconduct / 14	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Cell Phone/Electronic Devices / 37	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Cheating/Academic Dishonesty / 15	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Chemical spray, pepper spray, mace; possession of / 13	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	M
Dangerous Object / 13		M								P					P	P		P	P	P			P	P	P	M
Defiance of Authority/Willful Disobedience/ Insubordination / 07	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P									
Disruption – Classroom/Campus (Minor) / 16	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P		P	P	P									
Dress Code / 39	P	M	P	P		P	P		P	P	P		P				P									
Excessive Tardies / 21	P	M	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P		P				P									
Extortion/Blackmail / 48		M								P					P	P		P	P	P			P	P	M	
False and/or Misleading Information (FMI) / 45	P	M	P	P	P		P		P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P		P	P						
Fighting, physical confrontation without injury; also instigating or encouraging a fight (Minor) / 05	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P						P			
Forgery – (Non-Criminal) / 25	P	M	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P		P		P	P	P		P	P						
Gambling / 47		M								P			P	P	P	P		P	P	P			P	P		P
Horseplaying (HRP) / 44	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P		P	P	P									
Inciting a Disturbance (IAD) / 46	P	M	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P		P	P						
Leaving campus without permission / 06	P	M	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P		P		P		P									
Missed Detention / 18	P	M	P	P		P	P		P		P		P				P									
Obscene/Profane gestures/language; distribution of objects, literature or materials that are inappropriate for an educational setting / 08	P	M	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P		P		P	P	P									
Other Offenses (Minor) / 19	P	M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P									
Physical Conflict (Adult) (Elementary Age) / 03	P	M	P	P		P	P	P	P	P							P									
Physical Conflict (Student) (Elementary Age) / 02	P	M	P	P		P	P	P	P	P							P									
Repeated Misconduct / 09		M				P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P		P	P	P			P			
Saturday School / 20	P	M	P	P		P	P		P		P		P				P									
Skipping class/school / 10	P	M	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P		P				P									
Stealing or accessory to theft of property worth less than \$750 / 12	P	M	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P		P	P						
Unauthorized Location / 23	P	M	P	P		P		P	P	P			P	P	P	P	P		P	P						
Vandalism – Defacing and/or destroying school or personal property resulting in damages of less than \$1000 / 17	P	M	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P		P		P	P	P		P	P			P			

Discipline Codes

01 – Alcohol (ALC) – SESIR	21 – Excessive Tardies
02 – Physical Conflict (Student) (Elementary Age)	23 – Unauthorized Location
03 – Physical Conflict (Adult) (Elementary Age)	25 - Forgery – Non-Criminal
03S – Aggravated Battery (BAT) – SESIR ***	26 – Arson (ARS) – SESIR ***
04S – Drug Use/Possession Excluding Alcohol (DRU) – SESIR ***	27 – Burglary (BRK) – SESIR ***
04D – Drug Sale/Distribution (DRD) – SESIR ***	28 – Homicide (HOM) – SESIR ***
05 – Fighting/Minor (FIT)	29 – Kidnapping (KID) – SESIR ***
05S – Fighting/Major (FIT) – SESIR ***	31 – Robbery (ROB) – SESIR ***
06 - Leaving Campus without Permission	32 – Sexual Battery – SESIR ***
07 – Defiance of Authority/Willful Disobedience/Insubordination	33 – Sexual Harassment (SXB) (Rape) – SESIR
08 – Profanity/Obscene/Abusive Language	34 – Sexual Offenses (SXO) (other) – SESIR ***
09 – Repeated Misconduct	35 – Threat/Intimidation (TRE) – SESIR ***
10 – Skipping Class/Skipping School	36 – Trespassing (TRS) – SESIR ***
11 – Tobacco (TBC) – SESIR	37 – Cell Phone/Electronic Devices
12 – Stealing/Theft <\$750	38 – Bullying (BUL) – SESIR
12S – Grand Theft >\$750 (STL) – SESIR ***	39 – Dress Code
13 – Dangerous Object	40 – Harassment (HAR) – SESIR
13S – Weapons (WPO) – SESIR ***	41 – Hazing (HAZ) – SESIR ***
14 – Bus Misconduct	42 – Simple Battery (PHA) – SESIR ***
15 – Cheating/Academic Dishonesty	43 – Sexual Assault (SXA) – SESIR ***
16 – Disruption – Classroom/Campus (Minor)	44 – Horseplay (HRP)
16S – Disruption – Campus (DOC) (Major) – SESIR ***	45 – False and/or Misleading Information (FMI)
17 – Vandalism <1K	46 – Inciting a Disturbance (IAD)
17S – Criminal Mischief (Felony Vandalism) >\$1K (VAN) – SESIR ***	47 – Gambling
18 – Missed Detention	48 – Extortion/Blackmail
19 – Other Minor	
19S – Other Major Crime (OMC) – SESIR ***	
20 – Saturday School	

*** Must be Reported to Law Enforcement

MISCONDUCT THAT REQUIRES SPECIFIC CONSEQUENCES (POLICY 5500.08)

I. General

Students are expected to behave at school, during school-sponsored activities, during school-sponsored transportation, and at bus stops. Violations of the Code of Student Conduct or school rules may result in disciplinary action.

The district promotes a safe and supportive learning environment in schools, including during school-sponsored activities, during school-sponsored transportation, and at bus stops, to protect students and staff from conduct that poses a threat to school safety. District staff are encouraged to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to law enforcement agencies unless otherwise required by law. Principals shall provide consistent school-based discipline when appropriate and authorized by policy.

Certain acts of misconduct result in a specific consequence. Serious threats to school safety and violent misdemeanor or felony criminal offenses will be reported to law enforcement. Further, a threat management team consisting of personnel required by s. 1006.07, F.S., will review the incident. The School-Based Threat Management Team, District Threat Management Team, or both will consult with law enforcement when a student exhibits a pattern of behavior, based upon previous acts or the severity of an act, that would pose a threat to school safety. More information is contained within Policy 8405.

Petty acts of misconduct should ordinarily not be referred to law enforcement and should not ordinarily result in student arrest. Petty acts of misconduct are those that a principal reasonably believes do not pose a threat to the safety of students, staff, volunteers, or other persons, or a threat of harm to Board property and includes minor fights or disturbances.

Students who commit violent or disruptive behaviors that may pose a threat to the safety of school staff, whether at school, during school-sponsored activities, during school-sponsored transportation, or at a bus stop, may be assigned to an educational alternative services program or referred to mental health services identified by the school district. Pursuant to s. 1006.07(7), F.S., referral to mental health services shall be in consultation with the School-Based Threat Management Team, District Threat Management Team, or both. Criminal penalties may also be imposed as determined by law enforcement agencies.

Any student or family interested in learning more about the mental health services available in their school can speak to any student services staff member at the school. These staff can also help with referrals to community agencies. For more information on services available in the community, families can call 211 or visit their website at <https://www.firstcontact.org/>.

II. Specific Acts of Misconduct That Require Reporting

The following specific acts are required to be reported to the Department of Education using the School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR), pursuant to s. 1006.07, F.S., and Rule 6A-1.0017, F.A.C..

A. Aggravated Battery (BAT) - Level I

(intentional great bodily harm) A battery where the attacker intentionally or knowingly causes more serious injury as defined in Rule 6A-1.0017(8)(g), such as: great bodily harm, permanent disability, or permanent disfigurement; uses a deadly weapon; or, where the attacker knew or should have known the victim was pregnant.

B. Alcohol (ALC) - Level IV

(possession, use, or sale) Possession, sale, purchase, distribution, or use of alcoholic beverages. Use means the person is caught in the act of using, admits to use or is discovered to have used in the course of an investigation. Alcohol incidents cannot be Drug-related.

C. Arson (ARS)- Level I

(intentionally setting a fire on school property) To intentionally damage or cause to be damaged, by fire or explosion, any dwelling, structure, or conveyance, whether occupied or not, or its contents. Fires that are not intentional, that are caused by accident, or do not cause damage are not required to be reported in SESIR.

D. Bullying (BUL) - Level IV

(intimidating behaviors that are repeated, intentional, and involve a power imbalance) Systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees. Bullying includes instances of cyberbullying, as defined in s. 1006.147(3)(b), F.S. Bullying may include, but is not limited to, repetitive instances of teasing, social exclusion, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, theft, harassment, public or private humiliation, or destruction of property. If the physical harm or psychological distress is not the result of systematic or chronic behavior, evaluate for Harassment.

E. Burglary (BRK) - Level II

(illegal entry into a facility) Unlawful entry into or remaining in a dwelling, structure, or conveyance with the intent to commit a crime therein

F. Criminal Mischief (Felony Vandalism) (VAN) > \$1K - Level III

(destruction, damage, or defacement of school or personal property) (\$1,000 threshold) Willfully and maliciously injuring or damaging by any means any real or personal property belonging to another, including, but not limited to, the placement of graffiti thereon or other acts of vandalism thereto. Incidents that fall below the \$1,000 threshold are not reportable in SESIR, but instead should be reported as locally-defined incidents according to district policies.

G. Disruption on Campus-Major (DOC) - Level III

(major disruption of all or a significant portion of campus activities, school-sponsored events, and school bus transportation) Disruptive behavior that poses a serious threat to the learning environment, health, safety, or welfare of others. Examples of major disruptions include bomb threats, inciting a riot, or initiating a false fire alarm.

H. Drug Sale/Distribution Excluding Alcohol (DRD) - Level II

(illegal sale or distribution of drugs) The manufacture, cultivation, purchase, sale, or distribution of any drug, narcotic, controlled substance or substance represented to be a drug, narcotic, or controlled substance.

I. Drug Use/Possession Excluding Alcohol (DRU) - Level III

(illegal drug possession or use) The use or possession of any drug, narcotic, controlled substance, or any substance when used for chemical intoxication. Use means the person is caught in the act of using, admits to use or is discovered to have used in the course of an investigation.

J. Fighting (FIT) - Level III

(mutual combat, mutual altercation) When two or more persons mutually participate in use of force or physical violence that requires either physical intervention or results in injury requiring first aid or medical attention. Lower-level fights, including pushing, shoving, or altercations that stop on verbal command are not required to be reported in SESIR.

K. Grand Theft (STL) - Level III

(taking of property from a person, building, or a vehicle) (\$750 threshold) The unauthorized taking of the property of another person or organization, including motor vehicles, valued at \$750 or more, without threat, violence, or bodily harm. Incidents that fall below the \$750 threshold are not reportable in SESIR, but instead should be reported as locally-defined incidents according to district policies. Thefts of property of any value that involve a use of force, violence, assault, or putting the victim in fear must be reported as Robbery.

L. Harassment (HAR) - Level IV

(one-time, insulting behaviors) Any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal, or physical conduct that places a student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property, has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school including any course of conduct directed at a specific person that causes substantial emotional distress in such a person and serves no legitimate purpose. Instances of Harassment that are chronic or repeated in nature should be evaluated for Bullying or Bullying-related.

M. Hazing (HAZ) - Level III

Any action or situation that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student at a school with any of grades 6 through 12 for purposes of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any school-sanctioned organization. "Hazing" includes, but is not limited to: (a) pressuring, coercing, or forcing a student to participate in illegal or dangerous behavior, or (b) any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, or exposure to the elements.

N. Homicide (HOM) - Level I

(murder, manslaughter) The unjustified killing of one human being by another.

O. Kidnapping (KID) - Level I

(abduction of an individual) Forcibly, secretly, or by threat, confining, abducting, or imprisoning another person against their will and without lawful authority.

P. Other Major (OMC) - Level III

(major incidents that do not fit within the other definitions) Any serious, harmful incident resulting in the need for law enforcement consultation not previously classified. This includes any drug or weapon found unattended and not linked to any individual; such incidents must be coded with the appropriate Related element (such as Drug-related or Weapon-related) and incident involvement must be reported as unknown.

Q. Robbery (ROB) - Level II

(using force to take something from another) The taking or attempted taking of money or other property from the person or custody of another with the intent to permanently or temporarily deprive the person or owner of the money or other property under the confrontational circumstances of force, or threat of force or violence, and/or by putting the victim in fear. A key difference in Grand Theft and Robbery is that Robbery involves violence, a threat of violence or assault, and putting the victim in fear.

R. Sexual Assault (SXA) - Level II

An incident that includes fondling, indecent liberties, child molestation, or threatened rape. Both males and females can be victims of sexual assault.

S. Sexual Battery (Rape) (SXB) - Level I

(attempted or actual) Forced or attempted oral, anal, or vaginal penetration by using a sexual organ or an object simulating a sexual organ, or the anal or vaginal penetration of another by any body part or foreign object. Both males and females can be victims of sexual battery.

T. Sexual Harassment (SXH) - Level III

(undesired sexual behavior) Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, such as sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Harassing conduct can include verbal or nonverbal actions, including graphic and written statements, and may include statements made through computers, cellphones, and other devices connected to the Internet. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.

U. Sexual Offenses (Other) (SXO) - Level III

(lewdness, indecent exposure) Other sexual contact, including intercourse, without force or threat of force. Subjecting an individual to lewd sexual gestures, sexual activity, or exposing private body parts in a lewd manner. (Law enforcement must be notified to investigate.)

V. Simple Battery (PHA) - Level II

An actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against his or her will, or the intentional causing of bodily harm to an individual.

W. Threat/Intimidation (TRE) - Level III

(instilling fear in others) An incident where there was no physical contact between the offender and victim, but the victim reasonably believed that physical harm could have occurred based on verbal or nonverbal communication by the offender. This includes nonverbal threats and verbal threats of physical harm which are made in person, electronically or through any other means.

X. Tobacco (TBC) - Level IV

(cigarettes or other forms of tobacco/nicotine) The possession, sale, purchase, distribution, or use of tobacco or nicotine products on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, or on school transportation by any person under the age of 21. Tobacco incidents cannot be Drug-related.

Y. Trespassing (TRS) - Level III

(illegal entry onto campus) To enter or remain on school grounds/campus, school transportation, or at a school-sponsored event/off campus, without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry. Only incidents involving a student currently under suspension or expulsion, or incidents where any offender (student or non-student) was previously issued an official trespass warning by school officials, or where any offender was arrested for trespass are required to be reported in SESIR. Trespass incidents that did not have a prior official warning, did not result in arrest, or did not involve students under suspension or expulsion should be reported as locally defined incidents according to district policies.

Z. Weapons Possession (WPO) - Level II

(possession of firearms and other instruments which can cause harm) Possession of a firearm or any instrument or object as defined by s. 790.001(6) and (13), F.S., that can inflict serious harm on another person or that can place a person in reasonable fear of serious harm.

III. Specific Acts of Misconduct That Require Specific Consequences

The following acts require specific consequences:

A. Tobacco, Nicotine and Vaping

Use of tobacco, nicotine and vaping products, as well as tobacco-related devices at school, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

1. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, use of tobacco, nicotine and vaping products shall mean all uses of tobacco, including cigars, cigarettes, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other matter or substances that contain tobacco, nicotine or vaping substance as well as any uses of electronic cigarette/cigar, vaping devices or any other product designed to imitate any of the products mentioned herein regardless of whether it contains tobacco, nicotine or vaping substance.

Use of tobacco, nicotine and vaping products shall not include use of nicotine patches or nicotine gum for their intended purposes, so long as Florida law does not prohibit the student, based upon the student's age, from possessing nicotine patches or nicotine gum.

2. Consequences for Violation

If a student is found to be using any form of tobacco, nicotine or vaping product, including use of any lit or unlit product or device, at school, at any school-sponsored activity, during school-sponsored transportation, or at a bus stop, the student will receive educational interventions, opportunities for diversion programs, along with progressive consequences for each offense.

The student must complete all components of the programs outlined in each offense level below in order to satisfactorily meet the requirements described. However, any therapeutic or educational interventions described herein can be made available to students and families, as needed, at any time during this process.

a. Elementary School Students

First Offense: The student shall be issued a one-day in-school suspension (ISS) and be referred to the student services team.

Second Offense: The student shall be issued a two-day in-school suspension (ISS), or after consultation with the area superintendent/chief, a one-day out-of-school suspension with a reintegration process conducted by school staff. The student, with consent of a parent, will also be assigned to complete an online intervention program to be signed off or acknowledged by a parent when completed.

Third Offense: After consultation with the area superintendent/chief, the student shall be issued a one- or two-day out-of-school suspension (OSS) with a reintegration process conducted by school staff. The student will also be assigned an afterschool tobacco/vaping cessation class. Parents must register their student for the class and are encouraged to attend with the student.

b. Middle School and High School Students

First Offense: The student shall be issued school-based consequences (i.e. in-school suspension (ISS), work detail, detention) and complete an online intervention program to be signed off or acknowledged by a parent when completed.

Second Offense: The student shall be issued a one-day out-of-school suspension (OSS) with a reintegration process conducted by school staff. The student will also be assigned to an after-school tobacco/vaping cessation class. Parents must register the student for the class and are encouraged to attend with the student.

Third Offense: The student shall be issued a two-day out-of-school suspension (OSS) with a reintegration process conducted by school staff. The student will also be assigned to complete a mandatory FACE IT (Families Acting Collaboratively to Educate and Involve Teens) program or another district educational program with the parent.

Failure to abide by the progressive steps, as outlined above, or continual offenses may result in additional consequences. Consequences may range from suspension or reassignment to additional tobacco/vaping cessation curriculum and/or possible referral to an outside agency for therapeutic intervention.

B. Illegal Drugs, Alcoholic Beverages, Harmful, and Other Substances

1. Definitions

As used in this policy, *illegal drugs* include:

- a. Any drug that is illegal under Florida law such as marijuana, cocaine, and heroin as well as prescription drugs for which a student does not have a valid prescription, and
- b. Any illegal or legal substances that may be used as an intoxicant, hallucinogen, mind-altering agent, or may be used for any other unsafe purpose. Examples include, but are not limited to, inhalants, bath salts, and spice cannabinoid (JWH-028). This includes over-the-counter medications not outlined in Florida law for students to carry and/or self-administer, or for any misuse of allowable self-cary medication, and
- c. Any prescription drug that is not used as prescribed or that is in the possession of someone whose name is not on the prescription. This means that a student may not give their prescription medication to anyone else, and
- d. Controlled substances found in the possession of a minor that are only available for purchase by individuals of certain legal ages of majority, and
- e. Any substance that a student possesses, sells or distributes that they represent to be an illegal drug (i.e. fake drug).

2. Possession or Use of Illegal Drugs or Alcohol

a. Possession or Use

A student may not possess, use, or be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity (including a field trip), during school-sponsored transportation, or at a bus stop.

b. Possession Based Upon Knowledge

If a student arrives at school or at a school-sponsored activity in a car that contains illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages, and the principal believes there is evidence that the student knew about the illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages, then the student will be considered as being in possession of the illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages.

If a student is at a school-sponsored activity where there are illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages in a specific area, then the student may be considered in the possession of the illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages, if the principal believes the evidence shows that the student knew about the illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages. If the student is at school or a school-sponsored activity and becomes aware that another student has an illegal substance, the student is expected to alert school staff or a chaperone immediately.

3. Purchase, Sale and Distribution

A student may not sell, purchase, or distribute illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages. The term “distribute” includes a student bringing an illegal drug or alcoholic beverage to a school, school-sponsored activity, or on school-sponsored transportation, to be used or consumed with other students. Additionally, a student may not be involved in negotiating the sale or purchase of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages at school, at a school-sponsored activity, or on school-sponsored transportation, even if the sale/purchase does not actually take place. The consequence for purchase, sale or distribution of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages is reassignment.

4. Consequences for Violation

a. Elementary School Students

If a student in elementary school violates this policy, after consultation with the area superintendent/chief, the principal will discipline the student as described herein. In-school or out-of-school suspensions for these offenses will not exceed three days. If the student’s parent agrees that the student will complete a district-approved drug or alcohol educational program, the student’s suspension may be reduced. The program coordinator must provide proof that the student successfully completed the educational program within the allocated period of time.

b. Middle School and High School Students

If a student in middle school or high school violates this policy, and was not selling, purchasing, distributing, or intending to sell or distribute illegal substances and was not charged with a felony during the incident, the student will be assigned progressive consequences for each offense as described herein.

First Offense: The student shall be issued a one- or two-day OSS with a reintegration process conducted by school staff. The student will be assigned to complete a mandatory FACE IT (Families Acting Collaboratively to Educate and Involve Teens) program facilitated by certified instructional, student services and contracted services personnel. The program coordinator shall monitor and verify that the student completed the program.

Second Offense: The student shall be issued a three-day OSS with a reintegration process conducted by school staff. The student will complete a mandatory district-approved community partnership program. Parents must register the student for the class and are encouraged to attend with the student. The district substance abuse case manager shall monitor and verify that the student completed the program.

Students who continue to violate this policy and/or fail to take advantage of and successfully complete the district-approved drug/alcohol programs, may be reassigned to an educational alternative services program, after consultation with the area superintendent/chief.

5. Waiver of the Discipline

Any student who is subject to discipline or expulsion for unlawful possession or use of any substance controlled under Chapter 893, F.S., may be entitled to a waiver of the discipline or expulsion as described herein.

If the student divulges information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person who supplied such controlled substance, or if the student voluntarily discloses their unlawful possession of such controlled substance prior to their arrest. Any information divulged which leads to such arrest and conviction is not admissible in evidence in a subsequent criminal trial against the student divulging such information.

C. Firearm (Gun), Weapon, Threat or False Report

In accordance with s. 1006.13, F.S., students found to have committed one of the following offenses will be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than one full year, and referred to the criminal justice or juvenile justice system. Criminal penalties may be imposed as determined by law enforcement agencies. Additionally, the school-based threat management process, district threat management team process, or both will be conducted.

1. Firearm/Gun

Any student who brings a gun to school, to any school-sponsored activity, or on any school-sponsored transportation, or any student who possesses or exhibits a gun at school, at any school-sponsored activity, or on any school-sponsored transportation, shall be suspended for no more than three consecutive days for one offense and recommended for expulsion. Guns shall mean firearms as defined by Chapter 790, F.S., and include any object which will or is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.

2. Weapons

Any student who brings a weapon to school, to any school-sponsored activity, or on any school-sponsored transportation, or any student who possesses or exhibits a weapon at school, at any school-sponsored activity, or on any school-sponsored transportation, shall be suspended for no more than three consecutive days for one offense and recommended for expulsion. Weapons are defined by Chapter 790, F.S., as any dirk, knife, metallic knuckles, slingshot, billie, tear gas gun, chemical weapon or device, or other deadly weapon, other than a common pocketknife (foldable knife with a blade of four inches or less, and is considered a dangerous object), plastic knives, or blunt bladed table knives.

3. Threat or False Report

Any student who makes a threat or false report as defined by s. 790.162, 790.163, and 836.10, F.S., involving school or school personnel's property, school-sponsored transportation, or a school-sponsored activity, will be suspended for no more than three consecutive days for one offense and recommended for expulsion. Threats may include but are not limited to: bomb threats, threats to use firearms in a violent manner, threats to kill or do bodily injury, and/or threats to conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism. In addition, if a student makes a statement or posts statements on social media alluding to the student bringing a firearm or other weapon to school, to any school-sponsored activity, or on school-sponsored transportation even if the student does not actually bring the firearm or weapon, the student will be presumed to cause a disruptive environment which will lead to disciplinary action. Criminal penalties may be imposed as determined by law enforcement agencies.

4. Possession by Knowledge

If a student is at any school-sponsored activity where there is a gun or weapon, they may be considered to be in possession of the gun or weapon, if the principal believes the evidence shows that the student knew about the gun

or weapon and chose to remain in the specific area where the gun or weapon is located. The student is expected to alert school staff or a chaperone immediately.

If a secondary student arrives at school or any school-sponsored activity in a car that contains a gun or weapon, and the principal believes there is evidence that the student knew about the gun or weapon, then they will be considered to be in possession of the gun or weapon.

5. Exception

The principal may give a student written permission to possess a gun or weapon while on campus or at a school-sponsored activity when the gun or weapon is part of the curriculum of the school. An example of this is when a gun or rifle may be part of JROTC drill and firing ranges.

D. Dangerous Objects:

A student shall not possess, handle, or transport dangerous objects at any school, to any school-sponsored activity, or on any school-sponsored transportation. Dangerous objects include, but are not limited to, common pocketknives with a blade of four inches or less, ice picks, razor blades, box cutters, air guns, bb guns, pellet guns, electric weapons such as a taser, or spring guns of any sort (whether operable or inoperable). This offense may include, but is not limited to, lighters, concealed self-defense chemical spray containing 2 ounces or less that is not used or threatened to be used. For the purposes of this policy, a dangerous object does not include instruments used during school for school projects, such as scissors or cutting instruments during an art class.

Any student who brings or possesses a dangerous object at school, at any school-sponsored activity, or on any school-sponsored transportation with use or threatened use in an offensive or defensive manner, will be suspended either in-school or out of school for no more than three consecutive days and recommended for reassignment or expulsion, and the school-based threat management process, district threat management process, or both will be conducted.

Any student who brings or possesses a dangerous object at school, at any school-sponsored activity, or on any school-sponsored transportation, without the use or threatened use in an offensive or defensive manner, is guilty of a serious breach of conduct and that student may be suspended either in-school or out of school for no more than three consecutive days for one offense and recommended for reassignment, and the school-based threat management process, district threat management process, or both will be conducted.

E. Computer Crimes

Computer crimes consist of the act of accessing or causing to be accessed any school or district computer, computer system, computer network or electronic device (referred to herein as computer system) with knowledge that such access is not authorized or the manner of use exceeds authorization and includes the purposeful introduction of any virus or computer or the manner of use exceeds authorization and includes the purposeful introduction of any virus or computer contaminant into the computer system. Any computer crime that threatens to harm or destroys, injures or damages Board computer systems is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and will result in suspension, reassignment or recommendation for expulsion. Criminal penalties may also be imposed as determined by law enforcement agencies.

F. Felony Arrest and Convictions for Off-Campus Conduct (Policy 5500.08)

1. Notice of Felony Arrest and Meeting

If a student is arrested for committing a felony offense or a delinquent act that would be a felony if the student were an adult, the student may be administratively placed in an alternative educational setting. The principal will call the parent to notify them that the principal has received notice that the student has been arrested for a felony allegedly committed off campus. The principal will send the parent a written notification informing the parent of the information received by the school about the arrest and advise the parent that they have the opportunity to meet with the principal to discuss the administrative placement. Upon receipt of the written communication, the parent must call the principal to schedule the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is for the principal to determine whether the student's presence at school will have an adverse impact on the school.

If the principal determines that the student's presence at school will have an adverse impact on the school due to the pending felony arrest, the student will be administratively placed in an alternative educational setting pending the outcome of the criminal arrest. If the student is found guilty or otherwise enters a diversion program, the student may be expelled or placed in an appropriate alternative setting to be determined in consultation with the District Threat Management Team.

Cell Phones And Other Wireless Communication Devices (Policy 5500.10)

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

On July 1, 2025, Florida House Bill 1105, including new provisions regarding student use of cell phones and other wireless communication devices in schools, became law. As a result, Pinellas County Schools will implement the following new rules in the 2025-26 school year, and these rules will supersede the current policy.

Elementary & Middle Schools

- Students may not use of cell phones or other wireless communication devices during the school day (bell to bell).
- Teachers no longer have the discretion to allow usage during instructional time for educational purposes.

High Schools

- No changes to current policy because the new law did not impact high school students.

These updates do not change existing provisions allowing for use pursuant to a student's IEP, 504 Plan, or Health Care/Medical Plan, or in case of emergency.

The Code of Student Conduct will be formally updated to reflect this and other new laws during the first semester of the 2025-26 school year.

Pinellas County Schools recognizes the ever-increasing importance of technology in students' lives and the beneficial role it can play for student education and communication when used responsibly. The possession and use of such devices should not interfere with academic instruction, student safety or a positive school climate.

Advances in student technology, including wireless communication devices, smart glasses, and other wearable recording devices, present unique challenges involving distraction, unauthorized recording, privacy, classroom management, and test security. This policy establishes rules governing student possession, use and storage of such devices while at school, during school-sponsored transportation and during school-sponsored activities.

Parents are advised that the best way to get in touch with their child during the school day is by calling the child's school office.

This policy addresses wireless communication devices and wearable recording devices separately. While wearable recording devices may also be wireless communication devices, wearable recording devices are governed by the rules in section II below. The rules in section III below apply to all other wireless communication devices.

I. Definitions

As used herein, the terms below are defined as follows:

"Wireless communication devices" means any non-district-issued electronic device capable of sending, receiving, accessing, storing, reproducing, or transmitting voice, text, images, video, data, or other communications without a cable connection, which may include, but are not limited to, cell phones, headphones, earbuds, tablets, and smartwatches.

"Wearable recording devices" means any non-district-issued device designed to be worn on the head, face, body, or clothing. This term includes any wearable or body-mounted technology capable of recording, transmitting, or storing audio, video, images, or communications, regardless of whether the device resembles traditional eyewear. This term includes, but is not limited to, smart glasses, augmented reality eyewear, camera-equipped eyewear, and similar emerging technologies.

Wearable recording devices may or may not be wireless communication devices.

"Off position" means powered completely off, and is not simply set on a vibrate, silent, standby, hibernation or airplane mode.

"Silent mode" means no audible alerts or vibrations.

"Instructional school day" is the time of day within the bell times approved by the School Board for that school.

II. Wearable Recording Devices

Wearable recording devices are prohibited from being used in any manner at school, during school-sponsored transportation and during school-sponsored activities and must be in the off position at all times and must be stored in a non-visible secure location, such as the student's locker, backpack, purse or pocket.

III. Wireless Communication Devices

A. Authorized Possession and Use of Wireless Communication Devices

All students may possess a wireless communication device at school, during a school-sponsored activity, and during school-sponsored transportation subject to the restrictions set forth in this policy and applicable law. However, students may not use a wireless communications device during instructional time, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes. A teacher shall designate an area for wireless communications devices during instructional time, in accordance with s. 1006.07, F.S. For purposes of this policy, the designated area is a non-visible secure location, such as the student's locker, backpack, purse or pocket.

Student use of wireless communication devices is governed by the grade level restrictions set forth and may not be expanded by individual classroom discretion except where expressly permitted for high school instructional use.

Pursuant to Florida law, student use of wireless communication devices shall be governed as follows:

1. Elementary School Students

Elementary school students must keep wireless communication devices in the off position throughout the instructional school day (bell to bell), and while participating in a school-sponsored activity on or off campus, unless otherwise directed by a teacher. Students are permitted to use their wireless communication devices after the end of the instructional school day, if needed to communicate with parents regarding the coordination of transportation or other logistics.

Headphones and earbuds are not permitted during the instructional school day or while participating in a school-sponsored activity on or off campus, unless otherwise directed by a teacher. When permitted, after the end of the instructional school day, headphones and earbuds are restricted to minimal volume, only to be heard by its user. Due to school safety concerns, one ear must remain free of the accessory at all times during authorized use.

2. Middle School Students

Middle school students must keep wireless communication devices in the off position throughout the instructional school day (bell to bell), and while participating in a school-sponsored activity on or off campus. Students are permitted to use their wireless communication devices before and after the instructional school day.

Headphones and earbuds are not permitted during the instructional school day or while participating in a school-sponsored activity on or off campus, unless otherwise directed by a teacher. When permitted, before and after the instructional school day, all headphones and earbuds are restricted to minimal volume, only to be heard by its user. Due to school safety concerns, one ear must remain free of the accessory at all times during authorized use.

3. High School Students

High school students must keep wireless communication devices in the silent mode or off position during instructional time within all class periods.

Students may only use a wireless communication devices:

- a. before school,
- b. after school,
- c. during lunch, and
- d. while transitioning between classes.

Use during instructional time is prohibited unless expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes.

A teacher shall designate an area for wireless communications devices during instructional time, in accordance with s. 1006.07, F.S. For purposes of this policy, the designated area is a non-visible secure location, such as the student's locker, backpack, purse or pocket.

All headphones and earbuds are restricted to use before and after the instructional school day and during lunch. When permitted, all headphones and earbuds are restricted to minimal volume, only to be heard by its user. Due to school safety concerns, one ear must remain free of the accessory at all times during authorized use.

IV. Exceptions

Wireless communication devices are permissible in the following circumstances:

- A. Smartwatches: The district recognizes that some parents will provide their student with smartwatches for a variety of reasons.. All of the rules applicable to wireless communication devices apply to smartwatches; however, students are permitted to wear smartwatches for the purposes of telling time and location tracking only.

Smartwatches may not be worn during district and state assessments.

The Unauthorized Use of Cell Phones and Other Wireless Communication Devices section applies to the misuse of smartwatches.

- B. A student may possess, wear, or use a device otherwise regulated by this policy when such use is:
1. expressly authorized by an Individual Education Plan (IEP);
 2. expressly authorized by a Section 504 plan;
 3. supported by a written physician certification or Health Care/Medical Plan consistent with applicable law; or
 4. expressly approved by the district for assistive technology, health monitoring, safety, or another documented educational or medical purpose.

Any approved use must be limited to the documented purpose and implemented in a manner that protects the privacy and safety of other students and staff to the greatest extent practicable. Nothing in this policy prohibits device use required by an Individual Education Plan (IEP), Section 504 Plan, Health Care/Medical Plan, or in the event of an emergency, as required by law.

District-issued technology approved and supervised by school personnel is not prohibited by this policy.

V. Unauthorized Use of Wireless Communication Devices and Wearable Recording Devices

A student's possession, display or use of wireless communication devices and wearable recording devices on school property contrary to the provisions of this policy shall be viewed as the unauthorized use of such devices when such possession, display or use of such devices results in conduct that includes, but is not limited to:

1. Interference with or disruption of the instructional or educational environment within the classrooms or the school.
2. Use which violates academic integrity, as the reproduction of images of tests, communication of test or examination contents or answers, to provide access to unauthorized school information, or assistance to students in any aspect of their instructional program in a manner that violates school board policy or the Student Code of Conduct.
3. During district and state assessments, students may not wear, possess in a reachable location, activate, use, or access any wireless communication device, smart glasses, or wearable recording device except as expressly permitted for an approved accommodation or as otherwise authorized under state testing rules.

Any violation may be treated as a testing irregularity and may result in confiscation of the device, invalidation of the student's assessment, and disciplinary consequences under the Code of Student Conduct. Florida's test-security statute prohibits knowingly and willfully violating test-security rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

4. Use in locker rooms, restrooms, swimming areas, and any other location where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy.
5. Such devices may not be utilized to take photographs, videos or audio recordings while at school, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation without prior consent..
6. Use to commit a crime, under federal or state law including but not limited to cyberbullying, sexual harassment or threats.
7. Use in a manner that is profane, indecent, obscene, threatening, discriminatory, bullying or harassing language, pictures or gestures.

C. Responsibility/Liability for Wireless Communications Devices and Wearable Recording Devices

Any student who chooses to bring a wireless communication device or wearable recording device to school shall do so at their own risk and shall be personally responsible for the security of their device(s). School Board staff are not responsible for preventing theft, loss, damage, or vandalism to wireless devices brought onto school property, or left on school-sponsored transportation, including any device(s) confiscated due to inappropriate use

F.S. 1001.41, 1001.42, 1001.43, 1003.31, 1006.07, 1006.08, 1006.09, 1006.13