2026-2027

STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK (6-12)

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BRODHEADSVILLE, PA 18322

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION: A COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

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District Contact Information

Pleasant Valley District Office

2233 Route 115, Suite 100 Brodheadsville, PA 18322	570-402-1000 ext. 1199
Superintendent of Schools:	Dr. James Konrad
Assistant Superintendent:	Dr. Rae Lin Howard
Director of Human Resources:	Ms. Lori Fulmer
Business Manager:	Mrs. Tammy Smale
Director of Operations:	Mr. Randy Smale
Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction:	Ms. Bernadette Fierro
Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction:	Dr. Jonathan Ayre
Director of Instructional Technology and Innovation:	Mr. Jason Van Voorhis
District Technology Coordinator:	Mr. Chuck Tomori
Director of Special Education:	Mrs. Christine Deutsch
Assistant Director of Special Education:	Mr. Bron Leupold
Supervisor of Special Education	Mr. Mike Slesinski
Supervisor of Special Education	Mrs. Daria Kleintop
District Registration Office:	Mrs. Jodi Swanson 570-402-1000 x 8010
District Transportation Liaison:	Mrs. Deena Boyne 570-402-1000 x 1279

Pleasant Valley Middle School (Grades 6-8)

2233 Route 115 Brodheadsville, PA 18322	570-402-1000 ext. 2001
PVM Administration	
Principal	Mr. Tim McCutchan
Assistant Principal	Mrs. Josephine Fields
Assistant Principal	Mr. Ramón Rodriguez

Dean of Students	Mr. Christopher Chandler
MS Athletic Coordinator	Ms. Nadia Gauronsky
School Counselors	570-402-1000 ext. 2011
Grade 6:	Mrs. Sarah Rodvelt
Grade 7:	Mrs. Sherri Fallon
Grade 8:	Mrs. Cathleen Schultz
Health Office	570-402-1000 ext. 2061
School Nurse	Mrs. Amy Krasniqi
Attendance Office	570-402-1000 ext. 2018 pvmsattendance@pvbears.org

Pleasant Valley High School (Grades 9-12)

1671 Route 209
Brodheadsville, PA 18322

570-402-1000 ext. 4001

PVH Administration	
Principal:	Mr. Brian Boylan
Assistant Principal:	Ms. Amber Chiafulio
Assistant Principal:	Mr. Matt Martino
Assistant Principal:	Dr. Zachary McMichael
School Counselors:	570-402-1000 ext. 4011
Letters A - Dir:	Ms. Cevrina Vazquez
Letters Dis - Kur:	Ms. Kristen Stanchina
Letters Kus – Rice:	Ms. Carley Hartzell
Letters Rich – Z:	Ms. Payton Storms
MCTI Students:	Mr. Brian Morgan
Health Office:	570-402-1000 ext. 4061
School Nurse:	Ms. Rachel Borger
Attendance Office:	570-402-1000 ext. 4018 pvhsattendance@pvbears.org
Athletic Office	570-402-1000 ext. 4100
Director of Athletics	Mr. James Korcienski
High School Athletic Coordinator	Mr. Timothy Hinton

Introduction

On behalf of Pleasant Valley Middle School and Pleasant Valley High School, we're thrilled to partner with you for the 2026-2027 school year. This handbook is your essential guide to our schools, providing important information about policies, procedures, and programs for students in grades 6-12.

We believe a strong partnership between home and school is key to a child's success. This handbook aims to be a valuable resource, helping you understand daily operations, academic expectations, and support services available to your child. We encourage you to read it thoroughly and keep it handy throughout the school year.

Together, we can foster an environment of "Excellence in Education: A Community Commitment" for every student.

General Information

District Calendar

The Pleasant Valley School District calendar is available online and is sent home with students at the start of the school year. This calendar contains the dates of important district-wide functions and general information for parents/guardians and community members. The district calendar also includes the days that are designated as “snow make-up days” when school is canceled due to inclement weather. The district plans to utilize remote instructional days as a method to provide continuity of education. These days will be announced as they are determined.

PowerSchool

PowerSchool is your primary source for your child's academic information, including grades, attendance, and emergency contacts. You must update your child's parent and emergency contact information annually through the Parent Portal. If any changes occur during the year, please inform the school immediately. Visit our website for instructions on creating a Parent Portal account if you haven't already

Equal Rights and Opportunity Policy

Pleasant Valley School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin/ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion in its admissions, educational programs, activities, or employment policies. Publication of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws including the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title VI, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of l973. Requests for information regarding services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities, in addition to all other

inquiries, should be directed to the Director of Human Resources. This individual serves as Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator and is located in the Pleasant Valley District Administration Building, Route 115, Brodheadsville, Pennsylvania, 18322. (570) 402-1000, ext. 1209.

School Hours and Daily Schedules

Pleasant Valley School District

Teacher & Student Arrival, Start, and Dismissal Times

2026 – 2027

REGULAR SCHOOL DAY:	PVE	PVI	PVM	PVH
Teacher Arrival	8:30 AM	8:15 AM	7:05 AM	6:55 AM
Student Arrival	9:00 AM	8:45 AM	7:30 AM	7:15 AM
Class Start Time	9:10 AM	8:55 AM	7:40 AM	7:30 AM
Student Dismissal	3:45 PM	3:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:20 PM
Teacher Dismissal	4:00 PM	3:45 PM	2:35 PM	2:25 PM

* 3 SCHEDULED HALF DAYS: 11/20/26, 12/23/26, 3/24/27	PVE	PVI	PVM	PVH
Teacher Arrival	8:30 AM	8:15 AM	7:05 AM	6:55 AM
Student Arrival	9:00 AM	8:45 AM	7:30 AM	7:15 AM
Class Start Time	9:10 AM	8:55 AM	7:40 AM	7:30 AM
Student Dismissal	11:50 AM	11:40 AM	10:40 AM	10:30 AM
Teacher Dismissal	12:15 PM	12:00 PM	10:50 AM	10:40 AM

PVM School Hours

- Pleasant Valley Middle School students are expected to report to school no later than 7:40 AM. Tardy students must report directly to the main office to sign in. Students who do not sign in will be considered absent for the day.
- Middle School students participating in athletics and activities must arrive at school by 9:40 AM to be eligible to participate in after-school athletics and/or activities for the day.

PVM Daily Schedule

PVM Daily Bell Schedule Students can enter the building at 7:30 AM		
Period	**Begin**	**End**
Student Arrival & Breakfast	7:30 AM	7:40 AM
Homeroom/Period 1	7:40 AM	8:33 AM
Period 2	8:36 AM	9:24 AM
Period 3	9:27 AM	10:15 AM
Period 4	10:18 AM	11:06 AM 6th Grade Lunch (10:31AM-11:06 AM)
Period 5	11:09 AM	11:57 AM 7th Grade Lunch (11:22 AM-11:57 AM)
Period 6	12:00 PM	12:48 PM 8th Grade Lunch (12:13 PM- 12:48 PM)
Period 7	12:51 PM	1:39 PM
Period 8	1:42 PM	2:30 PM

PVH School Hours

- Pleasant Valley High School students are expected to report to period 1 by 7:30 AM. Any student reporting after 7:30 AM must report directly to the designated attendance area (to be determined each year) to sign in. Students that are not in their period 1 class by 7:30 AM are considered late to school.
- Students participating in athletics and activities must arrive at school by 9:30 AM to be eligible to participate that day.

PVH Daily Schedule

PVH Daily Bell Schedule Students can enter the building at 7:15 AM		
Period	**Begin**	**End**
Student Arrival & Breakfast	7:15 AM	7:30 AM
Period 1	7:30 AM	8:21 AM
Period 2	8:26 AM	9:12 AM
Period 3	9:17 AM	10:03 AM
Period 4	10:08 AM	10:54 AM
Period 5	10:59 AM	12:37 PM (with lunch)
Period 6	12:42 PM	1:28 PM
Period 7	1:33 PM	2:20 PM

Virtual Days

Flexible Instructional Days may be called throughout the year. If a Flexible Instructional Day is used, students are expected to participate in flexible learning that day. Guidance will be provided to families via district communication whether school will be closed or if a Flexible Instructional Day will be used. We identify them as Flexible Instructional Days (F.I.D.). All days classified as F.I.D. will run on a one-hour delay schedule.

Student Expectations for Virtual Days

- Find a quiet and calm space.
- Be prepared with all necessary materials.
- Be on time or early for your Google Meet.
- Mute yourself as you come into the Google Meet and remain muted unless otherwise instructed.
- Turn your camera on - this is a PVSD requirement for taking attendance. If your camera is giving you trouble, make sure you put in a technology ticket so the tech department can help you fix it.
- Be appropriate when typing in the comments.
- Be respectful.
- Take care of your electronic devices.
- Code of Conduct will be in effect for behavior purposes.
- Dress and Grooming Guidelines will apply.
- Follow the PBIS expectations.

Note: PBIS is Positive Behavior Support and Intervention. See page19 for more information

PVM Virtual Schedule

PVMS VIRTUAL SCHEDULE		
Period	**Time**	**Transition**
TEACHER PREP	**7:05 am - 8:05 am**	
1	8:05-8:42 am **Student Start of Day**	5Minutes
2	8:47-9:24 am	5Minutes
3	9:29-10:06 am	5Minutes
4	10:11-10:48 am	5Minutes
5	10:53-11:30 am	5 Minutes
6	11:35-12:12 pm	5Minutes
7	12:17-12:54 pm	5 Minutes
8	12:59-1:36 pm	5Minutes
Open Virtual Meeting time with students or parents / Virtual Non-instructional Staff PD	**1:36 - 2:35 pm**	

PVH Virtual Schedule

2026 – 2027 PVHS VIRTUAL SCHEDULE		
Period	**Time**	**Transition**
PREP	**6:55 - 7:55**	
1	7:55 - 8:32 **Student Start of Day**	5 Minutes
2	8:37 - 9:14	5 Minutes
3	9:19 – 9:56	5 Minutes
4	10:01 - 10:38	5 minutes
LUNCH	**10:43 - 11:13**	5 Minutes
5	11:18 - 11:55	5 Minutes
6	12:00 - 12:37	5 Minutes
7	12:42 - 1:19	
Open Virtual Meeting time with students or parents / Virtual Non-instructional Staff PD	**1:19 - 2:25**	

Unscheduled School Closings/Early Dismissal/Delayed School Opening

Unfavorable weather conditions or other emergencies require school closings, early dismissals, or delayed openings periodically throughout the school year. Information will be announced by local television and radio stations, the district website (www.pvbears.org), social media, and an automated call to all families of students attending Pleasant Valley School District. Please make sure that your correct contact information is up to date in PowerSchool so you are receiving automated calls at the appropriate phone number(s).

Parents/Guardians should always prepare for the possibility of school closings that may occur during the school day. Please ensure your child has an early dismissal plan. Your child may need to go home if an emergency develops at school. School days lost for such reasons will be made up according to the school calendar, as decided by the Board of Education.

Weather-Related Closures & Delays

Every decision we make during severe weather prioritizes student and staff safety. When evaluating potential delays or closures, we look far beyond just snow on the ground and assess several critical factors:

- **Road Conditions:** Our team begins checking our 110-square-mile district as early as 3:00 AM, focusing on rural routes and steep hills.
- **Student & Family Safety:** We consider the risks for children waiting at bus stops, teen drivers navigating icy patches, and whether families will be home to receive students during an early dismissal.
- **Facility Readiness:** We ensure our buildings are warm and that parking lots and sidewalks are safely cleared and salted.
- **Extreme Cold Risks:** We monitor for dangerous wind chills (exceeding -20°F) that cause frostbite, as well as sub-zero temperatures that can cause our diesel buses to stall.

When & How We Will Notify You

We understand that schedule changes disrupt your workday and childcare routines. We prioritize making decisions as early as possible—sometimes the night before, but generally with a goal to notify you by **5:30 AM**.

Once a decision is made, we will immediately alert you through:

- **Phone Calls:** PowerSchool's School Messenger (our fastest, primary method).
- **Online:** Our official website (www.pvbears.org) and social media pages.
- **Local Media:** Regional news and radio stations.

NOTE: High School Diversified Occupations Students: On days when the high school follows a condensed bell schedule (such as AM or PM Bear schedules, 2 hr delays, etc), students are **not permitted** to leave at their regular DO dismissal times. Please contact your employer in advance to inform them that you will be arriving late. This is the student's responsibility.

Programs and Procedures

Cafeteria Program

Pleasant Valley School District partners with Whitsons Culinary Group to provide healthy school meals. Healthy meals are crucial for student learning and knowledge retention.

Whitsons offers age-appropriate lunch menu options, with more choices for older students as they learn to make healthier decisions. Special dietary needs can be accommodated; please contact the school nurse or cafeteria staff.

Cost of Meals

For the 2026-2027 school year, breakfast and lunch are free for all students. Prices below reflect the cost of a second meal.

Secondary Buildings - Cost for Breakfast

- 1st Breakfast Meal - Free
- 2nd Meal - $1.60
- Milk Only -$0.75

Secondary Buildings - Cost for Lunch

- 1st Lunch Meal - Free
- 2nd Meal - $2.95
- Milk Only -$0.75

- Monthly menus are included in the monthly newsletter and can be accessed on the school district website at https://www.fdmealplanner.com/.
- Parents/guardians can monitor their child's lunch account and make online payments via the school district website.
- Free and Reduced Meals: Under the federally funded National School Lunch Program, free and reduced breakfast and lunches are available for qualifying students. You can apply, submit, and track your application status through the SchoolCafe website at https://www.schoolcafe.com/. You can also manage balances, make payments, view purchase history, and receive low balance alerts.
- NOTE: Students are not allowed to have any type of food delivered to the school from an outside party (Uber eats, door dash, etc) Food delivered to the school will be discarded upon arrival. If a parent drops off food, students will not be permitted to leave class to pick up food, the student must pick it up during lunch hours only.

Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance (Board Policy 807)

- It is every citizen's responsibility to show proper respect for his or her country and its flag. Students may decline to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and may refrain from saluting the flag, based on personal belief or religious convictions.

- Students who choose not to participate shall respect the rights of classmates who wish to participate.
- A student who chooses not to participate may either stand or sit, remaining respectfully silent.

Gift Buying (Board Policy 322)

- Pleasant Valley School District discourages staff members from receiving gifts from students.

Lost and Found

- A lost and found area is maintained in each school building. Please check regularly for lost items. Middle school's unclaimed items will be donated at the end of each marking period.

School Pictures

- Individual and/or group pictures are taken as a school service in the fall and spring. All students must be photographed for school district student IDs and for school safety. Purchase of these pictures is optional.

Distribution of Literature, Leaflets and Newspapers *(*Board Policy 220, 218)

Students have the right to express themselves unless such expression is likely to or does materially or substantially interfere with the educational process, including school activities, school work, or discipline and order on school property or at school-sponsored events; threatens serious harm to the school or community; encourages unlawful activity; or interferes with another's rights. Any printed material or expressive paraphernalia that students wish to distribute in schools must first be submitted to the principal of the school along with a plan of distribution.

Bulletin Boards / Student Posting Areas

All material to be posted on the Student Bulletin Board/Posting Area must attach the name of the student or student group sponsoring the material. The name of at least one person who can be contacted immediately must be included. Any school-sponsored or school-related student group wishing to post any material must submit such material to its faculty advisor, who shall approve its contents and facilitate its submission to the building principal or designee at least one (1) day prior to the requested date of posting. Identification of at least one (1) responsible person in such a student group will be required upon submission for approval. If the principal or designee, after reviewing such material, believes it contains prohibited matter, she/he shall notify the student group.

Military Access (Board Policy 250)

According to statute, military recruiters have access to students and to their names, addresses, and telephone numbers (if published). If you do not wish military recruiters to access your child's

information, please indicate in writing by completing the Parent Notification Form and returning it to the school by the due date.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a proactive, school-wide framework designed to create a safe, positive, and disciplined learning environment. Rather than focusing primarily on punishing misbehavior, PBIS explicitly teaches clear behavioral expectations and actively recognizes students for making responsible choices. By establishing consistent routines and a shared language across all areas of the school, this approach reduces classroom disruptions and supports positive personal growth. Ultimately, PBIS helps us foster a respectful school community where all students are engaged, accountable, and ready to achieve their highest academic potential.

School Bus Transportation

Our school district partners with First Student (570-402-2282) to provide safe and efficient school bus transportation. For questions or concerns, contact our district transportation liaison at 570-402-1000 X 1279.

The school bus is an extension of the classroom. Students are expected to maintain the same behavioral expectations on the bus as in school.

Student Expectations

1. Follow the bus driver's directions.
2. Sit safely in the seat with their back against the back of the seat.
3. Stay seated until the assigned stop.
4. Face the front of the bus.
5. Keep hands, feet, and all items within their personal space and inside the bus.
6. Keep the main aisle clear.
7. Maintain a quiet voice and use appropriate language.
8. No eating or drinking on the bus.
9. Follow the PBIS bus/parking expectations.

Video and Audio Recording: As per PVSD Board Policies No. 226.1 and No. 810.2, video and audio recording equipment is used on district-owned, operated, or contracted school buses/vehicles to maintain discipline and ensure safety. Audio recording is prohibited on buses not used for school-related purposes.

Bus Issues: If you have any issues with your student's bus or bus stop location, please complete the necessary forms via PowerSchool. Allow 72 hours for a response.

Our Commitment to Student Safety

The safety of our students is our highest priority, especially when they are traveling on our school buses. The Pleasant Valley School District is committed to providing a secure and reliable transportation service for all students. While we strive for a perfectly safe environment, we recognize that incidents can occasionally occur on school buses. Bus transportation is a "privilege, not a right,"and any misbehavior may result in the suspension or loss of riding privileges. We expect all students to adhere to our bus safety expectations. By making good decisions, we can maintain a safe school environment and positive learning experiences.

Implementation of Progressive Discipline

If a student cannot follow bus safety rules, "Progressive Discipline" WILL be implemented which may result in the temporary or permanent removal from school bus transportation during the academic year at the discretion of the Dean of Students and/or Building Administration.

Disruptive Behavior

- This includes, but is not limited to, excessive noise, cursing, yelling, throwing objects, playing music loudly, using speakerphone for calls, recording video, video calls, refusing to stay seated and/or remain in an assigned seat, and not exiting the bus safely.
- Students will typically receive a temporary removal from the privilege of riding the bus to and from school.
- Continuous acts of disruptive behavior will result in increased durations of school bus removal, ranging from a 1-day removal to a 3-day removal, or up to a 1-month removal.

Extreme Behavior

- This includes, but is not limited to, vandalism or damage to bus property, physical altercations, bullying, and the possession of prohibited or illegal items.
- Students will typically receive immediate removal from the privilege of riding the bus to and from school.
- Removal from the bus will include longer durations of time such as a quarter, a semester, or a full academic year.

A Request for Parental Cooperation

Parents and Guardians, we request the cooperation of all parents in helping us maintain a safe and orderly environment on our school buses. Your partnership is invaluable in reinforcing positive behavior and ensuring the well-being of all students. We ask that you:

- Please discuss the importance of bus safety rules with your children.

- Encourage your children to follow the bus driver, who is responsible for their safety.
- Review the consequences for infractions with your children to help them understand the importance of good behavior.
- If you have any concerns or observe any unsafe behavior, please contact the school administration or transportation department immediately.

By working together, we can ensure that our school buses remain a safe and secure mode of transportation for every student.

NOTE: Attention MCTI Students: Please remember that the buses to the Monroe Career and Technical Institute leave promptly at their scheduled times every day. It is your responsibility to be on the bus before it departs. If you do miss the bus, you must report directly to the main office immediately. Failing to report to the office after missing your bus will lead to disciplinary action, which may include suspension and a truancy report filed with MCTI.

Lockers (Board Policy 226)

School lockers will be provided to store coats, books and other school-related materials. All lockers are the property of the Pleasant Valley School District and students shall have no expectation of privacy concerning their lockers. School officials may inspect lockers at any time. Illegal material will be confiscated. Students are not to share a locker unless assigned by the office. Lockers are only provided for student use. Students are to keep their assigned lockers closed and locked against incursion by other students. The school accepts no responsibility if students give locker combinations to other students. No student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object which is prohibited by law or school district regulations or policies, or which constitutes a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself. The school assumes no responsibility for locker contents. All hall lockers have combinations and students are required to keep their combination a secret. Therefore, anything stolen from these lockers is the responsibility of the student and not of the school. Students with lockers in need of repair must fill out a locker repair request form in the office. The Board reserves the right to authorize its employees to inspect the student's locker at any time for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being improperly used for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal, or any material that is deemed to pose a hazard to the safety and good order of the schools. Signs are posted in locker areas to inform students of rules regarding locker privacy and searches.

Gym lockers are available for all students to use during their assigned gym classes. In cases where the locker has no built-in combination lock, students are responsible for providing locks to secure lockers during their gym class, as well as the removal of these locks at the conclusion of their daily Physical Education classes. All students will be provided with a gym locker to keep their belongings. Students are to keep their assigned lockers closed and locked against incursion by other students, but no student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object which is prohibited by law or school district regulations, or which constitutes a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself. All

lockers must be locked. Stolen property is, therefore, not the responsibility of the school but that of the student. The Board reserves a right to authorize its employees to inspect the student's locker at any time for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being improperly used for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal, or any material that poses a hazard to the safety and good order of the schools.

Use of Personal Electronic Equipment (Board Policy No. 237)

Students in grades K-12 are expected to follow the Electronic Device policy regarding the use of electronic devices while on school property. This policy ensures a safe and secure educational environment focused on learning.

Wearable electronic devices

In accordance with Policy 237, smart glasses/smart watches/smart rings and similar wearable recording technologies are strictly prohibited inside the school building. All students in grades K-12 are expected to follow the district's Electronic Device policy regarding the possession and use of these items while on school property. Prohibiting these devices protects student privacy and ensures we maintain a safe, secure educational environment focused entirely on learning without unnecessary distractions.

***Students who desire to bring personal communication devices, such as cell phones, ear buds and smart watches into the school building, during the school day, must have the devices on silent mode. These devices shall not be used during instructional time during the school day. Exceptions to this rule can be made only upon the approval of the Superintendent or designee. Student possession of certain hand-held communication devices while on school property and/or while using district-operated and/or district-sponsored transportation may be permitted in accordance with district rules and administrative regulations.*[1]

Unauthorized Recording of Incidents

In the event of an altercation or other inappropriate incident, administration will review school surveillance footage. Any student identified as recording or photographing the event will face disciplinary action.

For specific details, please refer to Pleasant Valley School District Policy No. 237, Electronic Device, available on the district website.

Inappropriate Articles

Items not directly associated with the educational program and reasonably necessary for the student's participation in school shall NOT be brought to school or any school activity or program. This includes items that could disrupt the learning environment or pose a safety risk. Metal water bottles/cups are prohibited.

For safety and cleanliness, open containers, outside beverage cups (including "to-go" coffee, smoothie cups, and cans), glass/metal bottles, or beverage containers of any kind are strictly prohibited inside the school building at all times, including during morning arrival; any unauthorized drinks/containers will be confiscated and disposed of.

Use of Metal Detectors (Board Policy 218.3)

PVM and PVH use metal detectors to ensure student safety. We will make every effort to ensure that the process goes smoothly and efficiently. If your child has never experienced this process before, please help us in reminding them that their use is preventative and does not mean that there is anything to be alarmed about. We will also share this information with our students here at school. To facilitate this process, please remember that aerosol containers (perfume, body spray, cologne, hair spray, etc.) are a prohibited item that will be confiscated. If the item is not picked up within 2 weeks, the item(s) will be disposed of by administration. Any student that continues to violate these expectations may receive disciplinary consequences.

- Any medication or supplements discovered during metal detector screenings will be confiscated and, depending on the type of medication, may require a parent or guardian to come to the school to retrieve it.
- Students may not transport tools or equipment on PV or MCTI school buses. All such items are expected to remain on the MCTI campus. In the event that tools or equipment must be taken home, a parent or guardian must provide the transportation. Any tools or equipment found during metal detector screenings will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent or guardian.

Attendance

Attendance and Absences (Board Policy 204)

Compulsory attendance applies to all students from entry into school (no later than six years old) until they turn 18 years of age.

Any time a student is absent, a written excuse must be sent to the office within three (3) days of the absence. Required Information for Excuse:

- Child's first and last name
- Teacher's name
- Date(s) of the absence
- Reason for the absence
- Legible signature of parent/guardian

Excuses may be emailed to pvmsattendance@pvbears.org and pvhsattendance@pvbears.org. Absences shall be treated as unexcused until the district receives a written excuse explaining the absence, to be submitted within three (3) days of the absence.

Doctor's Excuse: All absences beyond ten (10) cumulative days shall require an excuse from a licensed practitioner.

Reasonable Cause for Absence: The following conditions are considered reasonable cause for absence:

1. Illness (including dismissal by district staff for health reasons).
2. Obtaining professional healthcare or therapy services.
3. Quarantine.
4. Family emergency.

5. Recovery from an accident.
6. Required court attendance.
7. Death in the family.
8. Participation in a statewide or countywide 4-H, FFA, or combined group project (with prior written request).
9. Participation in a musical performance with a national veterans' organization for an event or funeral (with signed excuse provided prior to absence).
10. Observance of a religious holiday (with prior written request).
11. Non-School Sponsored Educational Tours or Trips (Educational Trips): See below for specific conditions.
12. Other urgent reasons, including circumstances related to homelessness and foster care.

PVM and PVH will accept a maximum of 10 parent excuse notes during the year. After that, excuses must have a doctor's note or they will be marked unlawful.

The district may limit the number and duration of non-school sponsored educational tours or trips, college or postsecondary institution visits for which excused absences may be granted to a student during the school year.

Truancy Procedures (Board Policy No. 204)

Truancy Procedures

Step 1: When your child accumulates 3 unlawful absences, a 3-Day Unlawful Absence Notice will be mailed home to your residence.

Step 2: When your child accumulates 6 unlawful absences, parents/guardians will be asked to participate in a School Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC) with the child and a school administrator. During this conference, a School Attendance Improvement Plan (SAIP) will be developed for the student. A 6-Day Unlawful Absence Notice will be mailed to the student's residence along with the completed SAIP.

Step 3: When your child accumulates 3 or more unlawful absences after the SAIP, citations will be issued under state law to students who are 17 years or younger. Parents/guardians and the student will be required to attend a truancy conference with a Magisterial District Judge.

Step 4: Parents will be referred to the District Magistrate for citation and fines. Children & Youth may also be notified.

College Visit (Board Policy No. 204)

Students will be allowed to complete college visitation while in the 11th and 12th grades, with the following expectations:

1. To be eligible under this section, the student's parent/guardian must make a written application on the College Visitation Request form provided by the district at least ten (10) days prior to the visitation. It is recommended that the district approval for college visitation during the school year be obtained prior to finalizing travel plans (i.e., plane tickets, hotel reservations, etc.). Failure to submit the request prior to ten (10) days in advance may result in denial of the trip by administration.
2. The principal will review the college visitation request and consider other information (i.e., student attendance record) pertinent to the approval of the subsequent student absences. When appropriate, the principal will give permission for such trips. Failure to get written administrative approval for college visitations that result in absence(s) from school will result in an unexcused absence.
3. Eleventh (11th) grade students will be permitted a total of two (2) absences during the school year for college visitations. Parents/Guardians must provide verification of such college visitations to the high school attendance office as an attachment to this completed, signed document as part of the approval process before traveling for the college visit. A letter from the admissions office or student recruitment office of the respective college documenting the visit is acceptable. Electronic proof of registration for a college open house or equivalent event is also acceptable. The student is responsible to make up all school work missed during such absences.
4. Twelfth (12th) grade students will be permitted a total of four (4) absences during the school year for college visitations. Parents/Guardians must provide verification of such college visitations to the high school attendance office as an attachment to this completed, signed document as part of the approval process before traveling for the college visit. A letter from the admissions office or student recruitment office of the respective college documenting the visit is acceptable. Electronic proof of registration for a college open house or equivalent event is also acceptable. The student is responsible to make up all school work missed during such absences.

Educational Trips (Board Policy No. 204)

For any educational trip during the school year, requests must be submitted to the attendance office at least 10 days in advance on the approved district form. No student may spend more than a total of five (5) school days on an approved educational trip in any given school year, unless prior approval is received from the Superintendent or designee. All pre-approved trips will be recorded as excused absences.

The student is expected to make arrangements with his/her teacher to obtain and complete work missed. Students are to complete all make-up work within the number of days commensurate with the number of days absent (i.e., one (1) excused absence day allows for one (1) day to makeup work) from the date of their return to school, or they will receive a zero (0) for the incomplete work. Make-up tests and quizzes must be scheduled within a time period that is equivalent to the number of school days of the trip. The form to request approval can be found on the district website or at your school's attendance office.

Tardiness

It is important that all students arrive at school on time. If a student is tardy, the parent/guardian will be asked to provide a written excuse. A record of arrival time and reason for late arrival will be maintained. PVMS and PVHS will accept a maximum of 5 parent notes for excused tardies per semester. After that, tardies will be considered unexcused and a contact home will be made.

When unexcused tardies accumulate, the Code of Conduct will be implemented to issue consequences to the student.

Sign In/Sign Out Procedures

When a student arrives late to school or is signed out early, documentation must be completed in the school's main office. Proper identification will be required. Parents/guardians are discouraged from signing their children out before regular dismissal time to minimize the loss of instructional time. Any student that leaves school early without signing out will face disciplinary consequences and potential loss of parking privileges.

In addition, any visitor entering the building will also be required to sign in and out and show proper identification.

Students, regardless of the reason(s), are not permitted to leave the school building or premises at any time without obtaining permission from the administration, nurse, or principal's designee. If no signed note is provided and a parent/guardian is picking their child up, both child and parent/guardian must properly sign out in the designated area. Students not conforming to these rules may be classified as absent unexcused and subject to disciplinary action for leaving school unauthorized. It is recommended that all attempts be made to arrange all appointments during non-school hours. Students who are 18 years of age will only be permitted to sign out independently with written parent permission for a valid reason.

NOTE: Students leaving school early for Diversified Occupations and Dual Enrollment must sign out at the main office every day.

Early Dismissals

Students may not leave the school before dismissal time unless the school administration has received a written parental/guardian request that they be allowed to do so or a parent/guardian and/or parent's/guardian's designee comes to the school to pick up the child at the requested time of release.

The request must include the student's name, date, time, reason for request, parental/guardian signature, and a telephone number at which the parent/guardian can be reached. Each school shall set up procedures to validate requests for early dismissal to assure that children are released only for proper reasons and into proper hands.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to return your child to school after a regular appointment and prior to regularly scheduled student dismissal. Established sign in/out procedures should be followed at this time.

NOTE: When parents are separated and a court order regarding custody exists, considerable caution should be taken in excusing students. Custody orders of the court must be on file in the school office. It is the responsibility of the custodial parent to have the most current court order on file.

In order to participate in an after-school sponsored activity or event, students must be in attendance at least one half (1/2) of the school day unless approved by the principal.

No student will be released from school to go with any adult unless they are identified in the Student Information System (PowerSchool) under School Pickup. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure PowerSchool is updated.

1. Proper identification will be required.
2. The reason for requesting the release. (The principal may ascertain the validity of the excuse.)

PVMS and PVHS will accept a maximum of 5 parent notes for excused early dismissals per semester. After that, early dismissals will be considered unexcused and a contact home will be made.

When unexcused early dismissals accumulate, the Code of Conduct will be implemented to issue consequences to the student.

Dress and Grooming Guidelines (**Board Policy No. 221**)

The Pleasant Valley School District dress and grooming guidelines apply to all students. Students violating the guidelines will be asked/sent home to change and disciplinary consequences will be applied. When a student's dress is representative of a danger to his/her health, safety, or welfare or creates a distraction to the learning environment, the administration will request that the student change his/her clothing. A violation of the dress code may result in disciplinary action.

Please adhere to the policy and dress appropriately for an educational setting. Clothing must be appropriately sized for the student; that is, they are to be no more than one (1) regular size larger than the student actually measures. It also means that bottoms are not to be tight. Extra wide, extra full, extra-long, baggy, or sagging bottoms, as well as tight and/or undersized bottoms, are not permitted.

- Jeans, khaki pants, athletic pants, yoga pants (leggings), dresses, and skirts are all acceptable lower garments.
    - All garments must be in good repair and not have any holes or rips.
    - Lower garments must fit and be an appropriate length as defined as covering
    - approximately three-quarters of the thigh and cannot reveal undergarments. Shorts,

    - dresses, and skirts should maintain an appropriate fit and length while walking, sitting, reaching, and bending over.
    - Lower garments must be worn at the hip without sagging.
    - Cut-off shorts are not permitted.
- Upper Garments (shirts) must be in good repair and not have holes, rips, or slashes.
    - Upper garments must cover the shoulder, torso, and midriff and must not be excessively tight or low cut from the collar. Shirt hems must fall below the waistband of lower garments. Upper garments cannot reveal undergarments.
    - Sweatshirt hoodies are acceptable to wear inside of the building, but hoods may not be worn on the head at any time.
- Clothing and/or jewelry that are not permitted include
    - Items that promote or reference drugs, alcohol or tobacco.
    - Articles of clothing or accessories imprinted with messages pertaining to drugs or alcohol.
    - Any advertisement for any alcohol product or establishment which deals with alcohol.
    - Gun or weapon-related apparel.
    - Clothing or accessories that may be gang-related, vulgar, obscene or contain profane pictures or sayings.
    - Double-meaning slogans.
    - Clothing that is overly suggestive or revealing.
    - Articles of clothing in which undergarments are deliberately exposed to view.
    - Clothing or jewelry that promotes or makes reference to cult or satanic activity.
    - Clothing or jewelry that promotes or makes reference to weapons, violence, gang affiliation, sex, sexism, sexuality, political messages, and or ethnic/racial prejudices.
    - Clothing or jewelry with suggestive themes and or obscene pictures, words, or gestures.
- Shoes
    - As a safety measure, footwear must both be of the same pair and intact.
    - Sandals or clogs must have a back strap; footwear with shoelaces must be tied.
- Hats are not acceptable to wear inside the building at any time unless permitted as part of an announced school spirit theme.

When a student's dress is representative of a danger to his/her health, safety, or welfare or creates a distraction to the learning environment, the administration will request that the student change his/her clothing. A violation of the dress code may result in disciplinary action.

Students may be required to wear specific types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education classes, science laboratories, family consumer science classes, and or extracurricular activities.

For more information, see Board Policy No. 221.

Digital Hall Pass Policy for eHallPass by Securly

Our school utilizes eHall Pass (recently rebranded as Securly Pass), a cloud-based digital system that replaces traditional paper passes. Students must use their school-issued Chromebooks to request permission before leaving the classroom. It is mandatory for all students to have an active digital pass while in the hallways during the school day. Any student found without an approved pass will be subject to disciplinary action.

Academic Program & Instructional Supports

Honor Code & Academic Integrity

It is the belief in the Pleasant Valley School District that the honest pursuit of academic excellence will lead to self-satisfaction, awareness, image, and integrity. The belief in self-actualization through the learning process stems from the student responsibility to pursue knowledge. This honor code represents the belief that all students are capable of the honest pursuit of academic knowledge through research, homework, class work, testing, and all other methods used by the faculty to assist and assess student progress. Unfortunately, some students feel the pressure and need to circumvent the learning process by doing such things as communicating answers with another, the unauthorized use or acquisition of material, and/or using the work of others and submitting this work as their own.

Program of Studies

The Pleasant Valley Middle School and High School Program of Studies documents are available online and in the MS/HS guidance offices. The High School Program of Studies details graduation requirements and available course offerings.

Required Assessments and Courses

Benchmarking with NWEA Assessments

Purpose and Expectations: During the academic year, students participate in the NWEA assessment. While the school calendar includes numerous evaluations, the NWEA serves a distinct educational purpose separate from standard classroom examinations. The following outlines the objective of this assessment and the expectations for student participation.

Measuring Academic Growth: Unlike traditional unit tests designed to yield a specific course grade, the NWEA assessment measures longitudinal academic growth. It is an

adaptive tool intended to quantify the progress a student has made over the course of the school year. The assessment highlights areas of academic excellence while simultaneously identifying specific subjects or skills that may require targeted academic support.

Instructional Impact: Faculty and administration utilize NWEA data to gain a comprehensive understanding of each student's unique learning profile. This information is vital for differentiating instruction and refining curriculum delivery within the classroom. Furthermore, the assessment results inform academic advising, assist in appropriate course placement, and ensure the institution provides the precise resources necessary for secondary and post-secondary success.

Expectations for Student Effort: Because the NWEA results directly dictate how faculty allocate resources and adapt instructional strategies, it is imperative that students approach this assessment with focus and diligence. Providing your maximum effort yields an accurate representation of your true academic proficiency. This precise data enables the school to effectively tailor its educational approach and provide the individualized support necessary to advance your academic trajectory.

PVMS (Grades 6-8) Required Courses

Grade 6 Core Classes	**Grade 7 Core Classes**	**Grade 8 Core Classes**
English	English	English
Math	Math	Math
Ancient World History	American History I	American History II

Grade 6 Required Electives	**Grade 7 Required Electives**	**Grade 8 Required Electives**
Health	Health	Health
Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education
Visual Arts	Visual Arts	Visual Arts
Computer Technology	Computer Technology	Information Processing
General Music	General Music	Spanish 8
Spanish 6	Spanish 7	

6th Grade Seminar		

NOTE: This is not a comprehensive list of all electives offered; it only lists required electives.

PVMS (Grades 6-8) Required Assessments

The annual Pennsylvania System School Assessment (PSSA) is a standards-based assessment that helps students, parents, educators, and citizens understand student and school performance related to academic standards proficiency. These standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology outline what students should know and be able to do at various grade levels. School districts have the flexibility to design curriculum and instruction to ensure students meet or exceed these expectations.

Every Pennsylvania student in grades 3 through 8 is assessed in English Language Arts and Math. Every Pennsylvania student in grades 5 and 8 is assessed in Science.
Individual student scores, provided only to their schools, help teachers identify students who may need additional educational opportunities. School scores provide information for schools and districts to discuss and plan curriculum and instruction improvements. In accordance with §4.51(a)(4) of the PA School Code, the State Board of Education approved specific criteria for advanced, proficient, basic, and below basic performance levels.

PVHS (Grades 9-12) Required Assessments and Courses

Students should follow the high school program of studies for all required courses needed to fulfill graduation. The Keystone Exams meet federal accountability criteria for high school under ESSA. Students must take these exams for federal accountability purposes, as failure to do so affects the Local Education Agency (LEA) and school's participation rate. These are end-of-course assessments that measure proficiency in Algebra I, Literature, and Biology. All students are expected to participate in all three exams by the end of their junior year.

All students must meet requirements under 1 of 5 accepted Graduation Pathways outlined by PDE. The primary pathways available involve demonstrating proficiency in the Keystone Exams, and PVHS will support students by remediating and reassessing. Achieving one of the alternative pathways to graduation does not excuse a student from taking the 3 Keystone Exams.

Course and Schedule Changes

PVMS (Grades 6-8) Course/Schedule Changes

Schedule changes (dropping or adding a class) are permitted under these conditions:

- A required class is missing from the schedule.
- Two classes are scheduled at the same time.
- Any other requests to drop or add a class must be discussed with the school counselor.

PVHS (Grades 9-12) Course/Schedule Changes

Schedule changes (dropping or adding a class) are allowed under these conditions:

- A required class is missing from the schedule.
- Two classes are scheduled at the same time.

Graduation Requirements and Honors

To view the Pleasant Valley School District graduation requirements, please click on the hyperlink that corresponds with your student's anticipated year of graduation:

Class of 2026 **Class of 2027** **Class of 2028 and beyond**

High School Credit

High school credit is exclusively awarded for courses successfully completed at Pleasant Valley High School (PVHS) in grades 9-12. No high school or graduation credit will be given for courses taken at Pleasant Valley Middle School (PVMS).

Credit Recovery

Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, credit recovery options will be available to all Pleasant Valley High School students, including those enrolled in our traditional "brick and mortar" programs and the PV Bears Academy. Please note that a fee of ~~at least~~ $200 for half credit and $400 for full credit will be charged for all credit recovery courses.

Credit recovery is available only to students in grades 9-12.

Summer School

Summer school provides an opportunity for students in grades 6-12 to remediate courses. All summer school courses are subject to a fee of $200 for half credit and $400 for full credit.

Student Eligibility for Summer School

To be eligible for summer school remediation, PVMS and PVHS students must meet specific academic criteria. Students must have earned a final average of at least 50% in a core subject–defined as English, Math, Science, or Social Studies–that they intend to retake. Additionally, students are restricted to remediating a maximum of two courses per summer session, unless prior administrative approval is granted to exceed this limit.

PVH Graduation Honors

We recognize graduating seniors with three categories of academic honors based on their mark averages for all grades earned at Pleasant Valley High School (grades 9, 10, 11, and the first semester and first marking period of the second semester of grade 12). Special honor seals will

be affixed to the diplomas of eligible graduates, and they will be recognized during the annual commencement exercises with special regalia.

- Summa Cum Laude: 96 - 100
- Magna Cum Laude: 92 - 95.99
- Cum Laude: 85 - 91.99

To be eligible for graduation honors, students must have been enrolled in the Pleasant Valley School District for at least four (4) semesters (with at least two [2] of those in their senior year) and have earned at least twelve (12) credits taking Pleasant Valley School District courses.

Eligibility for Valedictorian and Salutatorian honors is limited to students continuously enrolled at the district's high school for three (3) or more school years immediately prior to graduation. The Valedictorian will be the student with the highest weighted GPA once senior grades are complete. The Salutatorian will be the student with the second-highest weighted GPA after senior grades are finalized.

PVH Graduation/Commencement

To ensure students are eligible to receive a diploma, all seniors must have the following items completed. Please note that several of these are official, state-mandated requirements established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE):

- **Keystone Graduation Pathways (Act 158 of 2018)**: In alignment with PDE statewide graduation requirements, students must demonstrate postsecondary preparedness through one of the five approved pathways (Keystone Proficiency, Keystone Composite, Alternate Assessment, Evidence-Based, or Career & Technical Education).
- **Civics Assessment (Act 35 of 2018)**: In accordance with state law, all students must successfully complete a locally developed assessment of U.S. history, government, and civics.
- **Career Readiness Portfolio (Chapter 339):** As per the PDE's Career Education and Work (CEW) Standards, students must have a finalized career portfolio containing the required artifacts that demonstrate successful career exploration and preparation.
- **Local District Requirements:** Students must successfully fulfill all standard credit and course requirements set forth by the Pleasant Valley School District Board of Education.

PVHS Commencement Information

- No student will be allowed to participate in Graduation Practice or the Graduation Ceremony until all financial obligations are met.
- Students who violate the code of conduct during Graduation Practice or during the Graduation Ceremony will not be allowed to participate and will be removed from the practice and/or the ceremony and diplomas will be withheld.
- Any students with an inappropriate device or who demonstrate inappropriate behavior during practice, pre-ceremony, and graduation will be immediately removed from the ceremony. There will be no appeal to be reinstated.

- Student attendance is mandatory for all seniors at all graduation practices including the graduation walk. Students must be on time for all practices which begin at 8:00 A.M. and will go through metal detectors. If any extenuating medical or emergency circumstances arise that prevent your presence, please contact the building Principal.

PVH Graduation Cords and Stoles

Pleasant Valley School District permits students enlisting in any branch of the military to wear their service-specific cords and stoles at graduation. This is a special exception to our policy that otherwise requires all honor cords and stoles to be affiliated with Pleasant Valley School District programs and achievements.

PVH Early Graduation (Board Policy 217)

For students accepted by a college at the completion of their junior year, a diploma will be awarded upon satisfactory completion of their first year of college as a full-time matriculated student. Application forms and guidelines are available on the Pleasant Valley School District website and in the guidance office.

PVH Transfer Credit

Any transfer credit or college course credit grades will not be calculated into the student's cumulative average.

PVH Auditing of Courses (Grades 9-12)

High school courses can be audited, allowing students to engage with course content and activities. However, auditing generally does not award credit for graduation. Any student approved for audit enrollment must agree to fully participate in all course requirements as if they were enrolled for credit.

PVH Option to Take Additional Credits Beyond the School Day

There is a possibility that students may desire to take courses above and beyond the school day schedule. Specific limitations apply, so please speak with your child's guidance counselor to determine if this option is appropriate. If courses are approved, they are offered at cost to the family, according to the following:

Full credit courses:	$670.00
Half credit courses:	$335.00

Honor Roll

The following criteria determine eligibility for the honor roll:

- A Distinguished Honor Roll student will have an average of all marks 92% or higher and no grade lower than 85% in any single subject.

- A Regular Honor Roll student will have an average of all grades 87% or higher and no grade lower than 80% in any single subject.

Students in grades 9-12 must carry a minimum of seven (7) credits.

For students carrying 3.5 unit courses (such as MCTI students), multiple quality points will be awarded to the grade. The guidance department and administration determine academic honor standing at the end of each marking period. Honor standing announcements will be indicated on the student's report card.

PVH 9th-11th Grade Academic Awards

Departments will provide awards to outstanding students in grades 9-11.

PVH Senior "Triple A" Awards

Academic, Athletic, and Performing Art awards will be presented to outstanding students in grade 12.

Service

A Senior Principal's Award is based on school service.

Academic Awards

The top 10 students with the highest academic average from grades 9-12 will have their names placed on our Academic Wall of Fame. The determination of graduating seniors for the Top 10 Wall of Fame is made by compiling averages from grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 earned within the Pleasant Valley School District.

PVM/PVH School Libraries

Our school libraries at Pleasant Valley provide a rich collection of books, eBooks, periodicals, and digital resources to support your learning. Through the district website, you can access various online subscription services for current and reliable information. Passwords for remote access are available.

You can log in to the online catalog with your PV username and password to manage your library account.

The library is an academic space, and all general school rules apply. For more details on library services, policies, and research guidelines, check out the Library Handbook in PDF format on the library's website, or pick up a print copy in either school library.

Educational Resources

Online Resources

The Pleasant Valley School District values the ease of access to information and materials that help parents/guardians support their children. On the Pleasant Valley School District website (www.pvbears.org), you can find district information, including the school calendar, policies, services, activities, and links to each of the schools in the district. You can access the Pleasant Valley School District Facebook page to stay up-to-date on current events and related news.

Varsity Tutor

Pleasant Valley has partnered with Varsity Tutors to provide unlimited, live support from highly qualified tutors, self-study resources, and engaging extracurricular classes. There is unlimited, real-time tutoring in all core subjects. Students and experts chat live using a shared whiteboard where they can edit documents, calculate equations, share files, and more. For more information please visit the Pleasant Valley High School webpage, click on "Academics" then click on "Varsity Tutor". Varsity Tutor Frequently Asked Questions.

Google Classroom

The district will be using Google Classroom as its primary Learning Management System (LMS). This platform serves as a central hub for all instructional materials. Students will use their PVBears accounts to access instructional content, important announcements, and communicate directly with teachers. Parents don't have direct access to Google Classroom itself, but can receive email summaries of their student's work through guardian access. These summaries provide valuable information on missing work, upcoming assignments, and announcements. To request guardian summaries, please reach out to your child's teacher.

Additionally, Google Classroom does offer features for teachers to record grades; however, please be aware that it's utilized solely as a learning management system. PowerSchool is the official student information management system and the definitive record of your student's grades and academic progress. For a complete, accurate, and official record of your student's performance, please consult PowerSchool.

PowerSchool: Student Records and Information Management

PowerSchool is the official Student Information Management system used by the Pleasant Valley School District. This comprehensive platform serves as the central repository for all official student data, including academic records, attendance, and important contact information.

Parents and guardians are strongly encouraged to consult PowerSchool regularly to stay informed about their student's up-to-date attendance records and academic progress, including grades and assignments. Furthermore, PowerSchool is where you will find and need to update

important forms and contact information annually to ensure we have the most accurate details for your student.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Education (Board Policy 815.1)

The use of Generative AI by students to complete assignments or assessments shall only be allowed to the extent stated and outlined by the teacher for the individual assignment or course. Students shall be notified in advance of the parameters for use of Generative AI in assignments and assessments.

Teachers shall outline the use of Generative AI tools and resources in their required lesson plans.

The Board recognizes the capacity of AI to complete many student assignments. In doing so, AI has the potential to upend traditional academic honesty and plagiarism standards.

Pleasant Valley School District (PVSD) does not recognize work created by Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools as a student's own work, and such work should be cited in the bibliography. In the case of AI tools and other software, the company/creator of the software is considered the author, when directly quoting an AI-generated response, you do not need to include a page or paragraph number, students must refer to the required type of citation requested by the instructor (MLA, Chicago, APA, etc.) for additional citation style. If there is a question as to the authenticity of an assignment, an AI checker will be used to verify the authenticity of said paper. To ensure the accuracy of the authenticity check, additional resources like the original online document the assignment was typed into, might be required to be shared through Google if not required for the assignment. If it is determined that the student misused AI, they may have the assignment returned and be required to complete the entire assignment again; if not redone, the student will receive a zero.

The Board permits the use of AI detection tools as an aid to identify potential academic integrity issues, but prohibits reliance on results from AI detection tools as the sole determination of academic integrity.

Essentially, the use of any AI for improper or nefarious reasons such as impersonating any school entity (ex. administration, staff, educators, students) and/or plagiarism of any type, is subject to discipline.

It is the responsibility of all teachers to provide students with notice of whether AI use is permitted on a particular assignment or project. Teachers should use the following scale for guidance:

No AI Use	The assignment is completed independently without the assistance of AI.	No disclosure required.
AI-Assisted Idea Generation	AI is used for brainstorming and generating ideas only.	No disclosure required.
AI-Assisted Editing	AI is used to edit or refine student work, but not to generate content.	Student must disclose how AI was used.

Failure to comply with this policy or district rules regarding appropriate use of Generative AI including, but not limited to, acceptable use of computer and network resources, shall result in usage restrictions, loss of access privileges, disciplinary action and/or referral to legal authorities.

Instructional Grouping and Student Placement

The Pleasant Valley School District's rationale for grouping students is to create a classroom environment that is conducive to learning and teaching. Our goal is to maximize the use of instructional time and take into consideration that students learn from each other as well as from the teacher. We always value information you may feel is important to the placement of your child, but cannot honor requests for specific teachers. The types of information you may want to share are:

- Health or medical needs
- Family changes
- Peer interactions
- Specific social, emotional, or educational needs
- Learning style

Please contact the School Counseling Department at the school your child(ren) will be attending to discuss or share this information.

Field Trips

Field trips are a planned part of the instructional program at each grade level and support academic goals. Parent/Guardian permission notes to participate are required because students will be leaving school property. Since safety is a priority, parents/guardians may be asked to attend field trips as chaperones.

Homework

Homework is a vital part of the instructional process. It is designed to give your child the opportunity to practice learned skills independently. The classroom teacher determines the amount of homework and the content which will vary depending on the content area and grade. If your child has difficulty completing the assigned homework or if you have any questions, please contact your child’s classroom teacher(s).

Homework/Class Work/ Make-Up Procedure

After returning from an absence, students need to contact his/her individual teachers in order to determine what homework, class work, and tests were missed, and it is the responsibility of the student to see that the work and tests are completed and handed in. Students who attend band, chorus, or athletic events are responsible for finding out and making up any work or tests they missed during lessons, rehearsals and/or events. As a rule, students will have the number of school days equal to the number of excused absences to complete the homework. Any work not completed within that time frame will be assigned a failure (F). Except in the case of approved

educational trips, in which work must be requested in advance of the trip and must be turned in upon return.

Homework Request

Parents may contact the school to secure any assignments that can be completed during an absence. Assignments will be available within forty-eight (48) hours from the time of the request. Parents/Guardians are responsible to see that assignments are picked up at the school when they have been requested. Students are encouraged to have reliable classmates share any information regarding missed work. Students are expected to work on and complete assignments when they are requested and sent home during an absence. Students are also expected to complete assignments when work is requested before or during an approved vacation which occurs on regular school days.

Final Exams

Attendance on scheduled final examination days is mandatory. If a student is absent on the day of a final exam, official medical documentation (a medical note) must be provided in order to sit for a make-up exam. If a student is absent for both the regular final exam day and the scheduled make-up exam day, they will be assigned a failure (F) for the final exam.

Support Services

Multidisciplinary Team

The Multidisciplinary Team refers to the team of school professionals, parents/guardians, and community agencies that work together to determine appropriate programming for individual students. This team is most commonly used when determining the programming for students with special needs.

Special Education and Gifted Services

The Pleasant Valley School District is an inclusive school district. This means that students with disabilities and special needs are educated alongside their non-disabled peers to the maximum extent possible. The Pleasant Valley School District, either directly or through various other education agencies, including Colonial Intermediate Unit 20, provides Special Education services that may be required for children with special needs. Please contact your child's school counselor if you have any questions about special education services.

English Learners (EL)

The Pleasant Valley School District provides an English Learner (EL) curriculum for our students who qualify. English learners are identified through a Home Language Survey at the time of registration. A screening process identifies students in need of EL support. At the elementary level, the EL program provides English Learners with a communication program in English that

will enable them to fully participate in their educational experience in our schools, in their daily lives, and in our community. The objectives of our program include the following:

1. To develop basic interpersonal skills and cognitive academic language proficiency in English.
2. To develop proficiency in the language domains of speaking, listening, comprehension, reading, and writing from a whole language approach.
3. To develop competence in intercultural interactions
4. To provide ELs with opportunities to share their language and culture with their peers.
5. To encourage participation in the full range of instructional activities in the mainstream curriculum and extracurricular activities in the school.

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)/Student Assistance Program (SAP)

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is a proactive framework our school uses to ensure every student receives the academic, behavioral, and developmental support they need to succeed. Our school is transitioning from our former Child Study Team (CST) process to MTSS because MTSS offers a more comprehensive, proactive model that provides immediate, layered help before students fall behind. Through MTSS, educators continuously monitor progress to deliver high-quality classroom instruction alongside targeted interventions tailored to individual learning needs. Support is structured in three flexible tiers, ranging from effective school-wide instruction for all students to targeted, small-group or individual guidance for those needing additional support. By identifying challenges early and adjusting support as needed, MTSS ensures every learner reaches their full potential.

Student Assistance Program (SAP)

The Student Assistance Program (SAP) helps students dealing with school problems caused by issues such as home life, relationships, substance use, depression, or other mental health challenges.

Anyone can make a confidential referral—students, teachers, parents, administrators, or support staff. The SAP Team gathers relevant school information (attendance, discipline, academics, health reports) and connects students with appropriate county agencies or guidance services. This might include support groups or individual counseling.

Parents/guardians can refer a student by calling:

- PV High School: (570) 402-1000, ext. 4011
- PV Middle School: (570) 402-1000, ext. 2011

School Counselors

Our counseling services are here to support your child's overall growth and educational journey. Our dedicated counseling staff helps students develop the **knowledge, skills, and**

self-reliance they need to make sound decisions and navigate personal and social adjustments successfully. Our school counselors support students individually, in small groups, and in the classroom setting. They also consult with teachers, parents/guardians, and the building administration regarding children's academic, social, and/or emotional growth. If you would like further information regarding the school counselor's role, please call the guidance office at 570-402-1000 ext. 2011 (PVM) OR 4011 (PVH)

Student Activities

PVHS Student Activities

We believe that being involved in activities outside of the classroom is a vital part of a complete education. Pleasant Valley High School offers a wide range of co-curricular activities to all students. Some activities may have specific requirements to join.

For full details on our athletic and co-curricular programs, please refer to the Pleasant Valley School District Athletics and Activities Handbook, which is available online. This handbook contains all important general information for parents, guardians, and community members.

All student participants are expected to follow every policy, guideline, regulation, and rule set by the school district, the coach/director/advisor, and relevant governing bodies (like PIAA, District XI, etc.). You can get a copy of these from the Office of Athletics and Activities.

To learn more about specific activities and any entry requirements, please contact the individual group advisors or coaches.

See the list of activities below:

SPORTS	**CLUBS**	**CLUBS**
Baseball - Varsity/JV	Aevidum	National German Honor Society/GAPP
Boys' Basketball - Varsity/JV/Freshman	Art Honor Society	National Honor Society
Girls' Basketball - Varsity/JV/Freshman	A/V Club	National HOSA
Cheerleading - Varsity/JV	Chess Club	National Key Club
Cross Country - Varsity	Dance Club	National Leo Club
Field Hockey - Varsity/JV	Debate Club	National Math Honor Society/Mu Alpha Theta
Football - Varsity/JV/Freshman	Diversity Club	National Music Honor Society
Golf - Varsity	Drama Club	Pep Band

SPORTS	CLUBS	CLUBS
Boys' Lacrosse - Varsity/JV	Envirothon	SADD
Girls' Lacrosse - Varsity/JV	FBLA	Scholastic Scrimmage
Boys' Soccer - Varsity/JV	Future Teachers Club	School Musical
Girls' Soccer - Varsity/JV	Graphic Novel Society	Shakey's Club
Softball - Varsity/JV	Jazz Band	Stage Crew
Boys' Tennis - Varsity/JV	Literary Magazine	Student Government
Girls' Tennis - Varsity/JV	Math Club	Ski club
Track - Varsity	E-Sports	Video Club
Volleyball - Varsity/JV		Woodwind Ensemble
Wrestling - Varsity/JV		Yearbook

Honor Society

Membership in the National Honor Society (NHS) is both an honor and a significant responsibility. Students selected for membership must demonstrate the highest qualities in scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

The Pleasant Valley High School chapter of the National Honor Society aims to:

- Create enthusiasm for scholarship.
- Stimulate a desire to render service.
- Promote worthy leadership.
- Encourage the development of character in all students.

These four qualifications define an NHS member:

Scholarship

To be eligible for candidacy, students must be in the sophomore, junior, or senior class and have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 92% based on all high school credits earned. (This includes high school credits earned in 7th and 8th grade.) This scholastic achievement is the minimum standard for admission. Students who meet or exceed this standard may be considered for election based on their service, leadership, and character.

If a member's cumulative GPA falls below 92%, they will receive written notice. Only one warning period is allowed. If the GPA remains below 92% for one or more marking periods before graduation, the member is entitled to a hearing before the Faculty Council before dismissal. A member being considered for dismissal can explain any mitigating circumstances to the Faculty Council. If dismissed by a majority vote of the Faculty Council, the student is

permanently ineligible for NHS membership. Violation of the Honor Code may also result in dismissal from the National Honor Society.

Leadership

Demonstrating leadership is crucial for selection. Leadership can be shown by holding offices in school or community activities, or by chairing or serving on vital committees that significantly contribute to school or community activities.

Service

The service criterion is often defined by a candidate's contributions to the school, classmates, and/or the community.

Character

To illustrate good character, candidates must obtain the signatures of three community members who will attest to their good character.

For a much more detailed explanation of the expectations for scholarship, leadership, service, and character, please refer to the National Honor Society Application. You can download the application from the High School website (under the Athletics/Activities/National Honor Society section) or obtain a hard copy from the Athletics and Activities Office or the National Honor Society Advisor.

HS Events/Activities Participation

Students will lose the privilege to attend school events and activities (such as dances, rallies, and special events) if they meet any of the following conditions within a 45-day window leading up to the event. Privileges may be reinstated at the administration's discretion.

- Receiving a citation for truancy or excessive unexcused absences.
- Maintaining poor academic standing (failing two or more classes based on prior week's grades)
- Receiving 3 or more days of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
- Receiving 5 or more days of In-School Suspension (ISS)
- Accumulating a combined total of 5 or more days of ISS and/or OSS.

High School Dances

Regulations for school dances are the same as for any school activity. Students absent from school may not attend a dance scheduled on the same day unless permission is granted by the principal, assistant principal, or designee.

Pleasant Valley dances are closed to the general public. Only students currently enrolled at Pleasant Valley School District in grades 9-12 are allowed at school-sponsored dances. Outside guests are not permitted, with the exception of the Senior Prom and Homecoming (see more information below). For all school-sponsored dances (on or off school premises), once students and guests have entered the building for the dance, they may not leave and return.

Homecoming and Senior Prom

The Fall Ball and Senior Prom are highlights of the school social year, usually held at a neighboring resort or in a school district gymnasium, and are formal events.

These are school-sponsored functions, and all participants are subject to all school regulations. No educational trips will be afforded the week after the prom. Students must provide a doctor's note if absent on the first school day after the prom.

For the Prom, 12th-grade students may, with administration permission, invite a guest under the age of 21 (including PV students in grades 9, 10, and 11).

Students attending the Homecoming and Senior Prom with invited guests must complete permission slips that include the following information:

- A photocopy of the guest's license or equivalent identification. Guests cannot be over the age of 21 before the first day of school of the current year.
- If the guest is a student, provide their name and school location.
- Guest's name, address, and telephone number.
- Guest's signature on the permission slip.

PVMS Student Activities

Pleasant Valley Middle School offers a wide range of co-curricular activities available to all students. Some activities may have specific entry requirements and can supplement the academic program.

The Pleasant Valley School District Athletics and Activities Handbook is available online and contains important general information for parents, guardians, and community members regarding our athletic and activity programs. All student participants must follow the policies, guidelines, regulations, and rules set by the school district, the coach/director/advisor, and appropriate governing bodies (e.g., PIAA, District XI). Copies of these rules can be obtained from the Office of Athletics and Activities.

Students should contact group advisors/coaches for more information. Please visit the school's website for an updated list of available sports and clubs.

See the list of Middle School sports and activities below:

Sports 7th and 8th grade Students at Pleasant Valley Middle School have the opportunity to participate in the following PIAA approved sports:	**Clubs** All students at Pleasant Valley Middle School have the opportunity to participate in the following clubs/activities:
Baseball Basketball, Boys' Basketball, Girls' Cross Country	Computer Club Digital Media Club Diversity Club Drama Set Design

Field Hockey Football Soccer, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Softball Track & Field, Coed Volleyball, Girls' Wrestling	Ecology Club National Honor Society Jazz Band Musical Set Design Sewing/Crochet Club Student Government Woodwind Ensemble Yearbook Chess Club Esports

National Junior Honor Society

Membership in the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is both an honor and a responsibility. Students elected to membership must demonstrate the highest qualities of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

The Arthur A. Smith Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society was founded to:

- Create enthusiasm for scholarship.
- Stimulate a desire to render service.
- Promote leadership.
- Develop character.
- Encourage citizenship.

To be eligible for membership, a student must meet specific criteria during their seventh-grade year:

- A cumulative average of at least 94% (with double weight for the five major subjects).
- No individual grade below 85% in *each* of the four marking periods.
- Demonstrate qualities of service, leadership, character, and citizenship, and receive teacher recommendations.

Students meeting these standards will be inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in their eighth-grade year.

Once inducted, a student's grades will be evaluated each marking period. Members are expected to maintain a cumulative average of at least 92%. Violations of any National Junior Honor Society standards may result in probation and/or dismissal.

Note: In accordance with the National Junior Honor Society Constitution, cumulative averages and individual grades are not rounded up.

Dances (Board Policy 707)

If dances are held at Pleasant Valley Middle School, specific rules and regulations must be followed:

- Student groups sponsoring a dance need at least ten (10) chaperones and must organize the event at least four (4) weeks in advance. You'll also need to complete the appropriate facility use forms.

- Dances will be held in the cafeteria or gym, and require formal approval from the administration.

PVMS dances are school-sponsored functions, and all participants are subject to all school regulations. Regulations for school dances are the same as for any school activity. Students absent from school may not attend a dance scheduled on the same day unless permission is granted by the principal, assistant principal, or designee.

Pleasant Valley Middle School dances are closed to the general public. Only students currently enrolled at Pleasant Valley Middle School in grades 6-8 are allowed at school-sponsored dances.

Middle School Events/Activities Participation

Student attendance and participation in school dances are privileges, not rights, and are subject to academic and disciplinary review by the administration. To be eligible, students must be in good academic standing. Students who do not meet academic expectations or fail to uphold the school's code of conduct may be placed on privilege denial, rendering them ineligible to attend school events and activities. This policy ensures that school events remain a positive and safe environment for all students and reflects our commitment to academic excellence and responsible conduct.

Students will lose the privilege to attend school events and activities (such as dances, rallies, and special events) if they meet *any one* of the following conditions within a 30-day window leading up to the event.

- Attendance
    - Receiving a citation for truancy or excessive unexcused absences.
- Academics
    - Maintaining poor academic standing (failing two or more classes based on prior week's grades)
- Behavior
    - 1 or more out-of-school suspensions (OSS)
    - 2 or more in-school suspensions (ISS),
    - Accumulating a combined total of 5 or more detentions
- Privilege Reinstatement
    - Following the 30-day or the grade review windows, privileges may be reinstated for the next event at the administration's discretion contingent upon improvement of attendance, academics, or behavior.

Student Evaluation and Record Keeping

Assessment

The Pleasant Valley School District uses local, nationally normed, and statewide assessments throughout the school year. The assessment information is used to:

1. Provide information to the Board of Education and the community on the level of education attainment/measured ability of students in the Pleasant Valley School District and comply with various federal or state mandates.

2. Provide information on in-school performance to teachers, students, and families for the purposes of educational planning.

Northwest Evaluation Association Measures of Academic Progress (NWEA MAP Growth)

NWEA MAP Growth is a nationally normed, standardized achievement test that offers a personalized approach to assessing student knowledge. Unlike traditional tests, it's computer-adaptive, meaning it adjusts to each student's responses. If your child answers a question correctly, the next one becomes a bit more challenging; if they answer incorrectly, it gets a bit easier. This unique design allows us to accurately measure what students know and pinpoint what they're ready to learn next, without overwhelming them.

MAP Growth is considered a Universal Screener since it will be administered to all PV students in grades K-12. Universal Screeners act as an early warning system, enabling educators to provide timely and targeted support, ultimately aiming to improve educational outcomes for all students. NWEA MAP Growth assessments are interim and formative, designed to measure student growth in math, reading, and science throughout the school year. They are not annual summative assessments like the PSSAs or Keystone Exams.

PSSA

The annual Pennsylvania System School Assessment is a standards-based, criterion-referenced assessment which provides students, parents, educators and citizens with an understanding of student and school performance related to the attainment of proficiency of the academic standards. These standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology identify what a student should know and be able to do at varying grade levels. School districts possess the freedom to design curriculum and instruction to ensure that students meet or exceed the standards' expectations.

Every Pennsylvania student in grades 3 through 8 is assessed in English Language Arts and Math. Every Pennsylvania student in grades 5 and 8 is assessed in science.

Individual student scores, provided only to their respective schools, can be used to assist teachers in identifying students who may be in need of additional educational opportunities, and school scores provide information to schools and districts for curriculum and instruction improvement discussions and planning.

Keystones

The Keystone exams meet the federal accountability criteria of ESSA for the high school level. Students must take the Keystone Exams for purposes of federal accountability. Failure to do so will affect a Local Education Agency (LEA) and school's participation rate.

The Keystone exams were created to replace the Grade 11 PSSA and serve as one component of Pennsylvania's statewide high school graduation requirement. Keystone Exams will help

school districts guide students toward meeting state standards. The exams are end-of-course assessments designed to assess proficiency in the subject areas of Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.

Grading and Reporting Policies

Student Records

Records are kept to support the educational process and for the convenience of current and former students. Parents/guardians or current students can review records through the school office where the student attends.

There is a procedure for correction, addition, or challenge of the record when permission from the parent/guardian or the student (if over 18 years of age) is needed for release of records outside the school district. Exemptions are as follows: if the student transfers out of the school district, if the school district receives a subpoena, if the student seeks admission to a post-secondary school, and if the directory information is sought in the case of an emergency or police matter. Specific additional policy information may be accessed on the Pleasant Valley School District website.

Legal parents/guardians and students 18 years or older have the right to review information in the child's or their own permanent record folder. Others may access student records with written permission from the parent/guardian (or student, if 18 or older). If you're interested, you can make arrangements with your child's teacher, school counselor, or building administrator. For additional specific policy information regarding student records, please visit the Pleasant Valley School District website at www.pvbears.org.

Grade Reporting & PowerSchool

Information regarding student progress is available via PowerSchool. At the conclusion of each marking period, parents/guardians can receive a report of their child's progress via PowerSchool. Report cards are issued every nine (9) weeks. Tentative dates are listed on the school district calendar. Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to schedule meetings with teachers to discuss their child's progress. Student academic performance is also available to parents/guardians online through PowerSchool on the school district website.

PowerSchool is a vital tool for staying connected to your child's academic progress and school life. Parents are strongly encouraged to log into the PowerSchool Student and Parent Portal frequently to monitor current grades, view attendance, and track important student records. Regular monitoring ensures timely support and keeps families fully engaged in their student's success throughout the school year.

Grading Policy

The following information outlines our numerical grading policy:

- Any grade average below 65% is a failing grade.
- If you are absent or tardy on the day of the final exam, you may take it on the designated makeup day, provided you submit a medical note by the following day. Failure to provide documentation will result in an exam grade of zero. The administration reserves the right to make exceptions for individual extenuating circumstances.
- For each one (1.0) credit course, the final grade is determined by averaging the four (4) marking period grades and the final exam, with the final exam counting for 20% of the final average. Some 1-credit courses may have a Midterm (10%) and a Final (10%).
- For each half (0.5) credit course, the final grade is determined by averaging the marking period grades and the final exam, with the final exam counting for 20% of the final average.
- Alphabetic and numeric grade equivalents are as follows:

Alpha Equivalent	Numeric Marks	Quality Points	Definition
A	92-100	4.00	Excellent
B	83-91	3.00	Above Average
C	74-82	2.00	Average
D	65-73	1.00	Below Average
F	0-64	0.00	Failure
P	n/a	n/a	Pass

Home-School Communication

Conferences

Parents/guardians will have the opportunity to attend parent-teacher conferences during the school year. All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend. The conferences will be approximately 10-15 minutes and may include individual and/or teams of professional and support staff. In the fall, district-wide conferences will be held. At any time during the school year, if you want to schedule a conference with your child's teacher, please reach out to the teacher and schedule one.

Parent Portal: PowerSchool

Parents/guardians are encouraged to utilize PowerSchool to track their child's academic progress. Should you ever have any questions regarding your child's progress in school, please contact his or her teacher or school counselor.

Building Websites

Parents/guardians can visit the PVM and PVH websites to view upcoming events and news related to the school. The website can be accessed at pvms.pvbears.org and pvhs.pvbears.org

Automatic Phone Calls/Emails

Automatic emails are sent on Sunday evenings, and calls/emails are sent throughout the school year to share special information with families. If you do not receive these phone calls/emails from us, please call the main office to ensure that your primary contact information is up to date.

Progress Reports and Report Cards

In addition to parent-teacher conferences, information regarding student progress is available via PowerSchool. At the conclusion of each marking period, parents/guardians can receive a report of their child's progress.

Student Health-Related Information

State Mandated Reporting Requirements

All school district employees are required under state law to report any suspected incidents of child abuse and/or neglect.

Health Services

The school health services team consists of the certified school nurse, health room technician, school physician and school dentist. The team works together with a primary focus of helping all students to stay as healthy as possible. However, we could never do as much as the student and his/her family can. Health habits such as eating nutritious food, getting adequate rest and exercise daily, plus practicing good hygiene such as frequent hand washing to decrease the risk of transmitting illness such as colds, will go a long way towards staying healthy.

What Happens in the Health Room

1. Students need to obtain permission from school staff to go to the health room except in an emergency.

2. Upon entering the health room, all students with illnesses, injuries, or medication needs will be assessed and care given based on the priority of their complaint. Medical emergencies will take priority.

3. After evaluation by the nurse, the following will occur:

    a. The problem will be treated and the student will return to class.

    b. The student will rest and return to class if condition improves.

c. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be contacted by the nurse about the illness or injury and a decision will be made if the student will return to class or go home. Reasons a student may need to be sent home include fever over 100.4℉, vomiting, diarrhea three times in a day, severe injury, a contagious condition, or illness at the nurse's discretion. In the event that the illness or injury requires medical care, it is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to arrange for further care. 911 will be called by the school nurse when medically necessary.

d. The student may present to the nurse's office with an infection or condition that requires follow-up either with a physician or treatment at home (pinkeye, etc.). The nurse will inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the specific requirement for return to school. The nurse will inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the specific requirement for return to school.

   Students may be excluded from school for additional designated symptoms or signs of infectious conditions based on health monitoring by the school nurse or other designated staff, in accordance with guidance and communications from the PA Department of Health or other state or local health officials, and the Board-approved health and safety plan. Students who have been excluded for such symptoms will be readmitted when the school nurse or physician is satisfied that the condition is not communicable, when the student presents a statement from a physician that the student has recovered or is noninfectious, or when other designated criteria set forth in guidance from state or local health officials has been met.

4. Injuries that happen at home should be taken care of at home. If the student is seen in the health room for home injuries, the nurse will provide care based upon the complaint.

For more information, see Board Policy No. 203.

State-Mandated Screening Tests

1. Height, weight, and vision screenings are done on a yearly basis.

2. Hearing screenings are completed in grades K-3, 7th and 11th. Hearing screenings are completed for all new and transfer students at the elementary level.

3. Physical examinations are required by the Pennsylvania School Health Act for all original entry (K,1) , 6th, and 11th grade students and transfer students who do not have documentation of a completed physical examination. Student-athletes, as per PIAA regulations, are also required to have a health care provider complete an examination form. Parents/guardians have the opportunity to have these examinations completed by their private physician or by the school physician.

4. Dental examinations are required by the Pennsylvania School Health Act for all original entry (K, 1), 3rd, and 7th grade students and transfer students who do not have documentation of a completed dental examination. Parents/guardians have the opportunity to have these examinations completed by their private dentist or by the school dentist.

NOTE: All students in Pennsylvania qualify for CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) and therefore we are strongly adhering to this requirement. In addition, we will be communicating with families throughout the summer to make these expectations clear and to communicate opportunities to assist families, such as the scheduling of an immunization van at the school.

*Severe Allergies (*Board Policy 209.1 and 246)

The school district recognizes that some students will have severe allergies and that, in order to maintain a safe school environment for students, the school district depends upon the coordination of parents/guardians, health professionals, students, and staff to minimize contact with the allergen and prepare a plan of action in the event the child is exposed to the allergen.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify the child's building nurse of the severe allergy. The parent/guardian must submit to the school district a medical statement form confirming the severe allergy and signed by a certified physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.

For a child with a severe food allergy, parents/guardians shall maintain a supply of safe snacks at the school and/or with the child for appropriate use in school. A list of safe snacks is available on the building webpage.

Although the school district shall provide the necessary accommodations and services to enable a student with severe allergies to attend school safely, the school district is not required to provide medication or personal devices – that is the responsibility of the parents/guardians or others.

When parents/guardians have information that the child's medical condition has changed and that the change may indicate new and/or revised accommodations necessary to safeguard the child, parents/guardians shall provide such information to the school. For more information, see School Board Policy No. 113.4 and accompanying regulations.

Dangerous allergies can be triggered by certain types of food or other substances. If a child with such an allergy eats or even touches certain food items or foods processed in a facility with these products, the child may have a life-threatening reaction. Other substances, such as perfumes, can produce similar reactions. Therefore, in classrooms where a child has a severe allergy, we are putting in place these steps to help limit an affected student's exposure to these risky foods or other substances:

- A food or other substance that has been identified as being an allergen to a specific student may not be brought into any classroom to where the child is assigned, whether he/she is in the classroom or not.
- If an allergen is brought into the classroom by a student and it is discovered by the teacher, arrangements will be made to ensure that the child is not exposed to the allergen.

We know that these steps may be inconvenient, but we trust that you understand how serious this issue is. We all want students at the Pleasant Valley School District to be safe.

Medication Policy (Board Policy 210 & 210.1)

Whenever possible, parents/guardians are requested to administer medication at home. Every effort should be made by the parents/guardians and their physician or certified nurse practitioner to schedule the administering of medication, when viable, at times during which the student is not in school, thus eliminating disruption to the student's school day and maximizing his/her participation in the learning process.

No medication will be dispensed by any school district personnel unless the parent/guardian provides the certified school nurse or health room technician with the proper authorization and medication as stated in School Board Policy No. 210. Please see the policy in its entirety for complete information.

- Students requiring medication during school hours must have authorization from their physician on file in the nurse's office and the authorization must include the following:
    - Date
    - Full name of student
    - Name of medication
    - Prescribed dosage
    - Time schedule for administration
    - Length of time (duration) to be given
    - Diagnosis
    - Possible side effects
    - Additional medication currently prescribed
    - Special conditions
    - Signature of physician and address and telephone number (including fax number, if possible).
    - Orders signed by a certified registered nurse practitioner (C.R.N.P.) must include an official office stamp or be submitted on official office letterhead that includes the name and address of the physician.
    - Signature of parent/guardian

Medication must be in the original container from the pharmacy/doctor. The container must be clearly labeled with the student's full name and the medication name/dosage.

To ensure the safety of all students, all medication – except EpiPens, Twinject, asthma inhalers, "pump"-administered medications such as insulin – and supplies needed for administration of medication that include any item that is classified as a "sharp" (e.g. syringes with needles, lancets, etc.) must be brought to school by a parent/guardian and given directly to the school nurse or health room technician. All medication to be taken during school hours must have the accompanying Authorization for Medication During School Hours form on file in the nurse's office.

Students may transport emergency medications to and from school (asthma inhalers, Epi-Pens, Twinject, "pump"-administered medications such as insulin) once proper authorization is on file in the nurse's office. In cases where the parent/guardian requests that their child be permitted to carry/self-administer medication as per the order of the physician, the medication must be in a properly labeled pharmacy container with the student's name and the parent/guardian must accept the legal responsibility should the medication be lost, given to or taken by a person other than their child. The parent/guardian must also acknowledge that the school district has no legal responsibility to ensure that the medication

is taken or when the above-named student administers his/her own medication and bears no responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the administration of the medication. The medication for self-administration by the student must be labeled with the student's name and signed and dated by the certified school nurse or health room technician that the student has authorization to carry and self-administer. The student will be responsible for keeping the medication in a secure location.

Students in possession of over-the-counter, prescription or other types of drugs which have not been registered with the certified school nurse or health room technician will be considered to be in violation of the school district's drug and alcohol policy and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Parents/Guardians must pick up any unused medication by the last day of the school year. Any unused medication that is not picked up by this time will be discarded.

The Pennsylvania Public School Code, Section 1414.2(g) allows parents/guardians to request an exemption to the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector for their student. In order to request this exemption, contact the school nurse to make an appointment to discuss this decision, review and sign the opt-out form.

Parents/guardians wishing to choose this option should meet with the school nurse to discuss their

decision and then review and sign the opt-out form in the school nurse's presence.

For more information, see Board Policy No. 210 and 210.1

Immunization Requirements

Under the regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, children in all grades (K-12) will be required to provide proof of having received immunizations or immunity prior to being admitted to school

K-12 immunization requirements for attendance:

- 4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis* (1 dose administered no greater than 4 days prior to the fourth birthday)
- 4 doses polio vaccine (4th dose on or after 4th birthday and at least 6 months after previous dose given)
- 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella**(1st dose given on or no greater than 4 days prior to the first birthday)
- 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine (There must be at least 24 calendar days between dose 1 & 2, 2 months between dose 2 & 3 and a minimum of 4 months between dose 1 & 3, dose 3 must be given at age 24 weeks or greater.)
- 2 doses of varicella vaccine*** (1st dose given on or no greater than 4 days prior to the first birthday) or chickenpox immunity proven by laboratory testing or a written statement of history of chickenpox disease from a physician. The second varicella

must be at least 29 days after the first one.

*Usually given as DTaP, DTP or DT or Td.
**Usually given as MMR.
***There must be 28 days between the MMR and VV if they are not given on the same day.

7th-12th Grade Additional Immunizations Required for Attendance:

- 2 doses of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)
- First dose is given 11-15 years of age; a second dose is required at age 16 or entry into 12th grade.
- If the dose was given at 16 years of age or older, only one dose is required.
- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap).
- Students must have the Tdap and first MCV to be able to enter 7th grade.

Exclusion From School

In accordance with the above regulation, since you have provided evidence of at least one dose of each vaccine, your child may attend school provisionally after “A plan for completion of the required doses” has been provided. Your child must comply with current immunization law which requires completion of required immunizations or provide a medical certificate completed by a physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, physician assistant or local health department. Any student who does not complete the required immunizations will be excluded from school until the requirement is met.

Medical Exemptions

Children need not be immunized if the family physician (M.D or D.O.) provides a written statement that immunization may be detrimental to the health of the child. When the physician determines that immunization is no longer detrimental to the health of the child, the child will have to comply with the above immunization requirements.

Religious Exemptions

Children need not be immunized if the parent/guardian or emancipated child objects in writing to the immunizations on religious grounds, or on the basis of strong moral or ethical conviction similar to a religious belief. The statement must be written on the back of the child’s “Certificate of Immunization” located in the school nurse’s office.

Student Accident Insurance

The Board provides parents/guardians the opportunity to purchase insurance coverage for injury resulting from accidents sustained by students in school for activities other than interscholastic sports. This optional, voluntary K-12 accident insurance plan is designed to help supplement any current insurance you have by satisfying deductibles or coinsurance requirements or limiting the possible financial impacts of an injury if your child has no other insurance. This insurance applies the Usual, Customary, and Reasonable (UCR) coverage.

Brochures for the purchase of this insurance can be downloaded from the Pleasant Valley School District website at www.pvbears.org//Parents/StudentAccidentInsurance. There are options for School Time Coverage or 24 hour coverage. The brochure includes the enrollment information, costs, and instructions for payment. You will deal directly with A-G Administrators when purchasing this insurance. Details are provided in the Brochure.

Safety and Security

Student Identification

While on school district property, all students must wear and visibly exhibit, in the front of his/her outer garment between the shoulders and the waist, their current district issued photo identification on a break-away lanyard issued by the school district. Students may also be required to wear their school district ID when participating in an off-campus school-sponsored activity. At any time, students may be required to immediately present their photo ID to an administrator, teacher, and other school employee or transportation worker. Students are responsible to report lost, damaged, or stolen identification cards immediately upon discovery to a teacher, security officer, or administrator. Under no circumstances shall a student alter a student ID card. Two (2) IDs and (2) lanyards will be issued to each student at no cost. Due to replacement costs, students will be charged for each replacement ID or lanyard.

Emergency Procedures

Parents/Guardians will be notified immediately in the event of an emergency. However, sick or injured children will not be sent home on the school bus. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, an emergency contact person designated by the parent/guardian will be contacted.

It is very important that your child’s emergency contact information is up-to-date and accurate. If you need to change your child’s emergency contact information, this may be done on the PowerSchool Parent Portal by going to www.pvbears.org, the PowerSchool Parent app, or by contacting the main office of your child's school. Parents/Guardians must go to the registration office (adjacent to the middle school) to change their address.

Custody

If there is a court order regarding the parental rights of your child, the court order should be submitted to the district registration office immediately. A copy will be made and filed in the child’s student record. Without a court order, both parents have equal access to the child and the child's records.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT: The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program is authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.) (McKinney-Vento Act). The McKinney-Vento Act was originally authorized in 1987 and most recently reauthorized in December 2015 by the Every

Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The McKinney-Vento Act is designed to address the challenges that homeless children and youths have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, educational agencies must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youths. Homeless children and youths must have access to the educational and related services that they need to enable them to meet the same challenging state academic standards to which all students are held. In addition, homeless students may not be separated from the mainstream school environment. Local Educational Agencies are required to review and undertake steps to revise laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youths.

The law indicates that the LEA liaison shall ensure that all homeless children, youth and families are identified through coordinated activities with other entities.

When a student is identified as being McKinney-Vento eligible, staff will:

- Assist with enrollment, monitor school attendance, and arrange transportation (Kg-8 students).
- Provide school supplies and other school related materials as needed.
- Advocate for and support students and families through school and home visits.
- Set clear expectations for student behavior, attendance, and academic performance.
- Assist students/families with access to community services.
- Assist students/families with access to tutoring, special education, and English language learner resources.
- Assist students so that they can participate in sports, field trips, and school activities.

For additional information, please contact the Child Accounting Office at 570-402-1000 ext. 1215

Metal Detection & Video Surveillance (Board Policy 218.1, 218.3, 226.1)

Metal Detection

To ensure a safe environment for everyone, metal detection equipment may be used for comprehensive or random searches at school, school programs, or school activities, on or off school property. If an individual refuses to cooperate with scanning procedures, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, including denial of access to or participation in the event or activity.

Video Surveillance (Board Policy No. 226.1, 709, and 810.2)

Video surveillance may occur on any school property or transportation vehicle at any time. Video surveillance cameras are used in public areas to record activities on school property (Policy No. 709).

The use of video and audio recording equipment supports efforts to maintain discipline and ensure the safety and security of all students, staff, contractors, and others being transported on district-owned, operated, or contracted school buses or vehicles (Policy No. 810.2).

Surveillance promotes order, safety, security, and property of students, staff, and others.

Recordings may be used for review of incidents and as evidence for disciplinary and/or legal action (Policy No. 226.1).

For more information, see Board Policies No. 226.1, 709, and 810.2.

Searches (School Board Policy 218.1, 218.3, 226)

School district personnel may lawfully search students or their belongings (lockers, cars, electronic devices, bags, clothing, etc.) without a warrant if there is reasonable suspicion of a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the student or the school population. This policy applies whenever students and/or their belongings are at school, on school property, at school-sponsored functions (on or off campus), on school transportation, or otherwise under school supervision.

Additionally, the school district may conduct reasonable suspicionless searches in certain circumstances if there's a threat to the school's health, safety, or welfare. The reasonableness of the search depends on factors like student privacy, search type, immediacy of the threat, and the search's effectiveness. Examples of threats include, but are not limited to, reasonable suspicion of a student possessing:

- Weapons, drugs, or drug paraphernalia
- Stolen property
- Pornographic or other inappropriate material
- "Sexting" photos or using electronic devices for bullying or threatening messages.

The results of searches can be used as evidence in disciplinary, juvenile, or criminal proceedings. Students will generally be notified and given a chance to be present during a search, unless urgent circumstances make it impractical. Parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible.

Lockers, desks, and other facilities provided to students are school district property and are subject to search. (See also the "Hall Lockers" section for more details.)

The school district also uses metal detectors to help maintain a safe environment and cooperates with law enforcement, sometimes partnering with them to use canine searches for drugs or illegal items on premises.

Reasonable Force (School Board Policy 218)

As per PA School Code and Board policy, school staff and authorities may use reasonable force under any of the following circumstances:

- To quell a disturbance.
- To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects.

- For self-defense.
- For the protection of persons or property.

Student Discipline

Effective discipline at Pleasant Valley School District serves two main purposes: to prevent future misbehavior and to be a learning experience for students. We want students to understand *why* rules exist and *why* they are important to follow.

Impact of Disciplinary Actions

Students should know that disciplinary incidents can result in losing privileges. This includes, but isn't limited to, exclusion from school, club, or athletic events, confiscation of parking passes, or personal electronic devices.

Lunch Detention

Lunch Detention (PVH): Lunch detentions are assigned by building staff.

- Lunch Detentions are held every day Monday through Friday.
- Students are not permitted to be on their cellular device during Lunch Detention.
- Students will be given a bagged lunch.
- Students cannot reschedule lunch detentions.

Detention

Detention (PVH & PVM): Detentions are assigned by the administration.Detentions are held on Tuesdays or Thursdays, after school, or on a Saturday

- After school detentions are scheduled for two (2) hours
- Transportation is available for students assigned after-school detention.
- If you need to reschedule a detention due to a medical appointment, you must do so at least 24 hours before the scheduled date.

In-School Suspension (ISS)

Students assigned to In-School Suspension (ISS) must report directly to the ISS room upon arrival at school.

- Attendance will be taken.
- Students will remain in the ISS room until the end of the school day.
- Students will receive a bagged lunch.
- Students are not permitted to be on their cellular device during ISS.
- Time missed due to late arrival/early dismissal will be made up.
- Students assigned ISS cannot participate in any after-school athletics and activities on that day.

Note for High School Students: If you have Diversified Occupation, MCTI, or Cooperative Education, you will forfeit these privileges on the days of your suspension. This also includes participation in after-school activities, clubs, or sports.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

Students may be excluded from school if the seriousness or repeated nature of an offense warrants it. Exclusion can be a suspension or expulsion.

- An Out-of-School Suspension means exclusion from school by a principal or designee for a period of one (1) to ten (10) consecutive days.
- For any suspension exceeding three (3) school days, an informal hearing will be held, which the student and parents/guardians may attend.

During any type of suspension or expulsion, students cannot attend or participate in any school-sponsored activity or be on school property, including school transportation, unless they have written permission from the superintendent or designee.

Teachers will provide access to school work missed during the suspension. It is the student's responsibility to get any missed work from their teachers.All work is due when the student fulfills the suspension.

Expulsion

Expulsion means exclusion from school for an offense for a period exceeding ten (10) school days, and it may result in permanent removal from school rolls.

- Expulsion only occurs after a Board of Education action, preceded by a recommendation from the Principal to the Superintendent of Schools.
- The student is given a due process hearing before the Board of Education, in accordance with Sections 12.6 and 12.8 of the PA School Code.
- Expelled students are prohibited from being on school premises, including school transportation, and from participating in or attending school-sponsored activities, unless they receive written permission from the principal or designee.

Chronic Disciplinary Issues and Habitual Offenders

Students who repeatedly violate school policies, rules, and/or regulations may, after due process and deemed appropriate by administration, be placed in an alternative education program at an off-site facility or face expulsion.

You may be considered a habitual offender if:

- You have exceeded 5-10 days of suspension during the current school year for a specific Level 3 infraction.
- You have had five (5) separate suspensions during the current school year for any combination of Level 3 infractions.

Drug & Alcohol Counseling

As an alternative to more severe disciplinary action, the school district offers drug and alcohol counseling for first-time offenders of nicotine vape, alcohol, tobacco, THC, or other controlled substance-related policies. This is a strictly one-time opportunity, and students who choose this option are required to successfully complete the entire program. (See discipline codes 333, 334, 335, and 337).

Discipline Infractions

Use of Communication Devices, Cellular Telephones, and Other Devices (Board Policy 237)

Student use of communication devices (like cell phones) is prohibited from the time you enter the school building until you exit it. While in the school facility, such devices must be turned off or inoperable and out of sight. Exceptions require approval from the building principal or designee.

No other use of a cell phone or communication device is permitted, including taking photographs, audio, or video recordings. All ringers or audible alerts must be turned off or disabled and out of sight. If you have any questions about appropriate use, please ask a staff member for guidance or permission first.

Note: Using a cell phone to send or display things like assessment answers, embarrassing pictures, or texts may lead to disciplinary consequences beyond those listed, in accordance with the school's code of conduct and district policy, and may result in law enforcement referral.

Use of Certain Hand-held Electronic Devices

The school district allows students to possess certain hand-held electronic devices on school property or school transportation. However, their use is **prohibited while in the school facility during school hours or when participating in a school-sponsored event**, unless approved by the building principal or designee.

If an unapproved personal hand-held electronic device is seen or heard, you may face disciplinary action, including confiscation of the device. These devices must be turned off or inoperable and remain out of sight, even if stored in a backpack, locker, or other hidden area.

For students participating in after-school activities, permission may be granted to use a hand-held electronic device for school-related functions, text messaging, private music listening (with earphones), or other similar inaudible purposes. No other use, including photography, audio, or video recording, is permitted. All audible signals must be turned off or disabled. If you have questions about a device or its use, seek guidance/permission from the building principal or designee before possessing or using it.

Note: These rules apply to all students in all school settings, including facilities, property, school-sponsored events, and transportation vehicles. Students attending MCTI or alternative education facilities must also follow any additional rules and regulations regarding device possession imposed by those facilities.

Leaving the School Building/Premises Without Permission

Students are not permitted to leave the school building, premises, or transportation for illness or any other reason without proper authorization from administration or school personnel. Violators may be suspended, and secondary driving privileges may be suspended temporarily or permanently.

Note: Students who leave school premises, including transportation, without proper authorization and then return are subject to search.

When PVM & PVH students are staying after school for a school-sponsored event, they are still considered under the supervision of school staff. As a result, students are not permitted to leave the campus for any reason until they are leaving at the end of the activity/event.

Theft

Our policy on theft aims not only to warn and deter but also to punish those responsible for theft, regardless of how minor. This rule is applied to the fullest extent possible.

- If a stolen item cannot be recovered or is damaged, the student responsible for the theft is responsible for restitution (paying for the item).
- In the cafeteria food line, all items must be on your tray or clearly visible for purchase. Items placed in pockets, carrying bags, or other concealed areas will be considered an attempted theft, and the student will be disciplined accordingly.

For more information on policies regarding Weapons, Terroristic Threats, Gangs, Tobacco & Vaping Products, Care of School Property, Searches, Video Surveillance/Recordings, Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia, and Bullying/Cyberbullying, please find the details on Policy main (PVSD Policy Manual).

Act 44 of 2025: Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Act 44 of 2025?

Act 44 is a Pennsylvania state law that took effect on **January 6, 2026**. It mandates that school districts notify parents, guardians, and staff within **24 hours** of any weapon-related incident involving students or staff. This applies to incidents occurring:

· On school property.
· At school-sponsored events.
· On district-provided transportation.

2. Who will receive these notifications?

· **Building-Level Incidents:** Notifications will be sent to all parents/guardians and employees assigned to the specific building where the incident occurred.
· **Major Incidents:** The District may issue district-wide notifications for "major incidents" that pose a broader threat to the safety and well-being of the community.
· **Off-Site Incidents:** For incidents occurring during transportation or at school-sponsored activities, notifications will be shared with all relevant staff and families.

3. Why is the District sending communications on non-active threats?

The District's expectations and procedures regarding weapons on school property have not changed. What has changed is the requirement under Act 44 to notify families and staff about weapon-related incidents, even when there is no active threat to schools, students or staff.

4. The Tiered Classification System

To ensure communications are clear and reflect the actual level of risk, Pleasant Valley School District utilizes a three tiered system:

Tier	Classification	Description	Examples	Parent/Guardian/ Staff Notification
Tier 1	**Minimal Impact**	Items that meet the legal definition of a weapon but were possessed without harmful intent and posed no risk.	A pocketknife left in a backpack after a weekend trip; a plastic costume prop.	**Building Specific**
Tier 2	**Elevated Concern**	Items capable of causing harm that were visible or used irresponsibly, though not used to threaten or injure others.	A box cutter shown to another student; a realistic-looking replica weapon.	**Building Specific**
Tier 3	**Major Incident**	Serious incidents involving firearms, high-risk weapons, or any item used in a threatening manner.	Firearms (including BB or airsoft guns); weapons used to intimidate others.	**Districtwide**

5. What information will be included?

In compliance with the Pennsylvania School Code, each notification will provide:

· The **date and location** of the incident.
· A **brief description** of the incident.
· Whether the District in collaboration with law enforcement, has determined that there is an active threat.

6. If I receive a notification, does that mean that our schools are less safe?

No. Our district's priority has always been the safety of our students and staff. Over the past four years, we have taken proactive measures including increasing our police and security throughout the district, adding weapon detection systems, utilizing Safe2Say and maintaining positive relationships with students, staff and parents to ensure "community policing" where everyone in our community is responsible for the safety of each other. Pleasant Valley School District has always responded immediately to safety concerns and notified families when there was a serious risk. *The change is about communication requirements, not an increase in incidents.*

7. Why are the notifications brief?

Due to state and federal privacy laws—specifically the **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**—the District cannot share:

- Specific names or identifying information of those involved.
- Granular details regarding the disciplinary actions taken.

8. How are weapons defined?

According to School Board Policy 218.1 and the Pennsylvania School Code, a "weapon" includes, but is not limited to:

"Any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle, replica of a weapon, or any other tool, instrument, or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury."

Note: The law requires notification even for non-threatening items, such as a butter

knife packed in a lunchbox.

9. Does a notification mean my child is in danger?

Not necessarily. Many incidents do not pose a functional threat to the school community. If law enforcement determines there is no ongoing danger, the notification will explicitly state this. If an active threat exists, the District will provide immediate instructions and regular updates.

Please keep in mind, the increase in notifications is a result of **new legal requirements**, not a decrease in school safety. The District continues to utilize weapon detection systems, school police, and the *Safe2Say* program to maintain a secure environment.

10. How will notifications be delivered?

All alerts will be sent through the district's communication system, **PowerSchool's SchoolMessenger**. Please ensure your contact information is up to date in the PowerSchool portal.

11. Who can I contact with additional questions?

Please contact your school's principal or the District Office at 570-402-1000. We are here to help you navigate these changes and keep our community informed.

Code of Conduct

To behave appropriately in school, students must understand basic discipline guidelines from both the school and home. Discipline is important and necessary for students, parents/guardians, and the school.

Unacceptable student behaviors are organized into three categories:

- **Level I:** Misbehavior typically resolved by the classroom teacher and/or principal or designee.
- **Level II:** More serious or frequent misbehaviors requiring disciplinary action by the principal or designee.
- **Level III:** Extremely serious, highly disruptive, illegal, or criminal misbehaviors addressed by the principal or designee.

The final decisions regarding the type of infraction, its pervasiveness/severity, and the disciplinary consequences are at the administration's discretion. In all cases, disciplinary action or privilege denial may be **accelerated for repeat offenders** or due to the **severity of the offense(s)**.

Repeat Disciplinary Behavior

If a student continues to demonstrate disciplinary behaviors throughout the school year, they may be placed on a Behavior Contract.

Students who accumulate three or more days of out-of-school suspension (OSS) will be required to enter into a behavioral contract. Upon returning to school, a meeting with an administrator, the student, and the parent will be scheduled, during which the behavioral contract will be reviewed and signed. Students are not permitted to return to classes until this meeting has occurred. Please note that the contract remains valid regardless of whether the student chooses to sign it. The school will help the student and parent find the most appropriate educational placement within the Pleasant Valley School District.

Behavior Contract

If a student breaks their behavior contract and there's evidence of repetitive issues at school, the school will help the student and parent find the most appropriate educational placement within the Pleasant Valley School District.

Cell Phone Contract

The purpose of this contract is to help students understand that classrooms are for learning, and students must be fully engaged to reach their potential. For this reason, cell phone use during instructional time is not allowed. This contract will be implemented upon the 4th offense of School Board Policy 237.

Hall Restriction Contract

Students who cut classes, abuse hall passes, or arrive tardy to class repeatedly despite initial interventions may be placed on hall restriction for a length of time determined by administration. Students on hall restriction must always go to all classes, bathrooms, offices, etc. with a security officer - no exceptions. Students will sign a hall restriction contract to confirm that they understand the expectations for compliance with hall restriction procedures. Failure to comply may result in a disciplinary referral coded under Level 3 Insubordination.

No-Contact Contract

In cases where two or more students have engaged in behavior that causes safety concerns, stifles the education process for themselves or others, or otherwise violates the code of conduct, those students may be asked to sign no-contact agreements with the written consent of their parents/guardians. PVHS and PVMS will also strongly encourage the signing of no-contact agreements by all parties - including alleged victims and perpetrators - in incidents of

bullying, harassment, and other types of wrongful actions committed by one student against another student. The purpose behind these agreements is to keep all students safe and comfortable in school. The administration can accomplish this more effectively when all students sign agreements, regardless of their roles or degrees of wrongdoing in an incident. No-contact agreements cover all kinds of verbal, non-verbal, and physical contact. This includes go-betweens and all digital communication. Students who sign no-contact agreements and objectively violate the terms will be subject to disciplinary action coded under Level 3 Insubordination or Harassment, which could result in Out-of-School Suspension and possible police involvement.

The chart on the following pages lists the types of infractions and consequences for the first 4 offenses of each infraction at each level of student misbehavior.

Level I Infractions
Misbehaviors typically resolved by the classroom teacher and/or principal or designee.

Note: Any infraction resulting in 3 days of OSS or more may result in a behavior contract and/or privilege denial

Code	INFRACTIONS	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense
101	**Tardy to Class-** Arriving up to 5 mins. after the bell to class without a valid pass.	1st Tardy- Teacher Verbal Warning	2nd Tardy- Teacher Verbal Warning Contact Home	Tardies 3/4/5- Detention	6th Tardy- ISS Level 2- Insubordination
102	**Unexcused Tardy to School-** Arriving after the start of the school day.	1st Tardy- Verbal Warning	2nd Tardy- Verbal Warning Contact Home	Tardies 3/4/5- Detention OR Parking Pass revoked for 2 weeks	6th Tardy ISS Level 2- Insubordination OR Parking Pass revoked for the semester
103	**Unprepared for Class-** Not having the proper supplies needed to participate fully in class.	Teacher Verbal Warning Student Conf.	Teacher Verbal Warning Contact Home	Detention	ISS Level 2- Insubordination
104	**ID Violation-** Not displaying student ID properly.	Teacher Verbal Warning Temporary ID	Teacher Contact Home Verbal Warning Temporary ID	Detention	ISS Level 2- Insubordination
105	**Cheating/Plagiarism-** Taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. This includes the inappropriate use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).	Teacher contacts home. Teacher discretion - "Zero on assignment" Administrative Discretion - Warning to 3 Day ISS			
106	**Display/Public Affection-** Acts of physical intimacy such as kissing in the view of others.	Verbal Warning Student Conference	Verbal Warning Contact Home	Detention	ISS Level 2- Insubordination

107	**Violation of Bus Rules–** Failure to follow bus rules. 1. Follow the bus driver's directions 2. Sit safely in the seat facing front with back to the back of the seat 3. Stay seated until assigned stop 4. Keep hands, feet and all items within their personal space and inside the bus 5. Keep main aisle clear 6. Maintain a quiet voice and use appropriate language 7. No eating or drinking on the bus 8. Follow the PBIS bus/parking lot matrix. 9. Students are prohibited from transporting tools or equipment on MCTI buses; all such items must remain at MCTI. If tools/equipment must be taken home, a parent or guardian is required to transport them. NOTE: The school bus is an extension of the classroom. Students are expected to maintain the same behavioral expectations on the school bus as in school. Bus suspensions connected to an OSS infraction will start at the completion of the OSS. Absences related to not being bused into school will be considered unlawful. Administrative Discretion - *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions	Verbal Warning-Detention	1-2 Day Bus Suspension	3-4 Day Bus Suspension	5 Days-Bus Transportation Suspended Possible School Police

108	**Dress Code Violation-** A student found to be in violation of Policy 221 will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will be issued a written warning and given the opportunity to change from non-compliant clothing into compliant clothing. If the student does not have compliant clothing to change into, the parent will be contacted to bring such clothing for the student. A student may change from non-compliant clothing to compliant clothing provided by the school, when available. If the parent cannot be contacted and/or is unable to bring such clothing, the student may be removed from class for the remainder of the day for offensive items. Violations in excess of the 3rd offense in any one school year will also carry the infraction of “Level II insubordination and up to Level III insubordination” and shall be issued disciplinary consequences.	Written Warning Contact Home Change of Dress required	1 Detention Change of Dress required	2 Detentions Change of Dress required	ISS Level 2-Insubordination
109	**Inappropriate Article-** Items not directly associated with and reasonably necessary for the student’s participation in the school program shall NOT be brought to school or to any school activity or program.	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Possible School Police *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			

110	**Classroom/ Hallway Disruption-** Behavior that interferes with the educational process. Includes disrespectful behavior that requires redirection from school personnel and horseplay not resulting in injury.	1st- Teacher Verbal Warning & Student Conference	2nd: Teacher Verbal Warning & Contact Home	3rd: Detention	4th: Detention 5th: 1 day ISS. Level 2- Insubordination
111	**Gambling-** Participation in any games of chance involving money or other stakes which relies on chances for the monetary advantage of one participant at the expense of others.	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Possible School Police *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			
112	**Unauthorized Possession of Electronic Devices during Instructional Time-** The possession of unauthorized electronic devices during instructional time that disrupts the educational environment (cellular devices, earbuds, video games, etc).	1st offense- Verbal Warning Teacher Student Conference	2nd Offense- Referral to office. Teacher Contacts Home. Electronic Device is confiscated by the administration until the end of the school day. Student will pick up the electronic device at the end of the school day.	3rd Offense- Referral to office. Teacher Contacts Home. Electronic Device is confiscated by the administration until the end of the school day. Student will pick up the electronic device at the end of the school day.	4th Offense- Referral to office. Teacher Contacts Home. Electronic Device is confiscated by the administration until the end of the school day. Parent/Guardian will pick up the electronic device at the end of the school day. Cell Phone Contract is implemented 5th Offense Level 2 - Insubordination

		NOTE: Use of a cell phone to send and/or display such things as, but not limited to, answers on assessments or embarrassing/inappropriate pictures or text may result in disciplinary consequences beyond those listed above and in accordance with the school's code of conduct and school district policy, and may result in referral to law enforcement.

Level II Infractions

Repeated offensives from Level 1 infractions: Behavior plan- not limited to: Hallway restriction, loss of privileges,etc.

Note: Any infraction resulting in 3 days of OSS or more may result in a behavior contract and/or privilege denial

Code	INFRACTIONS	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense
200	**Insubordination Level 2-** Continual defiance of a Level 1 infraction or failing to follow a directive after being personally notified by any school employee during any period of time when being subject to the authority of such school personnel.	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Possible School Police *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			
201	**Skipping Class/ School-** Being late to class by more than 5 minutes,abusing a hall pass or leaving school grounds during the instructional day, and/or being in an unauthorized area without prior approval from school personnel.	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			
202	**Computer, Network, and Internet Use Policy Violation-** Refer to the PVSD Technology Handbook & Policy 815-7 Acceptable use policy.	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Possible School Police *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			

203	**Inappropriate/ Disruptive Conduct-** Behavior that violates the Code of Student Conduct, not limited to profanity directed at another student/staff member, inappropriate expression/action, including depictions of violence, inappropriate care of school property, using passive resistance, noise, threat, fear, intimidation, coercion, force, violence, or any other conduct that causes the disruption of any process of the school, or urging any other student to engage in such conduct which unreasonably impairs the educational process.	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Possible School Police *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions or behavior resulting in injury.		
204	**Forgery-** Falsely making, completing, signing or altering a written document.	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Possible School Police *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.		
205	**Violation of Student Expression/Distribution & Posting of Materials-** Publicly displaying non-school materials on school property or at school sponsored events, including walls, doors, bulletin boards, easels, the outside of lockers; on district-sponsored or student websites, through other school district-owned technology etc. without receiving prior permission from the building Principal.	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Possible School Police *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.		
206	**Possession of Mace or Self-Defense Spray**	First Offense w/o Use 5 Days OSS	2nd and subsequent offenses 10 Days OSS	Any use of mace or self-defense spray on PVSD property 10 Days OSS
207	**Open Lewdness-** Any lewd act which a student knows is likely to be	Administrative Discretion: - 3 to 10 Days OSS		

	observed by others who would be affronted or alarmed.	- Possible Expulsion - Possible School Police *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			
208	**Skipping Detention-** Not reporting to assigned after-school detention nor securing prior permission to reschedule.	ISS	2 Days ISS	OSS	Level III- Insubordination
209	**Cell Phone Insubordination** - When a student refuses to hand in their cell phone and/or any unauthorized electronic device as part of the Level 1 consequences of inappropriate use, or as part of violating the Cell Phone Contract	1 day OSS	2 days OSS	3 days OSS	4 days OSS 5th Offense: 5 days OSS
210	**Excessive Unexcused Absences - Student Drivers** with a high number of unlawful (UNL) absences	Unlawful #3 Verbal Warning	Unlawful #6 Pass revoked for 14 school days	Unlawful #9 Pass revoked for 90 school days	Administrative discretion
211	**Tardy to School - Student Drivers** who arrive after the start of the school day	Tardies 3/4/5 Detention	6th Tardy Pass revoked for 14 school days	9th tardy Pass revoked for 90 school days	Administrative discretion
212	**Unauthorized Parking with a Pass** - Including but not limited to: using your pass but without your registered vehicle, using your vehicle but parking in another spot,	Warning from Police via windshield sticker	Pass revoked for 14 school days	Pass revoked for 90 school days	Administrative discretion
213	**Unauthorized Parking without a Pass** - Includes any type of parking violation where the person responsible for the vehicle on campus does not have parking privileges	Warning from Police via windshield sticker	Administrative Discretion - Denied future parking pass application - 1 to 3 days OSS - Possible School Police/vehicle towing		
214	**Parking Pass Violation** - The improper use of a pass by defacing the pass,	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Denied parking privileges			

	changing the pass number, giving/receiving a pass from someone else, and/or the possession/distribution of a stolen pass	- Possible School Police/vehicle towing			
215	**Careless/Reckless Driving** - Conducting the vehicle in a manner that puts the safety of self and/or others at risk, either unintentionally through negligence or intentionally with known disregard for the risks	Administrative Discretion: - Warning to 10 Day OSS - Denied parking privileges - Possible School Police/vehicle towing *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions			
216	**Reckless/Careless Treatment of School-Issued Devices**: Any unintentional damage to district-owned technology through negligence or a careless mistake, and/or any intentional damage with known disregard for the risks. Note: The Technology Department insurance plan covers normal use, accidental cracked screens, and other basic repairs resulting from wear on the device. This infraction refers to incidents beyond this coverage, from intentional damage to recurring incidents due to carelessness. Any damage deemed as intentional will not be covered by insurance and therefore will be at the student's cost - even on the first offense.	Warning and contact home and repairs/replacements made @ cost to the student (if damage is deemed intentional)	1 day ISS and repairs/replacements made @ cost to the student	2 days ISS and repairs/replacements made @ cost to the student	
217	**False Reporting/Falsification of Information:** Intentionally making a false, misleading, or unfounded statement, report, or allegation to school staff, administrators, or school police/security - This includes, but is not limited to, the intentional and objectively	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 10 Days OSS: Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)			

	false accusation or denial of the following student handbook infractions regarding oneself or others: electronic device use, inappropriate/disruptive conduct, vaping, fighting, skipping class, bullying, all forms of harassment and intimidation, and recording video.	

Level III Infractions

Repeated offensives from Level 2 infractions: Behavior plan- not limited to: Hallway restriction, loss of privileges,etc.

Note: Any infraction resulting in 3 days of OSS or more may result in a behavior contract and/or privilege denial

Code	INFRACTIONS	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense
300	**Insubordination Level 3-** Continual defiance of a Level 2 Infractions.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			
301	**Simple Assault on Student-** The unlawful physical attack by one student upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			
302	**Aggravated Assault on Student-** An unlawful attack by one person upon another in which the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious, severe, or aggravated bodily injury. Includes assault with disease (as in cases when the offender is aware that he/she is infected with a deadly disease) by biting, spitting, etc.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			

303	**Simple Assault on Staff-** The unlawful physical attack by one student upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
304	**Aggravated Assault on Staff-** An unlawful attack by one person upon another in which the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious, severe, or aggravated bodily injury. This also includes assault with disease (as in cases when the offender is aware that he/she is infected with a deadly disease) by biting, spitting, etc.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
305	**Rape-** Refer to the associated Crimes Code Citation for specific details – §31221.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
306	**Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse-** Refer to the associated Crimes Code Citation for specific details §3123.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
307	**Sexual Assault-** Refer to associated Administrative Discretion: Crimes Code Citation for specific details -- §3124.1.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

308	**Aggravated Indecent Assault-** Refer to associated Crimes Code Citation for specific details -- §3125.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
309	**Indecent Assault-** A person that commits Indecent Assault by touching the complainant's sexual or intimate parts with sexual or intimate parts of the person without consent.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
310	**Indecent Exposure-** A person that exposes his or her genitals in any public place or in any place where there are present other persons under circumstances in which he or she knows or should know that this conduct is likely to offend, affront or alarm.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
311	**Sexual Harassment-Title IX-** Discrimination against a student based on the student's submission or rejection of sexual advances and/or requests or creating an atmosphere of harassment based on sexual issues/activity. The unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, other physical or verbal conduct or communication of a sexual nature, and any other gender based harassment which has the purpose or effect to interfere with the individual performance, work environment, or participation in school-sponsored activities, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

312	**Racial/Ethnic Intimidation-** Students commit the offense of ethnic intimidation if, with malicious intention toward the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender, or gender identity of another individual or group of individuals. Intimidation includes the use of demeaning language/namecalling associated with an identified group (slurs)	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
313	**All Other forms of Harassment/Intimidation-** Repeatedly commits acts with the intent to harass, annoy, or alarm another person. Intimidation includes the use of demeaning language/namecalling associated with an identified group (slurs)	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
314	**Fighting (Mutual Altercation)-** Confrontation with another student in which the altercation is mutual, requiring physical restraint or resulting in injury or property damage. Mutual participation in a fight involving physical violence, where there is no one main offender and no major injury. This does not include verbal confrontations, physical aggression, or other minor alterations.	Administrative Discretion: - 5 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

315	**Minor Altercation-** An incident which involves a single offender who commits a minor violent act against another individual and the other individual does not respond and the incident does not elevate to a more severe type of incident such as a fight or assault (e.g., “Student A” strikes “Student B” resulting in little injury and “Student B” does not retaliate).	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
316	**Stalking-** A person engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly commits acts towards another person, including following the person without proper authority, with the intent to place such person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or to cause substantial emotional distress	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
317	**Kidnapping/Interference with Custody of Child-** The removal, restraining, or confinement of an individual by another through force, threat, or deception, or (if a person is under 14 years old) without consent of a parent, guardian, or school. Kidnapping/abduction includes hostage taking. A parent taking a child in violation of a court order, although it may be a crime, is not kidnapping for this purpose.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
318	**Unlawful Restraint-** When one person knowingly and intentionally restrains another person without that person's consent and without legal justification.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

319	**Threatening School Staff/Student-** To unlawfully place another person in fear of bodily harm through verbal threats or intimidation (physical, verbal, written, or electronic (e.g., internet) threat or intimidation) without displaying a weapon or subjecting the person to actual physical attack; stalking (i.e., secretly or stealthily pursuing another, spying on or watching another person, with or without the intent to harm, frighten, or coerce) should be included.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
320	**Physical Aggression/Altercation–** Any physical act intended to cause harm to another person or a group of people	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
321	**Robbery-** The unlawful intent to commit a felony or theft against a person.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
322	**Theft-** A person unlawfully takes, or exercises unlawful control over, property of another with intent to deprive him thereof.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
323	**Attempt/Commit Murder/Manslaughter-** When a person intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or negligently attempts to cause the death of a human being.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

324	**Bullying-** By law, "bullying" shall mean an intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act, or a series of acts: (1) directed at another student or students; (2) which occurs in a school setting; (3) that is severe, persistent or pervasive; and (4) that has the effect of doing any of the following: (i.) substantially interfering with a student's education; (ii.) creating a threatening environment; or (iii.) substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school; and "school setting" shall mean in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school. The behavior can be either overt or covert in nature utilizing various methods of communication. The term bullying should not be used when there is a mutual confrontation between two students or groups of students. Behavior is clearly bullying when: (1) there is intent to harm - the perpetrator appears to find pleasure in taunting and	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

	continues even when the target's distress is obvious. Mutual "teasing" should not be confused with bullying behavior and (2) there is intensity and duration - the taunting continues over a period of time, and is not welcomed by the target. (School Board Policy 249)	
325	**Burglary-** The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a felony or theft. It is not necessary that force be used in gaining entry, neither is it necessary that property loss occur. Attempts to unlawfully enter a structure without expressed permission are also counted in this category.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
326	**Arson-** Damaging or attempting to damage any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device. Setting a fire (by match, lighter, fireworks, firecrackers, trash can fires, Molotov cocktails, or any other incendiary device) providing aid, counsel or pay toward the same. This does not include a simple act of lighting a match.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
327	**Vandalism-** The unlawful desecration of a building or other structure with the intent to commit damage.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

328	**Criminal Trespass-** Intentionally entering or remaining unlawfully on school property, without authorization	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
329	**Rioting-** Taking part in a violent public disturbance.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
330	**Bomb threat-** Communicating, either directly or indirectly, a bomb threat to: (1) commit any crime of violence with intent to terrorize another; (2) cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation; or (3) otherwise cause serious public inconvenience, or cause terror or serious public inconvenience with reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience. The term “communicates” means, conveys in person or by written or electronic means, including telephone, electronic mail, Internet, facsimile, telex and similar transmissions.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
331	**Terroristic Threat (excluding bomb threat)-** Communicating a threat to: (1) commit any crime of violence with intent to terrorize another; (2) cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation; or (3) otherwise cause serious public inconvenience, or cause terror or serious public inconvenience with	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

	reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience. The term “communicates” means, conveys in person or by written or electronic means, including telephone, electronic mail, Internet, facsimile, telex and similar transmissions. Includes: Indirect Terroristic Threat (does not specify the means and is simply a generalized statement or threat) Direct Terroristic Threat (describes the means and the specific individual(s) targeted)	
332	**Disorderly Conduct-** Intent to cause public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm, or recklessly creating a risk thereof, he/she: (1) engages in fighting or threatening, or in violent or tumultuous behavior; (2) makes unreasonable noise; (3) uses obscene language, or obscene gesture; or (4) creates a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act which serves no legitimate purpose of the actor (5) throwing items potentially creating an unsafe environment for others (6) instigating a fight/altercation by encouraging or triggering negative behavior	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Drug & Alcohol Counseling - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.
333	**Possession/use/under the influence of a Controlled Substance-** Any drug listed in the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act or the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act or PA	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Drug & Alcohol Counseling - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

	Drug Device and Cosmetic Act, as a controlled substance, chemical abused substance or medication for which a prescription is required under law and/or any substance which is intended to alter mood. Not limited to, marijuana, hashish, chemical solvents, glue, “look alike” substances, and any capsule or pill not registered with the school nurse, annotated within the student’s health record and then given in accordance with the District’s Policy for the administration of medication to students in school. Drug Paraphernalia – Any utensil or item which, in the school’s reasonable judgment, is commonly associated with the use of drugs, alcohol or mood-altering substances. Not limited to, roach clips, pipes, and bowls. Includes: Possession of a Controlled Substance Using/Sale/Distribution or Acting Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance	
334	**Possession of Alcohol-** Any alcohol or malt beverage. Examples include, but are not limited to, beer, wine, and liquor. Includes: Possession of Alcohol Using/Sale/Distribution or Acting Under the Influence of Alcohol .	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Drug & Alcohol Counseling - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.

335	**Possession, Use, or Sale of Tobacco or Other Nicotine/Drug Delivery Service-** Tobacco includes a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, or other smoking/vaping product or materials; and smokeless tobacco in any form (snuff, chewing tobacco, etc.).	1 day OSS School Police Citation	2 days OSS School Police Citation	3 days OSS School Police Citation	Administrative discretion.
336	**Cyberbullying-** The term cyberbullying is being used to describe bullying behavior which occurs on the Internet or via Social Media. The term bullying should not be used when there is a mutual confrontation between two students or groups of students. Behavior is clearly bullying when: (1) there is intent to harm - the perpetrator appears to find pleasure in taunting and continues even when the target's distress is obvious. Mutual "teasing" should not be confused with bullying behavior and (2) there is intensity and duration - the taunting continues over a period of time, and is not welcomed by the target (Policy 249).	Administrative Discretion - 1 to 10 Days OSS *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.			
337	**Possession, use, or sale of a vaping material-** Tobacco includes a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, or other smoking/vaping product or materials; and smokeless tobacco in any form. *PVSD will not issue a citation to students who complete the INDEPTH program within 30 days of the offense. INDEPTH is an alternative	1 day OSS School police citation OR	2 days OSS School police citation	3 days OSS School police citation	Administrative discretion

	program to a citation that educates young people about the risk factors and dangers of nicotine addiction, as well as ways to quit vaping. Students will complete this program during ISS. The course will be taught by Carbon Monroe Pike Drug & Alcohol Commission Inc. (CMPDA).	1 day OSS 1 day ISS & Vape Education Course*			
338	**Possession of A Weapon-** Possession of a weapon on school grounds or in any conveyance providing transportation to and from educational institutions. A weapon is defined as: Any firearm or explosive device; force-impacting device; knife or sharp-edged or sharp-pointed utensil, device or tool; or any article, instrument or substance which can or is likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Not limited to: BB/Pellet Gun, Explosive (Bomb, Missile, etc.,) Rifle/Shotgun, Knife, Cutting Instrument (Razor, box cutter, etc.) Handgun, Other Firearm or Weapon, Replica Other Weapon. Board Policy 218.1	Expulsion of not less than one year..			
339	**Possession of look-a-like weapons (w/o intent)-** Any item that represents and / or looks like a weapon. (but not limited to replicas, plastic items, etc.)	Expulsion of not less than one year			

340	**Verbal Aggression/Altercation-** Any verbal act intended to cause harm to another person or a group of people.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.	
341	**Prohibited Item of a Dangerous Nature-** Items, devices, materials which others or which could interfere with the educational process are prohibited in school. Items not directly associated with the educational program and reasonably necessary for the student's participation in the school program shall NOT be brought to school or to any school activity or program.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.	
342	**Violation of Audio & Video Recording-on School Property and School District Buses/Vehicles-** Electronic devices that have the capability to record audio and/or video being used by students in violation of applicable law and Board Policy #815; including the misuse of devices that negatively impacts other people, or defames their reputation to include inappropriate recording and/or posting of staff and students within the school environment.	Administrative Discretion: - 1 to 10 Days OSS - Possible School Police/State Police Involvement - Possible Expulsion *Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions.	
343	**Refusal to Cooperate with Search Procedures.** In Pennsylvania public schools, a search of a student or their belongings by school officials is generally permissible under federal and state law if there is **reasonable suspicion** that the search will	**1st Offense** - 10 Days OSS	**2nd Offense +** Administrative Discretion: 10 days OSS up to Possible Expulsion

	uncover evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or school rules. This reasonable scope can, in situations where there is reasonable suspicion of a health or safety emergency, extend to checking a student's vitals. Includes but is not limited to: Refusal to Cooperate with Search Procedures, Non-Compliance with Search Requests, Obstructing School Safety and Search Protocols, Failure to Submit to Authorized Searches. See Board Policy.		

Volunteers

Volunteers (Board Policy No. 916)

A volunteer is an adult who plays a more involved role than a visitor, voluntarily offering their services to the district without compensation. They are not considered school employees. If you're interested in volunteering, please get in touch with the main office at PVM: 570-402-1000 x 2001 or PVH: 570-402-1000 x 4001.

All volunteers must complete a volunteer application and submit the required clearances to the building principal. Once reviewed by the building principal the paperwork will be sent to Human Resources (HR) for approval. HR must receive all appropriate volunteer paperwork at least one week before the event for which the person wishes to volunteer. Approval is necessary before starting any volunteer work.

The following clearances must be completed prior to volunteering:

- PA Child Abuse History Certification, - which must be less than sixty (60) months old.
- PA State Police Criminal History Record Information - which must be less than sixty (60) months old.
- Disclosure Statement for Volunteers - which is a statement swearing or affirming the applicant has not been disqualified from service by reason of conviction of designated criminal offenses or being listed as the perpetrator in a founded report of child abuse.
- Federal Criminal History Report (if the volunteer has been a PA resident for less than 10 years) Tuberculosis Test screened in accordance with PA Department of Health.

For more information, see Board Policy No. 916

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) (Board Policy No. 916)

We need parent volunteers to support the success of the school community. The PTO is a parent/guardian volunteer organization that provides an opportunity for the home, school, and community to work together for our children. In the past, the PTO has provided our students with playground equipment, books for the school library, technology, school-wide and classroom celebrations, Holiday Shoppe, school store, and various after-school social events for both students and families. Additionally, many individuals generously volunteer their time to tutor students and assist with special events at school.

PVM holds monthly PTO meetings. Check your school calendar for dates and times of PTO meetings at each school. All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend the meetings at their child's(ren's) school. Your attendance at these meetings is important both to learn about what is going on in our schools and to provide support to the children. Any and all parents are welcome to come and give their support. Please contact your child's(/children's classroom teacher or the main office of your child's(ren's) school to sign up to volunteer.