2026-2027

STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK (K-5)

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BRODHEADSVILLE, PA 18322

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION: A COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

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Welcome to the Pleasant Valley School District K-5 Student-Parent Handbook!

On behalf of Pleasant Valley Elementary School and Pleasant Valley Intermediate 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 Kindergarten through Grade 5.

We believe that 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.

Contact Information

Pleasant Valley Elementary School (PVE) - Grades K-2

- **Main Office:** 570-402-1000 X 6001
  - **Principal:** Roger Pomposello
  - **Assistant Principal:** Sarah Adams
  - **Dean of Students:** Renee Moore
- **School Counselors:**
  - **Kindergarten:** Emily Murphy
  - **Grade 1:** Jillian Hansen
  - **Grade 2:** Katie Everson
- **Health Office:** 570-402-1000 X 6061
  - **School Nurse:** Sabreena Tichy
- **Attendance Email:** pveattendance@pvbears.org
- **Parent Pickup Email:** pveparentpickup@pvbears.org

Pleasant Valley Intermediate School (PVI) - Grades 3-5

- **Main Office:** 570-402-1000 X 3001
  - **Principal:** Sabrina Albright
  - **Assistant Principal:** Lauryn Bencker
  - **Dean of Students:** Thomas Dudley
- **School Counselors:**
  - **Grade 3:** Nicole Moore
  - **Grade 4:** Julie Romanisko
  - **Grade 5:** Rachel Below
- **Health Office:** 570-402-1000 X 3061
  - **School Nurse:** Dawn Kieffer
- **Attendance Email:** pviattendance@pvbears.org
- **Parent Pickup Email:** pviparentpickup@pvbears.org

District Office

- **Main Number:** 570-402-1000
- **Director of Special Education:** Christine Deutch X 8310
- **Supervisor of Transportation:** Deena Boyne X 1279
- **Child Accounting Office (McKinney-Vento):** Lauren Nelson X 1215
- **Director of Technology & Innovation/PV Bears Academy Principal:** Jason Van Voorhis X 8452
- **Pleasant Valley Bears Academy:** Ariana Leibenguth (School Counselor) X 4011

General Information

- **District Calendar:** The full Pleasant Valley School District calendar is available online at www.pvbears.org. Please refer to it for important dates, holidays, and school closures.
- **PowerSchool & Annual Information Update: 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.

School Hours & Daily Schedules

PVSD Arrival, Start, and Dismissal Snapshot

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

PVE School Hours Grades K-2

- **School Hours:** Students attend school from 9:10 AM to 3:45 PM.
- **Student Arrival:** Parent drop-off opens at **9:01 AM**. Students are not permitted in the building before this time. To ensure your child is on time for instruction, we recommend dropping them off by **9:07 AM**. All students arriving after 9:10 AM must be signed in at the Main Office by a parent/guardian.

PVE Daily Schedule

PVE Daily Bell Schedule		
Period	**Begin**	**End**
Student Arrival & Breakfast	9:01 AM	9:10 AM
Homeroom	9:10 AM	9:20 AM
Period 1	9:21 AM	9:56 AM
Period 2	9:58 AM	10:33 AM
Period 3	10:35 AM	11:10 AM
Period 4	11:12 AM	11:47 AM
Period 5	11:49 AM	12:24 PM
Period 6	12:26 PM	1:01 PM
Period 7	1:03 PM	1:38 PM
Period 8	1:40 PM	2:15 PM
Period 9	2:17 PM	2:52 PM
Period 10	2:54 PM	3:29 PM
Homeroom	3:29 PM	3:45 PM

PVI School Hours Grades 3-5

- **School Hours: Students attend school from 8:55 AM to 3:30 PM.**
- **Student Arrival:** Parent drop-off opens at **8:45 AM**. Students are not permitted in the building before this time. All students must be dropped off and seated in their classroom ready for instruction by **8:55 AM**. All students arriving after 8:55 AM must be signed in at the Main Office by a parent/guardian.

PVI Daily Schedule

PVI Daily Bell Schedule		
Period	**Begin**	**End**
Student Arrival & Breakfast	8:45 AM	8:55 AM
Homeroom	8:55 AM	9:10 AM
Period 1	9:10 AM	9:45 AM
Period 2	9:47 AM	10:22 AM
Period 3	10:24 AM	10:59 AM
Period 4	11:01 AM	11:36 AM
Period 5	11:38 AM	12:13 PM
Period 6	12:15 PM	12:50 PM
Period 7	12:52 PM	1:27 PM
Period 8	1:29 PM	2:04 PM
Period 9	2:06 PM	2:41 PM
Period 10	2:43 PM	3:18 PM
Homeroom	3:18 PM	3:30 PM

Six-Day Cycle: The school schedule operates on a six (6) day cycle, designated as Day 1 through Day 6. This cycle repeats on the seventh school day. Any days lost due to inclement weather or vacations will be skipped, and the six-day cycle will continue without interruption. This means that if Day 3 is a snow day, the next school day will be Day 4.

Virtual Days

It may be necessary to have a Virtual Day throughout the year. If a virtual day is called, students are expected to participate in virtual learning. Guidance on whether school will be closed if a Virtual Day will be used will be provided via district communication.

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.
- Don't forget to turn your cameras on! This is a PVSD requirement so we can take 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 respectful.
- Take care of your electronic devices.
- Code of Conduct will be in effect for behavior purposes.
- Dress and Grooming Guidelines will apply.

PVE Virtual Day Schedule

2026 – 2027 PVE Virtual Day Schedule		
Period	**Time**	**Transition**
PREP	**8:30 - 9:30**	
1	9:30 **Student Start of Day**	
Live ELA Instruction	9:30 - 12:00	Coordinated with HR Teacher, 30 min LIVE instruction ELA/Math and Related Arts. Office Hours will be held throughout the day.
Office Hours		
Live MATH Instruction		
Office Hours		
LUNCH	**12:00 - 12:30**	
Open Virtual Meeting time with students or parents / Virtual Non-instructional Staff PD	**12:30 - 4:00**	

PVI Virtual Day Schedule

2026 – 2027 PVI Virtual Day Schedule – (No Bear Block)				
Period		Start Time	End Time	Transition (minutes)
Teacher Prep Time		8:15 AM	9:15 AM	
Period 1		9:15 AM	9:48 AM	5 Minutes
Period 2		9:53 AM	10:26 AM	5 Minutes
Period 3		10:31 AM	11:04 AM	5 Minutes
Period 4 Grade 3 Lunch	Lunch Teams 3A, 3F, 3E	11:09 AM	11:42 AM	5 Minutes
Period 5 Grade 3 Lunch	Lunch Teams 3B, 3C, 3D, 3G	11:47 AM	12:20 PM	5 Minutes
Period 6 Grade 5 Lunch	Lunch Teams 5A, 5B, 5E	12:25 PM	12:58 PM	5 Minutes
Period 7 Grade 4/5 Lunch	Lunch Teams 5C, 5D, 4D, 4E	1:03 PM	1:36 PM	5 Minutes
Period 8 Grade 4 Lunch	Lunch Teams 4A, 4B, 4C	1:41 PM	2:14 PM	5 Minutes
Period 9		2:19 PM	2:52 PM	
Open Virtual Meeting Time for Students or Parents/Virtual Non-Instructional Staff PD		2:52 PM	3:45 PM	

Unscheduled School Closings/Early Dismissal/Delayed School Opening: Information regarding school closings, early dismissals, or delayed openings due to weather or emergencies will be announced via:

- Local television and radio stations
- District website (www.pvbears.org)
- Social media
- **Automated calls to all families.** Please ensure your contact information in PowerSchool is up-to-date to receive these critical alerts.
- **Early Dismissal Plan:** Parents/guardians should always have an early dismissal plan in place for their child in case of an emergency during the school day.
- School days lost for these reasons will be made up according to the school calendar, as decided by the Board of Education.

Safety and Transparency: Our Weather Decision-Making Process

As we continue our season of unpredictable weather, I want to share the process we use to decide whether to delay or close school due to inclement weather. In Pleasant Valley, our relationship is built on honesty and trust, and I believe that being transparent about these difficult decisions is the best way to support our students, staff, and parents.

Our primary goal is simple: to keep our children and staff safe while providing you with timely information

Safety is Our North Star

Every decision is viewed through the lens of safety. When inclement weather is on the horizon, we aren't just looking at the potential of snow on the ground; we are evaluating:

· Road Conditions: Our transportation team begins evaluating road conditions as early as 3:00 AM, specifically checking rural routes and hills that can be treacherous for heavy buses. Since our school district covers over 110 square miles, we must also consider how the weather impacts different areas in our community.

· The "Human Factor": We consider children waiting at bus stops in extreme wind chills, parents transporting their children to school, and our less-experienced teen drivers navigating a route to school with potential icy patches. Also, when considering the possibility of having an early dismissal, we must consider if families will be home when our students are dropped off.

· Building Status: We ensure our schools are warm and that parking lots and sidewalks are safely cleared and salted for arrival and departure.

Snow isn't our only concern; extreme cold introduces a different set of risks that we take very seriously:

· Negative Wind Chills: When wind chills reach dangerous levels (typically exceeding -20°F), the risk of frostbite for students waiting at bus stops becomes a serious safety concern.

· Bus Fleet Reliability: Most of our buses run on diesel fuel, which can "gel" or thicken in sub-zero temperatures, causing engines to stall. While we utilize block heaters and fuel additives, extrem cold weather can still compromise the reliability of our fleet.

Decisions Based on Available Information

Weather forecasting is an inexact science. Occasionally, a storm may shift or dissipate after a call has been made. However, *we must make our decisions based on the best information available at that moment in time*. Once the decision is made to close or delay, we commit to it to ensure consistency for our families and staff.

Since many families receive weather-related notifications from the National Weather Service, it is helpful to understand what each of the three tiers represents:

· **Advisory** – *Be Aware* – weather may be a significant inconvenience

· **Watch** – *Be Prepared* – potential hazardous weather is likely to occur, but timing and location are not specific

· **Warning** – *Take Action* - weather hazard is most likely to occur and could pose a threat to safety, timing, and location is likely to be accurate

The Importance of Timely Communication

I understand that a change from our typical school day is a significant disruption to your work schedules and childcare arrangements. Because I value your time, I prioritize making a decision as early as possible, and in some cases, I can make the decision the evening before the inclement weather occurs.

· Our goal is to communicate a closure or delay to our staff and families by 5:30 AM. To achieve this, we rely on multiple sources of data from the National Weather Service, Monroe County Emergency Services, and feedback from our townships and superintendents in both Monroe County and our Intermediate Unit.

How We Will Reach You

When a decision is made, we will immediately notify you through:

· Phone call through PowerSchool's School Messenger: Our primary and fastest method of contact · District Website & Social Media: Real-time updates posted to our official home page - www.pvbears.org · Local Media: Updates sent to regional news and radio stations

Thank you for your continued partnership and for trusting us with the safety of your children. We are in this together, and our priority remains keeping our students safe, warm, and ready to learn!

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.
- **For the 2026-27 school year, breakfast and lunch are free for all students.** The prices below reflect the cost of a **second meal**.

  Elementary Buildings - Cost for Breakfast

  - 1st Breakfast Meal – Free
  - Daily = **$1.60**
  - Milk Only = **$0.50**

  Elementary Buildings - Cost for Lunch

  - 1st Lunch Meal – Free
  - Daily = **$2.85**
  - Reduced = **$0.40**
  - Milk Only = **$0.50**

- 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.

Birthday Treats/Celebration

K-5 Birthday Treat/Class Party Procedures As per Board Policy 209.1 and Board Policy 246, all foods brought into school by parents/guardians/students during school hours which are to be shared among students i.e. birthdays/class parties must follow district guidelines, be purchased in stores, prepacked/sealed and contain a complete list of the ingredients on the package. Students are not permitted to bring in shared items unless discussed with a teacher/staff member prior to doing so.

Ingredients are to be checked by a staff member prior to being passed out due to potential allergens. Homemade goods are prohibited to be shared amongst the class. Foods from outside sources, such as homemade items, and fast food items will not be made available to anyone other than the student from whose home it was sent.

- When planning to send in birthday treats or party treats, the parent/guardian should provide communication to the teacher at least 24 hours in advance, prior to purchasing the snacks. This will ensure that snacks/treats purchased are free of any prohibited allergens/ingredients for that

classroom.

- On the day of distribution, the birthday treats (following the district guidelines above), will be provided to the classroom teacher for inspection of ingredients. In reviewing the ingredient listing, teachers will check for allergens.
    - Students who have allergies will be permitted to eat their own snack in the event that they are not able to eat the provided treat due to an allergen. If a food allergy is severe and requires additional precautions, medical documentation must be provided to a school nurse outlining the necessary precautions that the school must take. Please see Policy 209.1 for detailed information.
    - Certain classrooms have been deemed "allergen free classrooms." Communication is sent home to these classrooms, specifically outlining which types of allergens are prohibited from entering the classroom as well as procedures for snack time and snack distribution. For example, a room may be designated as "peanut free" if there is a student in the room with a documented, life threatening allergy to peanuts. In these situations, only birthday treats in compliance with allergen guidelines will be permitted.
- Teachers will have the autonomy to distribute the birthday treats at a time in the day when it is most convenient. Treats will be distributed in the classroom for close monitoring, not in the cafeteria. Prior to distribution, the teachers must check the ingredient label. Students are prohibited from passing out birthday treats or any other food products without teacher permission.

Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance (Board Policy 807)

- It is the responsibility of every citizen 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.

School Supplies

- All student supplies will be purchased by the district. Families will only need to supply a backpack and lunchbox.

Metal Water Bottles

- Students will NOT be permitted to bring metal water bottles to school this year. Plastic water bottles however, are still permissible.

Lost and Found

- A lost and found area is maintained in each school building. Please check regularly for lost items. Unclaimed items will be donated at the end of each semester.

School Pictures

- Individual and/or group pictures are taken as a school service in the fall and spring. Purchase of these pictures is optional.

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 ext. 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:**

- Follow the bus driver's directions.
- Sit safely in the seat with their back against the back of the seat.
- Stay seated until the assigned stop.
- Face the front of the bus.
- Keep hands, feet, and all items within their personal space and inside the bus.
- Keep the main aisle clear.
- Maintain a quiet voice and use appropriate language.
- No eating or drinking on the bus.

- **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.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BUS SAFETY:
A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

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. Knowing that bus transportation is a "privilege, not a right," 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.

Regarding 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.

Regarding 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.

Help us to maintain safe travels to and from school.

For more information: www.pvbears.org *JK/kf 1-13-26*

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

Inappropriate Article

- 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.

Attendance

Attendance and Absences (School 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.
- **Reporting Absences:** 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
  - **Email Excuses**
    - PVE: pveattendance@pvbears.org
    - PVI: pviattendance@pvbears.org
- Absences are considered unlawful unless a written excuse is received within three days.
- **Doctor's Excuse:** All absences beyond **ten (10) cumulative days** shall require an excuse from a licensed practitioner or will be marked as unlawful.
- **Reasonable Cause for Absence:** The following conditions are considered reasonable cause for absence:
- **Reasonable Cause for Absence:** The following conditions are considered reasonable cause for absence:
  - Illness (including dismissal by district staff for health reasons).
  - Obtaining professional health care or therapy services.
  - Quarantine.
  - Family emergency.
  - Recovery from an accident.
  - Required court attendance.

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

o The district may limit the number and duration of non-school sponsored educational tours or trips.

Truancy Process

Three Unlawful Absences

- A 3-Day Unlawful Absence Notice is mailed to students' residences.

Six Unlawful Absences

- Parents/guardians will be asked to participate in a School Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC) to develop a School Attendance Improvement Plan (SAIP)
- A 6-Day Unlawful Absence Notice is mailed to students' residences along with the completed SAIP.

After SAIP is Created

- If 3 or more unlawful absences are accrued after the SAIP, citations will be issued under to parents/guardians
- The student and parent will be required to attend a truancy conference with a Magisterial District Judge.

Citations and Fines

- Parents will be referred to the District Magistrate for citation and fines. Children and youth may also be notified.

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.
- Assigned school work will be due on the day of return to school. 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.
- For grades K through 5, students who are tardy **must be accompanied into the building by an adult** and signed in at the Main Office. Do not allow tardy students to enter unaccompanied.
- A record of arrival time and reason for late arrival will be maintained. Accumulated tardy minutes may result in truancy proceedings.

Sign In/Sign Out Procedures

- When a student arrives late to school or is signed out early, proper 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 visitor entering the building will also be required to sign in and out and show proper identification.

Dress and Grooming Guidelines (Board Policy No. 221)

The Pleasant Valley School District's dress and grooming guidelines apply to all students. These guidelines are in place to ensure a safe, healthy, and focused learning environment for everyone.

- Students found in violation of these guidelines will be asked or sent home to change, and disciplinary consequences may be applied.
- If a student's dress poses a danger to health, safety, or welfare, or creates a distraction to the learning environment, the administration will request that the student change their clothing.
- A violation of the dress code may result in disciplinary action.

Please adhere to the policy and dress appropriately for an educational setting.

General Guidelines:

- **Appropriate Sizing:** Clothing must be appropriately sized for the student (no more than one regular size larger than actual measurements). Bottoms should not be excessively tight, baggy, sagging, or undersized.
- **Good Repair:** All garments must be in good repair, without holes, rips, or slashes.

Lower Garments:

- **Acceptable:** Jeans, khaki pants, athletic pants, yoga pants (leggings), dresses, and skirts are all acceptable.
- **Length:** Lower garments must cover 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.
- **Fit:** Lower garments must be worn at the hip without sagging.
- **Prohibited:** Cut-off shorts are not permitted.

Upper Garments (Shirts):

- **Coverage:** Must cover the shoulder, torso, and midriff.
- **Fit:** Must not be excessively tight or low cut from the collar.
- **Hem:** Shirt hems must fall below the waistband of lower garments.
- **Undergarments:** Upper garments cannot reveal undergarments.
- **Hoodies:** Sweatshirt hoodies are acceptable to wear inside the building, but **hoods may not be worn on the head at any time.**

Prohibited Clothing and/or Jewelry:

- Items that promote or reference drugs, alcohol, or tobacco (including advertisements for alcohol products).
- 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.

- 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:

- **Safety:** Footwear must be a matching pair and intact.
- **Straps/Laces:** Sandals or clogs must have a back strap, and footwear with shoelaces must be tied.

Hats:

- Hats are **not acceptable to wear inside the building** at any time unless permitted as part of an announced school spirit theme.

Specialized Clothing:

- 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 detailed information, please refer to **Board Policy No. 221** on the district website.

Positive Behavior/Code of Conduct

School-Wide Positive Behavior Support (PBS)

A major function of school is to assist in the development of responsible behavior in all students and support students in accepting responsibility for their own actions. Schools are designed for learning, and responsible behavior is an integral part of the overall learning environment. The promotion of responsible behavior is enhanced through our Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Program, with support from the community, parents/guardians, and other students.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to join the elementary faculty and staff in reinforcing and supporting positive and respectful behavior. The PBS program is implemented in grades K-5 to help students make the best choices regarding their behavior. The building expectations are as follows:

PVE	PVI
• **P**repared to Learn • **A**lways Be Respectful • **W**inning Choices • **S**afety First	• **B**e Responsible • **E**ngage everywhere • **A**ct Safely • **R**espect yourself and others

Students meeting these expectations are randomly rewarded with **Bear Paws (PVE)** or **Bucks (PVI)** and may redeem these tickets for various rewards throughout the school year.

The Pleasant Valley School District has an established Board policy outlining a progressive discipline model for handling student behavior. Parents/guardians should become familiar with these policies and procedures. All school district policies are available on the school district website at www.pvbears.org for your reference.

Elementary Student Code of Conduct

We take great pride in our schools and the behavior of our students. Courtesy is to be observed at all times and in all situations, without exception. To provide a positive learning experience where all students can receive the best education possible in a safe and orderly setting, certain types of behavior are prohibited. Actions that reflect negatively on our schools are taken seriously and addressed immediately.

Along with the rights established for each student come certain responsibilities, which include:

- Regular attendance.
- Conscientious effort in classroom work and homework.
- Conformance to Board policies and school rules and regulations.
- Respect for the rights of teachers, students, administrators, and all others involved in the educational process.
- Expression of ideas and opinions in a respectful manner.

It shall be the responsibility of the student to:

- Be aware of all policies, rules, and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves accordingly. Each student shall assume that, until a rule is waived, altered, or repealed in writing, it is in effect.
- Volunteer information in matters relating to the health, safety, and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property.
- Dress and groom to meet standards of safety and health, and not to cause substantial disruption to the educational processes.
- Assist the school staff in operating a safe school.
- Comply with federal, state, and local laws.
- Exercise proper care when using district facilities, school supplies, and equipment.
- Attend school daily and be on time to all classes and other school functions.
- Make up work when absent from school.
- Pursue and attempt to satisfactorily complete the courses of study prescribed by local school authorities.
- Report accurately in student media.
- Not use obscene language in student media or on school property.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, consistent with the Code of Student Conduct and Board policy.

Students and Parents/Guardians are encouraged to refer to the Pleasant Valley School District website at www.pvbears.org to review the Pleasant Valley School District School Board Policies, specifically **Student Rights and Responsibilities (Board Policy No. 235)** and all information in the **Pupil Section 200** related to the Student Code of Conduct.

Honor Code

The Pleasant Valley School District believes that the honest pursuit of academic excellence leads to self-satisfaction, awareness, positive self-image, and integrity. This pursuit stems from the student's responsibility to acquire knowledge. This honor code reflects the belief that all students are capable of the honest pursuit of academic knowledge through research, homework, classwork, testing, and all other methods used by the faculty to assist and assess student progress. We recognize that some students may feel pressure to circumvent the learning process through actions such as communicating answers with others, unauthorized use

or acquisition of material, and/or submitting the work of others as their own. Such actions are in violation of this Honor Code.

Discipline Code

To conduct oneself appropriately in school, students must learn basic discipline guidelines from both the school and home. Discipline is viewed as important and necessary by students, parents/guardians, and the school.

Unacceptable forms of student behavior are categorized into three levels, with final decisions regarding disciplinary action made at the discretion of the administration. Disciplinary action and/or privilege denial may be accelerated for repeat offenders or due to the severity of the offense(s).

Repeat Disciplinary Behavior: If a student consistently demonstrates disciplinary behaviors throughout the school year, they may be placed on a Behavior Contract.

The following charts list types of infractions and consequences for the first three offenses at each level of student misbehavior.

LEVEL I Infractions

Acts of misbehavior typically resolved by the classroom teacher and/or principal or designee.

Code	Glossary of Disciplinary Infractions	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th+ Offense
101	**Abuse of Hall Pass:** Not arriving/returning from a designated location in a timely fashion, or making purposeless stops/veering off course.	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	1 Detention	2 Detentions	Level II - Insubordination
102	**Tardy to Class:** Arriving after the bell without a pass from the previous teacher.	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	(3rd Tardy) 1 Detention	(6th Tardy) 2 Detentions	(9th Tardy) 3 Detentions; Level II - Insubordination
103	**Unexcused Tardy to School:** Arriving after the start of the school day. *(K-5 Not applicable for accumulation beyond school day start; see PVE/PVI school hour rules for K-5 tardiness).*	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	(3rd Tardy) 1 Detention	(6th Tardy) 2 Detentions	(9th Tardy) 3 Detentions; Level II - Insubordination
104	**Unprepared for Class:** Not having proper books, Chromebook, and supplies needed for full class participation. *(K-5: 2+ offenses resolved per administrative discretion determined by seriousness and relation to other infractions).*	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	Warning	1 Detention	2 Detentions; Level II - Insubordination
105	**ID Violation:** Not producing an ID upon request of a school official. *(K-5: 2+ offenses resolved per administrative discretion determined by seriousness and relation to other infractions).*	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	Warning	1 Detention	2 Detentions; Level II - Insubordination
106	**Dishonesty:** Lack of truth, honesty, trustworthiness, and/or forgery.	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 10 Day OSS (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)		

107	**Cheating/Plagiarism:** Taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	Teacher discretion: "Zero on assignment"	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 3 Day ISS	
108	**Display/Public Affection:** Acts of physical intimacy (e.g., kissing) in view of others.	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 2 Detentions (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)		Level II - Insubordination
109	**Violation of Bus Rules & Regulations:** Any behavior deemed inappropriate, distracting, or unsafe in a moving environment. Any bus suspension connected to an OSS infraction starts after the OSS. Any absence due to not being bused will be considered unlawful.	Administrative Discretion: a. Warning to 10 Day OSS b. Bus Transportation suspended c. Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)			
110	**Dress Code Violation:** Violation of Policy 221. Student removed from class, sent to office, issued written warning, given opportunity to change. If compliant clothing not available, parent contacted. Student may be removed from class for rest of day for offensive items. Violations beyond 3rd offense in a school year will incur "Level II insubordination and up to Level III insubordination" disciplinary consequences.	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	Warning	1 Detention / or ISS	2 Detentions / or ISS; Level II - Insubordination
111	**Misuse of Technology:** Excessive or problematic use of technology detrimental to student, recipient, school, or third parties.	Determined by seriousness: Loss of technology privileges to school discipline based on seriousness.			
112	**Inappropriate Article:** Items not directly associated with the educational program and not reasonably necessary for student's participation in school.	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	Warning	1 Detention / or ISS	2 Detentions / or ISS; Level II - Insubordination

113	**Classroom Disruption:** Behavior likely to substantially or repeatedly interfere with class conduct.	Contact Home / Submit Referral in SIS	Warning	1 Detention / or ISS	2 Detentions / or ISS; Level II - Insubordination
114	**Gambling:** Playing a game of chance for money or other stakes.	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 10 Day OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)			
115	**Detention Cut:** Not reporting to assigned after-school detention or securing prior permission to reschedule.	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 2 Days OSS (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)			Level II - Insubordination

LEVEL II Infractions

Misbehaviors that, due to their seriousness or frequency, require disciplinary action by the principal or designee. Repeated Level I offenses may lead to Level II consequences.

- **Repeated offenses from Level I infractions:** May lead to the development of a behavior plan/Child Find that can include, but is not limited to: hallway restriction, parking privileges, grade level privileges, etc.

Code	Glossary of Disciplinary Infractions	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th+ Offense
200	**Insubordination:** Continual defiance of a Level I Infraction.	1 Day ISS	2 Days ISS	Level III - Insubordination	
201	**Class Cut:** Absent oneself from a class or other mandatory event.	1 Day ISS	2 Days ISS	3 Days ISS - 1 Day OSS	Level III - Insubordination
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 Days OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)			
203	**Inappropriate Conduct:** Engaging in behavior that a reasonable person would not do, violating the Code of Student Conduct (e.g., inappropriate care of school property, inappropriate expression/action, profanity).	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)			

204	**Disobedience:** Not following direction of a school official or someone in authority.	Administrative Discretion: 1 Day ISS to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)	
205	**Encourage/Instigate Fight:** Prompting, provoking, influencing, and/or triggering a fight.	Administrative Discretion: 1 Day ISS to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)	
206	**Forgery:** Falsely making, completing, signing, or altering a written document.	Administrative Discretion: 1 Day ISS to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)	
207	**Propelling a Projectile:** Fired, thrown, or otherwise propelled object.	Administrative Discretion: 1 Day ISS to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)	
208	**Violation of Student Expression/Distribution & Posting of Materials:** Publicly displaying non-school materials on school property or at school-sponsored events (e.g., affixing to walls, lockers, websites) without prior permission from the building Principal.	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)	
209	**Inappropriate Use of Electronic Communications Devices:** Devices visible, used, or turned on during the school day without prior permission (e.g., talking, texting, airdropping).	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)	
210	**Open Lewdness:** Any lewd act likely to be observed by others who would be affronted or alarmed.	Administrative Discretion: 3 to 10 Days OSS; Possible Expulsion; Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)	
211	**Possession of Mace or Self-Defense Spray**	First Offense w/o Use 5 Days OSS	2nd or subsequent offenses 10 Days OSS
212	**False Reporting / Falsification of Information:** Intentionally making a false, misleading, or unfounded statement, report, or allegation to school staff, administrators, or school police/security. -	Administrative Discretion: Warning to 10 Days OSS: Possible School Police (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)	

LEVEL III Infractions

Misbehaviors that are extremely serious, highly disruptive, and/or illegal or criminal in nature, addressed by the principal or designee. When a suspension exceeds three (3) school days, the student and parent/guardian will be offered an informal hearing within the first five (5) days of the suspension. Threat assessments may also be conducted.

- **Repeated offenses from Level II infractions:** May lead to a reevaluated behavior plan that can include, but is not limited to: hallway restriction, parking privileges, grade level privileges, etc.

Code	Glossary of Disciplinary Infractions	Offense (All offenses are subject to administrative discretion unless otherwise specified)
300	**Insubordination:** Continual defiance of a Level II Infraction.	1 Day OSS (1st Offense) / 2 Days OSS (2nd Offense) / Minimum 5 Days OSS/Possible alternative educational placement (3rd Offense)
301	**Simple Assault on Student:** Unlawful physical attack by one student on another without a weapon or severe injury.	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:** Unlawful attack using or displaying a weapon, or resulting in severe bodily injury (e.g., broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injury, severe lacerations, loss of consciousness). Includes assault with disease (e.g., biting, spitting if offender is aware of deadly disease).	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:** Unlawful physical attack by a student on staff without a weapon or severe injury.	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:** Unlawful attack using or displaying a weapon on staff, or resulting in severe bodily injury. Includes assault with disease.	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 associated Crimes Code Citation for specific details (§31221).	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 associated Crimes Code Citation for specific details (§3123).	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
308	**Sexual Assault:** Refer to associated Crimes Code Citation for specific details (§3124.1).	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
309	**Aggravated Indecent Assault:** Refer to associated Crimes Code Citation for specific details (§3125).	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
310	**Indecent Assault:** Touching another person's sexual or intimate parts without consent.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
311	**Indecent Exposure:** Exposing genitals in public or where likely to offend/alarm others.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
314	**Sexual Harassment-Title IX:** Discrimination based on submission/rejection of sexual advances, or creating a hostile/intimidating educational environment due to sexual issues/activity.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
315	**Racial/Ethnic Intimidation:** Malicious intent toward another individual or group based on actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender, or gender identity.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)

316	**All Other forms of Harassment/Intimidation:** Repeated acts with intent to harass, annoy, or alarm another person.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
317	**Fighting (Mutual Altercation):** Student confrontation with another student where altercation is mutual, requiring physical restraint or resulting in injury/property damage. Does not include verbal confrontations or minor altercations.	5 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
318	**Minor Altercation:** Incident involving a single offender committing a minor violent act without retaliation from the other individual, not escalating to a fight or assault.	5 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
319	**Stalking:** Engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts towards another person (including following) with intent to cause fear of bodily injury or substantial emotional distress.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
320	**Kidnapping/Interference with Custody of Child:** Unlawful removal, restraining, or confinement of an individual by force, threat, or deception. Includes hostage taking. (Not applicable to a parent violating a court order regarding custody for this purpose).	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
321	**Unlawful Restraint:** Knowingly and intentionally restraining another person without consent or legal justification.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
322	**Threatening School Staff/Student:** Unlawfully placing another person in fear of bodily harm through verbal threats or intimidation (physical, verbal, written, or electronic) without displaying a weapon or actual physical attack. Includes stalking.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)

323	**Physical Aggression/Altercation:** Any physical act intended to cause harm to another person or group.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
324	**Robbery:** Unlawful intent to commit a felony or theft against a person.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
325	**Theft:** Unlawfully taking or exercising unlawful control over another's property with intent to deprive them of it.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
326	**Attempt/Commit Murder/Manslaughter:** Intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or negligently attempting to cause the death of a human being.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
327	**Bullying (Policy 249):** Intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or series of acts directed at another student(s) in a school setting that is severe, persistent, or pervasive and substantially interferes with education, creates a threatening environment, or disrupts orderly school operation. (Clearly involves intent to harm and intensity/duration; not mutual teasing).	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
330	**Burglary:** Unlawful entry into a building or structure with intent to commit a felony or theft. Includes attempts.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
331	**Arson:** Unlawful and intentional damage or attempted damage to property by fire or incendiary device (e.g., matches, lighters, fireworks, Molotov cocktails). Does not include simple act of lighting a match.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)

332	**Vandalism:** Unlawful desecration of a building or structure with intent to commit damage.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
333	**Criminal Trespass:** Intentionally entering or remaining unlawfully on school property without authorization.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
334	**Rioting:** Taking part in a violent public disturbance.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
335	**Bomb Threat:** Communicating (directly or indirectly) a bomb threat with intent to terrorize, cause evacuation, or serious public inconvenience.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
336	**Terroristic Threat (excluding bomb threat):** Communicating a threat to commit violence, cause evacuation, or serious public inconvenience. Includes indirect (generalized) and direct (specific) threats.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
337	**Failure to Disperse Upon Official Order:** Refusing or failing to disperse when ordered by School Police, School Staff/Official enforcing the law.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
338	**Disorderly Conduct:** Intent to cause public inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm, or recklessly creating risk thereof, by engaging in fighting/threatening, making unreasonable noise, using obscene language/gestures, or creating a hazardous/physically offensive condition without legitimate purpose.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
347	**Possession of a Controlled Substance:** Any drug listed in Controlled Substance Act, or any substance intended to alter mood, or un-registered medication. Includes drug paraphernalia. Also covers Use/Sale/Distribution or Acting Under the Influence.	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)

349	**Possession of Alcohol:** Any alcohol or malt beverage. Also covers Use/Sale/Distribution or Acting Under the Influence.	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)
350	**Possession, Use, or Sale of Tobacco or Other Nicotine/Drug Delivery Service:** Includes cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smoking/vaping products, smokeless tobacco.	1st Offense: 1 day OSS + school police/citation; 2nd Offense: 2 days OSS + school police/citation; 3rd Offense: 3 days OSS + school police/citation; 4th+ Offense: Administration discretion.
351	**Cyberbullying (Policy 249):** Bullying behavior occurring on the Internet or via Social Media. Involves intent to harm and intensity/duration, not mutual teasing.	1 to 10 Days OSS (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
353	**Possession, Use, or Sale of a Vaping Material:** (Duplicate of 350, ensure consistency or merge).	1st Offense: 1 day OSS + school police/citation; 2nd Offense: 2 days OSS + school police/citation; 3rd Offense: 3 days OSS + school police/citation; 4th+ Offense: Administration discretion.
354	**Possession of A Weapon:** Possessing a weapon on school property or transportation. Weapon defined as firearm, explosive, force-impacting device, knife, sharp utensil, or any article likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Includes replicas.	Expulsion of not less than one year
355	**Possession of look-a-like weapons (w/o intent):** Any item that represents and/or looks like a weapon (e.g., replicas, plastic items).	Expulsion of not less than one year
356	**Verbal Aggression/Altercation:** Any verbal act intended to cause harm to another person or group.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
357	**Prohibited Item of a Dangerous Nature:** Items, devices, materials considered hazards or disruptive to education, not directly associated with the educational program.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)

358	**Violation of Audio & Video Recording on School Property and School District Buses/Vehicles:** Use of electronic devices to record audio/video in violation of law and Board Policy #815, including misuse that negatively impacts reputation or involves inappropriate recording/posting of staff/students.	1 to 10 Days OSS; Possible School Police/State Police Involvement; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)
359	**Brazen Insubordination:** Bold, shameless, and continual defiance of authority; refusal to obey orders.	1 day OSS to 10 Days OSS; Possible Expulsion (Determined by seriousness and relation to other discipline infractions)

LEVEL IV Infractions

Habitual offenders of Level III infractions will be referred to the Board of School Directors for an expulsion hearing. A threat assessment may be conducted in addition to disciplinary actions.

Habitual offenders are defined as:

- Students who have exceeded the category of 5-10 days of suspension during the current school year for a specific Level III infraction.
- Students who have exceeded five (5) separate suspensions during the current school year for any combination of Level III infractions.

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.

Safety and Security

Student Identification

- While on school district property, all students **must wear and visibly display their current district-issued photo identification** on a break-away lanyard. This ID should be worn on the front of their outer garment between the shoulders and waist.
- Students may also be required to wear their ID during off-campus school-sponsored activities.
- Students must immediately present their photo ID to any administrator, teacher, school employee, or transportation worker upon request.
- Students are responsible for reporting lost, damaged, or stolen identification cards immediately to a teacher, security officer, or administrator.
- **Under no circumstances shall a student alter a student ID card.**
- Two (2) IDs will be issued to each student at no cost. Students will be charged for each replacement ID or lanyard due to replacement costs.

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 who must be listed in PowerSchool will be contacted.
- **It is crucial that your child's emergency contact information in PowerSchool is always up-to-date and accurate.** You can update this information via www.pvbears.org, the PowerSchool Parent app, or by contacting your child's school main office.
- For address changes, parents/guardians must go to the district registration office (adjacent to the middle school).

Custody

- If there is a court order regarding the parental rights of your child, a copy of the order should be submitted to the district registration office immediately. This copy will be 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

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program, authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, is designed to address challenges faced by homeless children and youths in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

- The McKinney-Vento Act ensures that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including preschool, as other children and youths. They must have access to necessary educational and related services to meet state academic standards and may not be separated from the mainstream school environment.
- The district's liaison will identify homeless children, youth, and families 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 (K-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.

Student Records

- Records are maintained to support the educational process and for the convenience of current and former students.
- Parents/Guardians or current students (if over 18 years of age) may review records through the school office.
- A procedure exists for correction, addition, or challenge of the record.
- Permission from the parent/guardian or student (if over 18) is needed for release of records outside the school district, with exceptions for student transfers, subpoenas, post-secondary school admission, and directory information sought in emergencies or police matters.
- Specific additional policy information regarding student records may be accessed on the Pleasant Valley School District website at www.pvbears.org.

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

- 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.

Volunteers

Volunteers (Board Policy No. 916)

A volunteer is an adult who voluntarily offers services to the district without compensation, playing a more involved role than a visitor. Volunteers are not considered school employees.

- If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the main office at PVE: 570-402-1000 x 6001 or PVI: 570-402-1000 x 3001.
- All volunteers must complete a volunteer application and submit the required clearances to the building principal. After review by the principal, 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.**
- Volunteer clearances must be current within one year of application.
- A TB test is required within three months of the volunteer application date.

****Once approved, volunteer clearances remain valid for five years, provided the volunteer participates at least once per school year.****

The following clearances must be completed prior to volunteering:

- **PA Child Abuse History Certification:** Must be less than sixty (60) months old.
- **PA State Police Criminal History Record Information:** Must be less than sixty (60) months old.
- **Disclosure Statement for Volunteers:** A sworn or affirmed statement that the applicant has not been disqualified from service due to conviction of designated criminal offenses or being listed as a perpetrator in a founded report of child abuse.
- **Federal Criminal History Report:** Required if the volunteer has been a PA resident for less than 10 years.
- **Tuberculosis Test:** Screened in accordance with the PA Department of Health (less than three (3) months old.

For more information, see **Board Policy No. 916**.

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

We value parent volunteers in supporting the success of our school community. The PTO is a parent/guardian volunteer organization that fosters collaboration between home, school, and community for the benefit of our children.

- In the past, the PTO has provided playground equipment, books for the school library, technology, school-wide and classroom celebrations, Holiday Shoppe, a school store, and various after-school social events for students and families. Many individuals also generously volunteer their time to tutor students and assist with special school events.
- PVE and PVI hold joint monthly PTO meetings. Please check your school calendar for specific dates, times, and locations.
- All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend these meetings to learn about school activities and provide support for our children. All parents are welcome to attend and contribute.
- To sign up to volunteer, please contact your child's classroom teacher or the main office of your child's school.

For more information, see **Board Policy No. 916**.

Academic Instruction

Reading / Language Arts

It is the goal of the Pleasant Valley School District to provide students with rigorous instructional opportunities aligned with the Pennsylvania Core Standards. PVE and PVI uses **HMH IntoReading** as our core reading program for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. IntoReading is a comprehensive program designed to build strong readers and writers.

This curriculum resource aims to foster confident readers who possess strong foundational skills and a rich vocabulary, enabling them to comprehend complex texts effectively. The program focuses on:

- ***Phonemic Awareness and Phonics:*** Systematic and explicit instruction to build strong decoding skills.
- ***Fluency:*** Strategies and practice to help students read accurately, quickly, and with expression.
- ***Vocabulary:*** Direct instruction and opportunities to expand word knowledge.
- ***Comprehension:*** Engaging texts and activities to foster deep understanding and critical thinking.
- ***Writing:*** Through writer's workshops, mentor texts, and integrated grammar practice, students develop critical thinking and writing skills.
- ***Differentiated Instruction:*** Resources and approaches to meet the diverse needs of all learners based on diagnostic assessment data and classroom performance.
- **Benchmark Assessments:** Every student receives a benchmark screening assessment three times per school year. This data, combined with classroom performance and ongoing assessment, helps teachers and administrators identify each student's instructional needs.

Mathematics

- The Pleasant Valley elementary schools implement the **Ready Classroom series by Curriculum Associates**. This instruction is designed to meet the needs of all students while aligning with the Pennsylvania Core Standards.
- **Differentiated Instruction:** Our highly differentiated instruction targets specific student needs based on diagnostic assessment data and classroom performance. Through iReady, every student receives a benchmark assessment three times per year, used in conjunction with classroom performance and ongoing assessment to identify instructional needs.

  Eight Practices of Mathematics:

  1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
  2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
  3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
  4. Model with mathematics.
  5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
  6. Attend to precision.
  7. Look for and make use of structure.
  8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Science

- **Grades K-2:** Science instruction focuses on inquiry-based learning opportunities integrated into literacy and math instruction.

- **Grades 3–5 Science:** Our Grades 3–5 science curriculum utilizes *Twig Science*, an inquiry- and phenomena-based program aligned with NGSS and Pennsylvania state standards. Students step into the roles of scientists and engineers as they explore Life, Physical, Earth, Space, and Technology concepts through hands-on labs and digital media. Across all units, students actively apply the **Eight Science and Engineering Practices**:
    - Asking questions and defining problems
    - Developing and using models
    - Planning and carrying out investigations
    - Analyzing and interpreting data
    - Using mathematics and computational thinking
    - Constructing explanations and designing solutions
    - Engaging in argument from evidence
    - Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information

Social Studies

- The primary objective of the K-5 Social Studies program is to facilitate students in attaining a deeper comprehension of themselves and others within the context of a global society.
- These learning opportunities are integrated throughout literacy instruction in grades K-5.
- In grades 3-5, tailored content and processes are also delivered in dedicated Social Studies classes.
- All social studies instruction is designed to align with the "Big Ideas" delineated in Pennsylvania Core Standards

Special Areas

The following table outlines the periods per six-day cycle for Special Area subjects:

Subject	**Kindergarten**	**First Grade**	**Second Grade**	**Third Grade**	**Fourth Grade**	**Fifth Grade**
Art	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle
Health and Physical Education	2 periods per 6-day cycle	2 periods per 6-day cycle	2 periods per 6-day cycle	3 periods per 6-day cycle	3 periods per 6-day cycle	3 periods per 6-day cycle
Music	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle
Library	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	X	X	X
STEM (Science, Technology,Engineering, Mathematics)	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	X	X	X
Technology	X	X	X	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle	1 period per 6-day cycle

Educational Resources

Online Resources

The Pleasant Valley School District values providing easy access to information and materials that help parents/guardians support their children.

- Visit the **Pleasant Valley School District website** (www.pvbears.org) for district information, including the school calendar, policies, services, activities, and links to each school.
- Stay up-to-date on current events and news by following the **Pleasant Valley School District Facebook page**.

Seesaw (K-2)

- **Seesaw**, an online learning platform, will be used for remote learning if necessary and serves as a primary means of communication with families.
- Families will receive login information from their child's teacher.

Google Classroom (3-5)

- 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 their Google Classroom.
- **Parents** can get *email summaries* of student work in Google Classroom through *guardian access,* detailing missing work, upcoming assignments, and announcements. Request access from your child's teacher.
- Google Classroom does offer features for teachers to record grades; however, please be aware that it's utilized solely as a LMS. *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.**

Instructional Grouping and Student Placement

The Pleasant Valley School District's rationale for grouping students is to create a classroom environment conducive to learning and teaching, maximizing instructional time and recognizing that students learn from each other as well as from the teacher.

- We value any information you feel is important for your child's placement, but **we cannot honor requests for specific teachers**.
- **Types of information you may want to share:**
  - 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 are required** for students to participate, as they 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, designed to give your child the opportunity to practice learned skills independently.
- The classroom teacher determines the amount and content of homework, which will vary by content area and grade level.
- If your child has difficulty completing assigned homework or if you have any questions, please contact their classroom teacher(s).

Support Services

Multidisciplinary Team

- The Multidisciplinary Team consists of school professionals, parents/guardians, and community agencies who collaborate to determine appropriate programming for individual students.
- This team is most commonly involved in determining programming for students with special needs.

Special Education and Gifted Services

- The Pleasant Valley School District is an inclusive school district, educating students with disabilities and special needs alongside their non-disabled peers to the maximum extent possible.
- The district, either directly or through agencies like Colonial Intermediate Unit 20, provides Special Education services 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 qualifying students.
- English learners are identified through a Home Language Survey during registration, followed by a screening process to identify students needing EL support.
- At the elementary level, the EL program provides a communication program in English to enable students to fully participate in their educational experience, daily lives, and community.

  Objectives of the EL Program:

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

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

- Teachers monitor students' academic and/or behavioral progress through benchmark assessments, progress monitoring, and observation.
- When students need additional support to reach their potential, the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) or Student Assistance Program (SAP) offers team approaches to developing plans based on student data.
- Parents/guardians are a part of this process through communication with the classroom teacher and/or teams.

School Counselors

- Our elementary school has several individuals dedicated to providing your child with the best learning experiences.
- School counselors support students individually, in small groups, and in the classroom setting.
- They also consult with teachers, parents/guardians, and building administration regarding children's academic, social, and/or emotional growth.
- For more information on the school counselor's role, please call the guidance office at 570-402-1000 x 6011 (PVE) or x 3011 (PVI).

Title I

- Title I is a federal program that ensures all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and meet challenging state academic standards.
- Title I funding provides instructional materials to support all students in meeting grade-level academic benchmarks.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to be a part of the Title I school-wide planning committee at PVE/PVI and are invited to attend the fall and spring Title I meetings, as well as parent and family engagement events.
- See the district website for more information.

Student Evaluation and Record-keeping

Assessment

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

- Provide information to the Board of Education and the community on students' educational attainment/measured ability, and to comply with federal or state mandates.
- Provide in-school performance information to teachers, students, and families for educational planning.
- Provide school educators with information on student performance in specific curricular areas for curriculum planning, modification, and annual determination of academic progress.
- Provide educators with information about individual students to make informed decisions about appropriate instructional interventions.
- Assist educators in the strategic planning process.

Parent-Teacher Communication

Conferences

- Parents/guardians will have the opportunity to attend parent-teacher conferences during the school year. All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend.
- Conferences will be approximately 10-15 minutes and may include individual teachers and/or teams of professional and support staff.
- District-wide conferences will be held in the fall.
- You may schedule a conference with your child's teacher at any time during the school year by reaching out directly to the teacher.

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 access a report of their child's progress via PowerSchool.

Grading - PVSD Grading Scale

- **A:** 92 – 100
- **B:** 83 – 91
- **C:** 74 – 82
- **D:** 65 – 73
- **F:** Below 65
- **I:** Incomplete

Honor Rolls (Beginning in Grade 3):

- **Distinguished Honor Roll:** Average of all marks is 92 or higher, with no grade lower than an 85 in any one subject.
- **Honor Roll:** Average of all grades is 87 or higher, with no grade lower than 80 in any one subject.

Home-School Communication

Effective communication between home and school is crucial for student success. Here are some suggestions for fostering the best communication:

Things to Remember About Communication:

- Good communication is specific, honest, succinct, and courteous.
- Things are not always interpreted the way the writer or speaker intends; how something is said can be more important than what is said.
- People often have different perceptions of the same situation. It is wise to verify information before drawing conclusions.
- Children's home behavior may or may not be consistent with their school behavior.
- There can be no communication without listening.
- All people need to hear good news and compliments.

- Teachers and parents/guardians are working together for the same results—happy, healthy, educated children.

Parent Portal: PowerSchool

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

Building Websites

- Parents/guardians can visit the PVE and PVI websites to view upcoming events and school news.
- Access the websites at: https://pves.pvbears.org/ and https://pvis.pvbears.org/

Seesaw (PVE K-2)

- Pleasant Valley Elementary School uses the free application **Seesaw** for much of its school communication.
- To receive communications through Seesaw, please refer to the information provided by your child's teacher or contact the PVE office at 570-402-1000 x 6018.

ClassDojo (PVI 3-5)

- Pleasant Valley Intermediate School uses **ClassDojo**, a free application, for much of its school communication.
- To receive communications through ClassDojo, please refer to the information provided by your child's teacher or contact the PVI office at 570-402-1000 x 3001.

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, please call the main office to ensure your primary contact information is up to date.

Student Health

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, comprising the certified school nurse, health room technician, school physician, and school dentist, primarily focuses on promoting student health and well-being. Students and their families play a crucial role in maintaining good health. Encouraging healthy habits—such as consuming nutritious food, getting sufficient rest and regular exercise, and practicing good hygiene (e.g., frequent hand washing)—can significantly contribute to overall well-being and reduce the risk of transmitting illnesses like colds.

What Happens in the Health Room (Board Policy No. 203)

1. Students must obtain permission from school staff to use the health room, except in a medical emergency.
2. Upon entering the health room, all students with illnesses, injuries, or medication needs will be assessed and care will be prioritized based on the urgency of their complaint. Medical emergencies will always take priority.
3. After evaluation by one of the nurses, one of the following will occur:
    - The problem will be treated, and the student will return to class.
    - The student will rest, and return to class if their condition improves.
    - 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◦F, vomiting, diarrhea three times in a day, severe injury, a contagious condition, or illness at the nurse's discretion. If 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.
    - The student may present with an infection or condition requiring follow-up with a physician or treatment at home (e.g., pinkeye). The nurse will inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the specific requirements for return to school.
4. 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 from the PA Department of Health or other state/local health officials, and the Board-approved health and safety plan. Students excluded for such symptoms will be readmitted when the school nurse or physician is satisfied the condition is not communicable, or when a physician provides a statement that the student has recovered or is noninfectious, or when other designated criteria are met.
5. Injuries that happen at home should primarily be taken care of at home. If a student is seen in the health room for home injuries, the nurse will provide care based on the complaint.

For more information, see **Board Policy No. 203**.

State-Mandated Screening Tests (Board Policy No. 209.1)

1. Height, weight, and vision screenings are conducted yearly.
2. Hearing screenings are completed in grades K-3, 7th, and 11th. They are also 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 without documentation of a completed physical examination. Student-athletes, as per PIAA regulations, also require a healthcare provider to complete an examination form. Parents/guardians can have these examinations completed by their private physician or by the school physician. School exams do not provide the necessary immunizations needed for 7th and 11th grade.
4. The Pennsylvania School Health Act requires **dental examinations** for all original entry (K, 1), 3rd, and 7th-grade students, and transfer students without documentation of a completed dental examination. Parents/guardians can have these examinations completed by their private dentist, the school mobile dentist program, or the school dentist.

Severe Allergies

The school district recognizes that some students have severe allergies and that maintaining a safe school environment depends on the coordination of parents/guardians, health professionals, students, and staff to minimize allergen contact and prepare an action plan if a child is exposed.

- It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to notify the child's building nurse of any severe allergy.
- The parent/guardian must submit a medical statement form confirming the severe allergy, signed by a certified physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner. This medical statement must be updated yearly to ensure appropriate accommodations.
- For a child with a severe food allergy, parents/guardians should maintain a supply of safe snacks at school and/or with the child for appropriate use.
- While the school district provides necessary accommodations and services for a student with severe allergies to attend school safely, it is **not required to provide medication or personal devices**; this is the responsibility of parents/guardians.
- If a child's medical condition changes and new/revised accommodations are needed, parents/guardians must provide this information to the school.

For more information, see **Board Policy No. 209.1 and accompanying regulations**.

Classroom Allergy Protocols: 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, they 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, the following steps are implemented to help limit the affected student's exposure to these risky foods or other substances:

- A food or other substance identified as an allergen to a specific student **may not be brought into any classroom** where the child is assigned, whether the child is present or not.
- If a student brings an allergen into the classroom and the teacher discovers it, arrangements will be made to ensure the allergic child is not exposed.

We understand these steps may be inconvenient, but we trust that you understand the seriousness of this issue. We are all committed to ensuring the safety of Pleasant Valley School District students.

Medication (Board Policy No. 210 and 210.1)

- Whenever possible, parents/guardians are requested to administer medication at home. Every effort should be made to schedule medication administration outside of school hours to minimize disruption to the student's school day and maximize participation in the learning process.
- No medication will be dispensed by school district personnel unless the parent/guardian provides the certified school nurse or health room technician with proper authorization and medication, as stated in **School Board Policy No. 210**. Please refer to 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. This 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(s)/guardian(s)
- Medication must be in the **original container from the pharmacy/doctor**, clearly labeled with the full name of the student and the medication name/dosage.
- To ensure student safety, all medications (including EpiPens, Twinject, asthma inhalers, insulin "pump" administered medications) and supplies classified as "sharps" (e.g., syringes with needles, lancets) **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 (No. 210-AR) form** on file in the nurse's office.

Self-Administration of Emergency Medication:

- Students may transport emergency medications to and from school (e.g., asthma inhalers, Epi-Pens, Twinject, insulin "pump"-administered medications) once proper authorization is on file in the nurse's office.
- If a parent/guardian requests that their child be permitted to carry/self-administer medication as per the physician's order, the medication must be in a properly labeled pharmacy container with the student's name.
- The parent/guardian must accept legal responsibility if the medication is lost, given to, or taken by someone other than their child.
- The parent/guardian must also acknowledge that the school district has no legal responsibility to ensure the medication is taken or for the benefits or consequences of the student administering their own medication.
- Medication for self-administration must be labeled with the student's name and signed/dated by the certified school nurse or health room technician indicating authorization to carry and self-administer.
- The student is responsible for keeping the medication in a secure location.
- The right to self-carry medication may be revoked if the student mishandles the medication.

- Students in possession of over-the-counter, prescription, or other types of drugs not registered with the certified school nurse or health room technician will be considered in violation of the school district's drug and alcohol policy and subject to disciplinary action.
- Parents/guardians must pick up any unused medication by the last day of the school year. Unused medication 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 from administering an epinephrine auto-injector for their student. To request this exemption, contact the school nurse to discuss this decision, review the opt-out form, and sign it in the nurse's presence.

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

Immunization Requirements (Board Policy No. 203)

Under the regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, children in all grades (K-12) are required to provide proof of having received the following immunizations or immunity prior to school admission. Students entering Kindergarten will have **5 days** from the first day of school to provide documentation.

Immunizations Required for K-12 Entry:

- **4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis** (DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td). One dose must be administered no more than 4 days prior to the fourth birthday.
- **4 doses polio vaccine.** The 4th dose must be on or after the 4th birthday and at least 6 months after the previous dose. If the 3rd dose was administered on or after age 4, a 4th dose is not required.
- **2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella** (MMR). The 1st dose must be given on or no more 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** (chickenpox). The 1st dose must be given on or no more 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 dose must be at least 29 days after the first one. (Note: There must be 28 days between the MMR and Varicella Vaccine if they are not given on the same day).

ADDITIONAL Immunization Requirements for 7th through 12th Grade Attendance:

- **2 doses of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV).** The first dose is given between 11-15 years of age; a second dose is required at age 16 or entry into 12th grade. If the first 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.

For more information, see **Board Policy No. 203**.

Exclusion From School (Immunizations)

- If you have provided evidence of at least one dose of each required 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 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 (Immunizations)

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

Religious Exemptions (Immunizations)

- 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.

Physical and Dental Examinations

Under Pennsylvania state law, specific grades are required to submit updated health records:

Physical Examinations are REQUIRED for students entering: Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 6th Grade, 11th Grade, and all new students. Private physical exams will be accepted from 1 year before the current school year.

Dental Examinations are REQUIRED for students entering: Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 3rd Grade, 7th Grade, and all new students. Private dental exams and will be accepted from 1 year before the current school year.

- Compliance Deadline for incoming Kindergarten Students: August 31, 2026
- Compliance Deadline for 1 st -11 th Grade Students: December 31, 2026
- Compliance Deadline for New Students: 60 days from start date

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Elementary Professional Development School Partnership

For many years, the Pleasant Valley School District and East Stroudsburg University have partnered in the development of a Professional Development School (PDS) Collaborative. The goals of the PDS are to:

- Enhance the learning of all children.
- Prepare more effective beginning teachers.
- Provide ongoing professional development for veteran teachers and university faculty.

As part of the PDS collaborative, a student intern from ESU may be teaching in your child's classroom. The intern will spend a semester under the supervision of a mentor teacher and a university-based supervisor. The mentor teacher and intern will often engage in teaching together, which results in children receiving more individualized attention.

For more information about the Professional Development School Collaborative partnership, please contact the building administration.