

Cibola High School Discipline Handbook 2026-2027



Pride of the Westside
Motivate, Educate, Graduate

Dr. Kimberly Finke, Principal

**ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CIBOLA HIGH SCHOOL
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Mission Statement

MOTIVATE - EDUCATE - GRADUATE

We believe that all students can be creative problem solvers; collaborate successfully with others; can be independent and responsible for their own life-long learning; have the capacity for compassion and empathy within a diverse community; and can be models of integrity and stand up for their values.

Notable Cougars

Dr. Kimberly Finke	kimberly.finke@aps.edu
Angela Rietmann	angela.rietmann@aps.edu
Carmella Salazar	carmella.salazar@aps.edu
De'Mone Curry	demone.curry@aps.edu
Kelly Love	kelly.love@aps.edu
Jeanine Chavez	chavez_jea@aps.edu
Doug Dorame	dorame@aps.edu
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Principal / 11th Grade
Assistant Principal /12th Grade
Assistant Principal /10th Grade
Dean of Students/9th & 12th
Dean of Students/10th & 11th
Activities Director
Athletic Director
Special Education Head Teacher



All APS Staff are to support students according to the district Student Success Handbook
<https://www.aps.edu/schools/student-handbook>

Introduction

Cibola High School is committed to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment. Our discipline policies are designed to support student growth, uphold community standards, and ensure a positive educational experience for all. This handbook outlines our behavioral expectations and disciplinary procedures, in alignment with the APS Student Code of Conduct.

Core Principles

- **Progressive Discipline:** We employ a graduated approach to discipline, focusing on correcting behavior through interventions that promote understanding and personal growth.

[Student Discipline and Standards of Behavior/Progressive Discipline](#)

“Progressive discipline” aligns with the definition in NMSA 1978 Section 22-35-2(G), and means disciplinary action other than suspension or expulsion from school that is designed to correct and address the basic causes of a student's specific misbehavior while retaining the student in class or in school, or restorative school practices to repair the harm done to relationships and other students from the student's misbehavior, and may include,

- meeting with the student and the student's parents
- reflective activities, such as requiring the student to write an essay about the student's misbehavior
- counseling
- anger management
- health counseling or intervention
- mental health counseling
- participation in skill-building and resolution activities, such as social-emotional cognitive skills building, resolution circles and restorative conferencing
- community service
- in-school detention or suspension, which may take place during lunchtime, after school or during weekends

- **Culture of Care:** Our aim is to repair harm and restore relationships affected by misconduct, encouraging accountability and empathy.

[Classroom Culture, Prevention, Intervention and Integrated Supports Standards of Behavior](#)

- **Social-Emotional Learning:** We integrate strategies that help students develop self-awareness, self-management, and interpersonal skills.

“Social-emotional learning” is defined by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) as: “the process through which children and adults understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.”

Behavioral Expectations

Students are expected to adhere to the following standards of behavior:

- **Respect:** Treat all members of the school community with courtesy and consideration.
- **Responsibility:** Attend classes punctually and prepared, and take ownership of personal actions. Attendance matters, everyday!
- **Integrity:** Engage in honest and ethical behavior in all academic and social interactions.
- **Safety/Security:** Contribute to a secure school environment by following rules and reporting concerns.

Academic Integrity Policy

AI Usage Stoplight

Cell Phone Policy

To maintain an environment conducive to learning, Cibola High School has established the following cell phone guidelines:

- The student who possesses a personal electronic device shall be solely responsible for its care.
- Student possession of personal electronic devices on all school campuses, including athletic fields, and school buses, at school-sponsored activities and while the student is under the supervision and control of school district employees shall be permitted. All students may use these devices on campus before school begins and after school ends. In addition, students in high school grades 9-12 may use such devices during their lunch period as determined by the school administration.
- These devices shall be kept out of sight and powered off or silenced during the school day and during any school-sponsored activity, meeting or practice held on Albuquerque Public Schools property. The requirement that personal electronic devices be turned off may not apply in the following circumstances when the student obtains prior approval from the principal or his/her designee:
 - The student or a family member has a special medical circumstance.
 - The student is using the device for an educational or instructional purpose with the teacher's permission and supervision.
 - The device is used as assistive technology required by a student's IEP or current 504 plan.
- **Violations:** Unauthorized use may result in confiscation and disciplinary action.
 - 1st Violation: Redirection/Verbal warning from Teacher and Staff; "power off and put away"; communication logged in Synergy
 - 2nd Violation: Phone Confiscation, student must retrieve device from the front office end of day; failure to relinquish electronic device, e.g. cell phone, air pods, etc. will result in disciplinary action.

- 3rd Violation: Phone Confiscation, electronic device will be released to a parent in the front office; failure to relinquish cell phone will result in disciplinary action.

[PJ40: Student Acceptable Use of Technology](#)

Dress Code

APS/CHS shall prohibit student dress that may present a health or safety hazard, violate municipal or state law, or present a potential disruption to the instructional program. Clothing should not disrupt the learning environment or compromise safety .

[APS Dress Code](#)

Prohibited clothing and accessories include, but are not limited to:

- obscene or violent language or images
- depictions of alcohol or drugs or other illegal item or activity
- racist content, hate speech, profanity, or pornography
- accessories that could be considered dangerous or used as a weapon
- underclothing worn as primary clothing items
- sheer or see-through clothing
- Swimwear: escorted to the Cougar Closet to change clothing.
- clothing without all sides in the garment

Hall Passes

Teachers will ask students to carry uniform hall passes/use electronic passes. **Hall passes will not be issued during the first & last ten minutes of each period.**

Teachers will not allow students to drop their belongings off and run an errand before the bell. This is not acceptable and will help keep hallways clear from students when the last bell rings.

Students are limited to 5 minutes; abuse of hall pass use will result in disciplinary action.

Parking Policies

[Campus Parking](#)

All vehicles parked on campus must be registered with the school (no exceptions) and the Cibola High School (CHS) parking tag must be placed on the rear view mirror of the vehicle.

No student parking is allowed in Faculty or Visitor lots. This includes athletes. Athletes cannot park behind the school (south staff parking lot) near portables during school hours.

Only authorized senior lot students may drive their vehicles off campus during lunch (with valid CHS ID card). Taking an underclassman off campus will result in revoking parking permit and possible discipline referral.

No loitering in parking lots before, during or after school, including passing periods, and lunch (no exceptions).

Student Violations/Consequences/Dispositions

School is a place to learn and to be part of a community where students, staff, and families are respectful, responsible and safe. If a student is behaving in a way that does not allow other students to learn and/or feel safe, school staff will need to intervene. Students, whether receiving general or special education services, may need to receive interventions for disruptive behavior.

Consequences/Disposition for any infraction listed in the Code of Conduct will be documented in Synergy and a copy of the referral given to the parent/legal guardian.

[APS Code of Conduct](#)

CHS Discipline Procedures

When a student violates school policies, the following steps may be taken:

1. Investigation: School officials will evaluate the incident by gathering facts, reviewing video footage, interviewing witnesses, and, when necessary, conducting searches of the student and/or their vehicle. If a student refuses to comply with an authorized administrative search, the student will lose the privilege of bringing or carrying a backpack, purse, bag, or other similar accessory on campus. This restriction will be documented and communicated to the student and their parent/guardian.
2. Notification: Parents/guardians will be informed of the incident and any potential consequences.
3. Interventions/Strategies: Evidence-based interventions will be implemented to teach and reinforce appropriate behaviors, as well as to reduce or eliminate behaviors that interfere with learning or well-being.
4. Disposition: Disciplinary actions will be determined based on the circumstances of the incident, with a focus on corrective measures and the individual needs of the student.

Student Support Services

Cibola High School offers various support services to assist students in meeting behavioral expectations:

- **Counseling:** Available for academic, personal, or social concerns.

- **Behavioral Interventions/Strategies:** Programs designed to address specific behavioral issues.
- **Peer Mediation:** Facilitated sessions to resolve conflicts amicably.
- **Safety Contracts:** These are individualized plans created for students with specific safety concerns while at school. Developed by the Deans of Students, the contract is designed to support the student's success and well-being. The effectiveness of the plan relies on the student's cooperation and adherence to its guidelines.