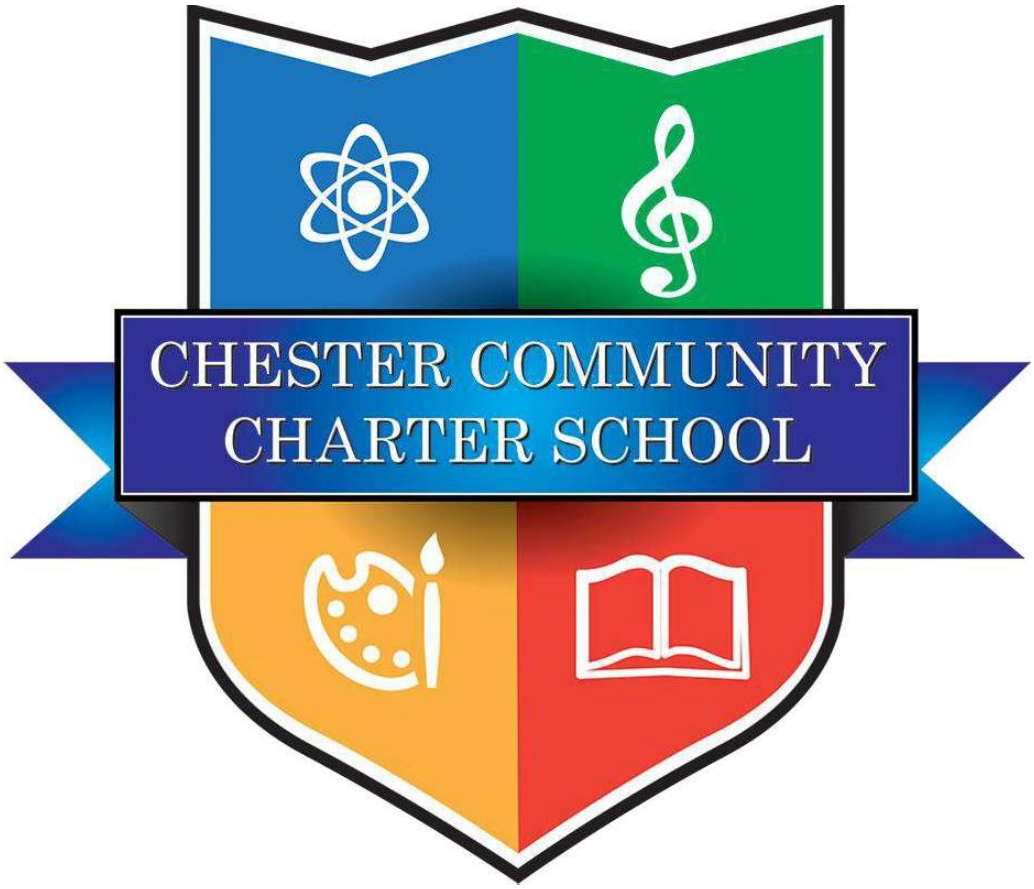


Student Code of Conduct
2026-2027

9/24/26 - Approved by BOT @ September meeting

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Families,

The CCCS Student Code of Conduct ensures that every student has a safe and positive place to learn. It outlines clear expectations for behavior and the steps we take when those expectations are not met — always with the goal of teaching, not simply punishing.

Please read this Code of Conduct with your child and contact your school's principal with any questions or suggestions. Your partnership makes all the difference.

Sincerely,

Mark Battinieri

Mark Battinieri
Chief Executive Officer
Chester Community Charter School

STUDENT CODE SUMMARY

The Chester Community Charter School's Code of Student Conduct provides a four-step system for responding to disruptive, unsafe, or harmful behaviors.

Step 1 — Teachable Moments

Our disciplinary plan is based on the tenets of positive reinforcement. Whenever circumstances permit, we endeavor to seize the "teachable moments." These are opportunities to increase students' skills in self-management and their ability to respect themselves and others. This step does not require formal disciplinary responses.

Step 2 — Classroom-Managed Offenses

The second step refers to offenses managed mainly by classroom teachers. These are listed as Level 1 offenses, along with their potential consequences.

Step 3 — Professional Intervention

The third step involves professionals including a buddy teacher, Principal, Assistant Principal, Dean of Students, Guidance Counselor, Building Director, or other trusted adults. This step generally involves Levels 2 and 3 violations.

Step 4 — Serious & Dangerous Behaviors

The fourth step provides guidelines for addressing the most dangerous and disruptive behaviors, considered Level 4 violations. These may result in alternative placement or expulsion.

Shared Responsibilities: The 4-step approach reinforces the African proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child." This belief supports the need for shared responsibility in nurturing and educating children.

This student code of conduct does not list all student offenses. If a student's offense is not listed, the building principal or designee can classify it as a closely related offense listed in the code.

LEVEL 1 OFFENSES & CONSEQUENCES

OFFENSES	
Cursing / Lewd / Inappropriate Language	Pushing / Aggressive or Intimidating Physical Postures / Defiant Behavior
Dress Code Violation	Unprepared for Class
Teasing / Taunting / Trash Talk	Defiance / Non-Compliance / Disrespectful Behavior
Disruptive Behavior	Incomplete Assignments
Misuse of School Property	Loitering
Class Cutting / Leaving Class Without Permission	Stealing / Theft
Minor Altercation	
POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES	
Parent Communication	Verbal Reprimand
Student reflections and self-corrective actions	Teacher contacts parents (telephone)
Offending student makes amends	Removal of Recess - Elementary Detention – Middle School
Teacher detention	Temporary loss of privileges
Teacher directed restorative action or detention, or parent contact	Parent Conference

! *Persistent Level 1 misbehavior will result in more stringent disciplinary responses. Frequently, repeated Level 1 offenses that are undeterred will escalate to a Level 2 offense handled by an administrator.*

LEVEL 2 OFFENSES & CONSEQUENCES

OFFENSES	
Academic Cheating	Abusive Language
Class Cutting / Leaving Class Without Permission	Failure to Attend Detention
Forgery	Presence in a Prohibited Area
Unauthorized Use of an Electronic Device	Disrespect to Staff
Defiance to Staff	Disruptive Behavior - Escalated
Physical Altercation	Misuse of Technology / Technology Violation
Slander / Harmful False Statements	Stealing / Theft
Dress Code Violation	
POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES	
Parent Communication	In-person parent conference
After school detention (teacher/administrator)	In-School Suspension (ISS)
Loss of technology use privileges	Out-of-School Suspension
Temporary confiscation of cell phone until parent pickup	Suspension
Combination of Consequences under Level 1 and or Suspension	

! *Administrators handle Level 2 offenses, and the classroom teacher maintains documentation. Students who miss class assignments due to out-of-school suspensions are expected to arrange with their classroom teachers to receive missing work.*

LEVEL 3 OFFENSES & CONSEQUENCES

OFFENSES	
Elopement	Offensive Touching - Student to Student
Offensive Touching - Student to Staff	Unlawful Restraint
Threatening School Officials or Staff	Threatening Student
Gang-Related Attire / Symbols	Stealing / Theft
Fighting	Bullying / Cyberbullying
Unauthorized Use of an Electronic Device	
POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES	
Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)	In-School Suspension (ISS, extended periods)
Parent conference before re-entry	Referral to counseling or student-support services
Behavior Contract	Referral to appropriate community-based or outside support services
Restitution, repair, replacement, or compensation for damaged/lost property, when appropriate	Any combination of appropriate interventions, supports, and disciplinary responses available under this Code
Denial of bus transportation for misconduct involving school transportation and consistent with CCCS transportation procedures	

! *Level 3 offenses represent the more severe student misbehaviors. The list above is representative and does not include all possible situations. Offenses not specifically mentioned will be handled on a "case-by-case" basis.*

LEVEL 4 OFFENSES & CONSEQUENCES

OFFENSES	
Simple Assault on Student	Indecent Assault / Indecent Exposure
False Fire Alarm / Alarm Tampering	Obscene and Other Sexual Materials and Performances
Sexual Harassment / Racial and Ethnic Intimidation	Other Forms of Harassment or Intimidation
Fighting	Stalking
Aggravated Assault of Student or Staff	Kidnapping / Interference With Custody of a Child
Reckless Endangerment / Robbery	Bullying / Cyberbullying
Violation of Social Media Policy / Harmful Digital Communication	Extortion
Burglary / Arson / Vandalism / Criminal Trespass	Rioting / Bomb Threats / Swatting / Terroristic Threats
Possession / Use / Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance	Sale / Distribution of a Controlled Substance
Sale / Possession / Use / Under the Influence of Alcohol	Rape / Statutory Sexual Assault / Sexual Assault / Institutional Sexual Assault
Possession / Use / Sale of Tobacco / Vaping Material	Possession of a Weapon
Cyber Harassment of a Child	Drug / Controlled Substance Possession
Serious Bodily Injury to Oneself or Another	Security Threat
Spitting	Stealing / Theft
Unauthorized Use of an Electronic Device	
POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES	
Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)	Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) and or Referral to BOT or Expulsion
In-School Suspension (ISS), when appropriate	Parent conference before re-entry
Referral to counseling or student-support services	Behavior Contract
Referral to appropriate community-based or outside support services	Restitution, repair, replacement, or compensation for damaged/lost property, when appropriate
Any combination of appropriate interventions, supports, and disciplinary responses available under this Code	Denial of bus transportation for misconduct involving school transportation and consistent with CCCS transportation procedures

** Level 4 Offenses represent the most severe student behaviors. Administrators will consider the student's age, intent, disciplinary history, disability status, safety concerns, and prior interventions when determining consequences. The list above is representative and does not include all possible situations.*

POTENTIAL EXPULSION / ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENT OFFENSES

Any Level 4 offense may serve as grounds for expulsion or alternative placement. Additional offenses that may result in expulsion include:

- Simple Assault on Student
- Indecent Assault / Indecent Exposure
- False Fire Alarm / Alarm Tamper
- Obscene and other sexual materials and performances
- Sexual harassment / Racial and ethnic intimidation
- Fighting / Stalking
- Aggravated assault of student or staff
- Kidnapping or interference with custody of child
- Reckless endangering another person / Robbery / Theft and related offenses
- Bullying/Cyberbullying (persistent teasing, harassment, intimidation, or harmful online conduct)
- Burglary / Arson / Vandalism / Criminal trespass
- Rioting / Bomb threats/Swatting / Terroristic threats
- Sale, possession, use, and/or under the influence of substances such as drugs, tobacco, alcohol, vapes, etc.
- Rape / Statutory sexual assault / Sexual assault / Institutional sexual assault / Aggravated indecent assault
- Possession of weapon
- Involuntary sexual deviant intercourse
- Inciting a riot or a fight
- Drug possession (illegal or prescription, including edibles)
- Extortion
- Misuse of technology / Violation of social media policy
- Repeated violation of school code of conduct
- Security Threat / Open lewdness
- Severe bodily injury to another student or staff

! *This list is not all inclusive. A student committing an act of misconduct not listed may still be subjected to disciplinary action including alternative placement or expulsion. Serious or excessive behavior is subject to the discretionary authority of the CEO or designee.*

Please Note: Students with a history of reported offenses may be recommended for alternative placement once the building-level student support team has demonstrated that they have exhausted all school-based interventions. A student may only be referred to a "District" level placement committee.

LAW ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION

The following incidents require mandatory reporting under applicable Pennsylvania law. Mandatory law-enforcement notifications under 22 Pa. Code § 10.21 apply to covered incidents occurring on school property, at a school-sponsored activity, or on covered school transportation.

School personnel who become aware of an incident that may require law-enforcement notification must immediately notify the building principal or designee, who will promptly notify the Chief Executive Officer or authorized designee in addition to making the report to law enforcement.

MANDATORY REPORTS	
• Prohibited offensive weapons	• Aggravated indecent assault / Indecent assault
• Possession of a weapon or bomb on school property	• Arson and related offenses
• Criminal homicide	• Felony institutional vandalism
• Aggravated assault	• Burglary
• Stalking	• Qualifying criminal trespass
• Kidnapping	• Riot
• Unlawful restraint	• Possession of a firearm by a minor
• Rape / Statutory sexual assault	• Possession, use, or sale of a controlled substance, designer drug, or drug paraphernalia (including prescription or counterfeit drugs)
• Involuntary deviate sexual intercourse	• Attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit a mandatory-notification offense
• Sexual assault / Institutional sexual assault	• An offense requiring sex-offender registration under applicable Pennsylvania law
CHILD ABUSE REPORTING: Suspected child abuse, including sexual abuse, incest, serious physical neglect, or other abuse of a child, must be reported immediately and directly to Pennsylvania ChildLine in accordance with the Child Protective Services Law and CCCS mandated-reporter procedures; law enforcement will also be notified when required by law.	

ADDITIONAL REPORTS	
• Simple assault, including assault against a student, school employee, or volunteer that does not constitute aggravated assault	• Theft and related offenses
• Recklessly endangering another person	• Failure to disperse
• Terroristic threats	• Disorderly conduct
• Harassment	• Underage purchase, possession, consumption, or transportation of alcohol
• Other unlawful sexual contact or sexual harassment against a student, school employee, or volunteer that is not otherwise identified as a mandatory sexual offense	• Other suspected felony or serious criminal conduct not otherwise listed above, including robbery, extortion, forgery, or criminal mischief
• Indecent exposure	• Organized gambling on school premises
• Misdemeanor institutional vandalism	• Attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit an additional-report offense
• Qualifying criminal trespass	• Bringing or aiding suspicious or unauthorized persons on or near school grounds

! *The principal or designee will make every effort to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s), conduct a thorough investigation, and, if warranted by statute, report it to the police authorities. In addition, the Principal/Deans will try to notify the parent/guardian of any juvenile victim.*

SUSPENSION GUIDELINES

Before suspension of a student who receives Special Education Services, the Principal must obtain approval from the Special Education Department.

SUSPENSION DAYS FOR REGULAR EDUCATION STUDENTS

Please note that the teacher handles Level One behaviors. However, if the scholar continues to break Level 1 behaviors, the Dean will issue appropriate disciplinary consequences up to suspension.

LEVEL 1	**First Offense: Implementation of Restorative Practices** Second Offense: 1-day suspension (max). Interventions must be put in place (e.g., Check and connect, behavior chart, regular positive phone calls home). Third Offense: 2-day suspension and a probation meeting discussed with the parent and scholar.
LEVEL 2	**First Offense: 1-day suspension** Second Offense: 2-day suspension. An intervention must be implemented. Third Offense: Additional suspension & reinstatement meeting. Probation letter and meeting discussed with parents and scholars.
LEVEL 3	**First Offense: 1-day suspension** Second Offense: Suspension. Probation letter and meeting discussed with parents and scholars. Interventions must be implemented. Third Offense: 3-day suspension.
LEVEL 4	**First Offense: 3-day suspension** Second Offense: Suspension. Intervention must be implemented. Probation letter and meeting discussed with parents and scholars. Third Offense: 5-day suspension or more appropriate; student may be put up for expulsion.

PLEASE NOTE: When a suspension exceeds 3 school days, the student and parent/guardian shall be given the opportunity for an informal hearing with the appropriate school official. The school shall offer to hold the informal hearing within the first 5 days of the suspension, consistent with 22 Pa. Code §§ 12.6(b)(1)(iv) and 12.8(c).

Each scholar needs to have a behavior folder with documentation (conduct referrals, suspension letters, phone call log for parent calls).

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE

Administrators should utilize restorative practices whenever appropriate, including restorative conversations, reflection activities, mediation, re-entry meetings, and behavior support planning.

When determining disciplinary consequences, administrators should consider the student's age, intent, disability status, prior interventions, safety concerns, and disciplinary history.

The Charter School reserves the right to investigate off-campus electronic communication or social media activity when such conduct substantially disrupts the school environment or impacts student or staff safety.

Repeated Level 1 or Level 2 offenses may result in escalation when interventions and supports have not resulted in improved student behavior.

Students returning from Out-of-School Suspension may participate in a re-entry conference with school staff and family members to support successful reintegration into the school environment.

SUSPENSION GUIDELINES — SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

IDEA, FAPE, and Pennsylvania Chapter 711 Compliance

Code of Student Conduct Guidance | Legal review basis: August 2026

Purpose and General Requirements

These guidelines apply to students eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and are intended to ensure compliance with IDEA, Pennsylvania special-education regulations, and the obligation to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). These procedures are in addition to the suspension and due-process requirements applicable to all students.

All disciplinary removals must be tracked cumulatively by school year. Before assigning a suspension, the administrator and Special Education Department must review the student's disability classification, current number of removal days, IEP implementation, behavioral supports, and whether the proposed removal may constitute a change of educational placement.

> **Internal checkpoints:** The 3-day, 6-day, and 10-day cumulative reviews below are CCCS preventive safeguards. They supplement, but do not replace, the legal requirements that apply whenever a disciplinary removal constitutes a change of placement.

Students with an Intellectual Disability

> **Important Pennsylvania rule:** Any disciplinary removal of a student identified with an Intellectual Disability constitutes a change of educational placement under 22 Pa. Code Section 711.61(c). The Special Education Director must be consulted before any removal is imposed.

For an ordinary disciplinary removal, the school must obtain parental agreement or, if the parent does not agree, seek authorization from the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Bureau of Special Education before implementing the removal.

IDEA permits school personnel to place a student in an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for up to 45 school days, without regard to whether the conduct is a manifestation of the student's disability, when the student carries or possesses a weapon at school or a school function; knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs, or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance, at school or a school function; or inflicts serious bodily injury upon another person at school or a school function. Separately, a hearing officer may order an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for up to 45 school days if maintaining the student's current placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or others. All applicable manifestation determination, notice, procedural-safeguard, and FAPE requirements remain in effect.

Preventive Review Checkpoints[1]

3 DAYS	The case manager may review the student's IEP implementation, behavioral supports, accommodations, and removal history and may convene the IEP team when appropriate. The team should consider additional positive supports and whether an FBA or PBSP/BIP is needed; neither is automatically required solely because the student reached three cumulative removal days.
6 DAYS	Upon reaching six (6) consecutive or cumulative school days of disciplinary removal, the case manager may convene or initiate an IEP team review, including providing parent notice and opportunity to participate. The IEP team may examine behavioral data, implementation of the IEP, and the effectiveness of existing interventions. The IEP and behavioral supports may be revised as appropriate. If a review is conducted and no changes are required, that determination will be documented. The team should review cumulative days and consider whether an FBA and PBSP/BIP are needed.
10 DAYS	Upon reaching 10 cumulative school days of disciplinary removal, the case manager shall convene an IEP team for review of the student's IEP, behavioral data, existing supports, removal history, and possible pattern of removals. If an FBA has not been completed, the team shall consider initiating the appropriate evaluation or reevaluation process, including issuing a Permission to Reevaluate (PTRE) when required. Before any subsequent removal, the Special Education Department must determine the educational services the student will receive and whether the proposed removal constitutes a disciplinary change of placement. Reaching exactly 10 cumulative days does not, by itself, constitute a disciplinary change in placement or automatically require a manifestation determination; however, a pattern of removals may trigger the requirement.

Disciplinary Change of Placement and Manifestation Determination[2]

A manifestation determination review (MDR) must be conducted within 10 school days[3] of the decision to impose a removal that constitutes a change of educational placement. The MDR is triggered by the decision to make the change, not by waiting until the student has served 10 days.

A disciplinary change of placement occurs when:

- The proposed removal exceeds 10 consecutive school days;
- A series of removals totals more than 10 school days and constitutes a pattern based on substantially similar behavior, the length and proximity of the removals, and the total time removed;
- The student exceeds 15 cumulative school days[4] of disciplinary removal in a Pennsylvania school year; or
- The student is identified with an Intellectual Disability and is removed for any period[5].

The MDR must include the parent or guardian, the LEA, and relevant members of the IEP team, as determined by the parent and the LEA. The team must review all relevant information in the student's file including: the student's IEP and information related to its implementation, relevant evaluations and records, behavioral data, teacher observations, and information provided by the parent.

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[1] These preventative review checkpoints also apply to students receiving services under Section 504. For a Section 504-only student, references to "case manager" "IEP team" or "IEP" shall mean "Section 504 Coordinator" or "group of persons knowledgeable about the student," or "Section 504 Plan" respectively.

[2] The disciplinary change of placement and manifestation determination section also applies to students receiving services under Section 504, except where otherwise noted. For a Section 504-only student, references to "case manager" "IEP team" or "IEP" shall mean "Section 504 Coordinator" or "group of persons knowledgeable about the student," or "Section 504 Plan" respectively.

[3] Before implementing a disciplinary removal that would constitute a significant placement change for a Section 504-only student, the MDR or reevaluation must be conducted. 34 CFR 104.35.

[4] Not applicable to Section 504-only students.

On the date the decision is made to impose a removal that constitutes a change of placement; the LEA shall notify the parent of the decision and provide the Procedural Safeguards Notice.

Required MDR Determinations

The team must determine whether:

- The conduct was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to, the student's disability; or
- The conduct was the direct result of the school's failure to implement the student's IEP.

If the Conduct Is a Manifestation

The IEP team must conduct an FBA and implement a PBSP/BIP unless an FBA is completed before the behavior occurs. If a PBSP/BIP is already in place, the team must review and revise it as necessary to address the behavior. If the conduct resulted from a failure to implement the IEP, the school must take immediate steps to correct the failure and return the student to the prior placement unless the parent and LEA agree to a placement change, IDEA's special circumstances apply, or there is an administrative or court order related to placement.

If the Conduct Is Not a Manifestation

The school may apply the same disciplinary procedures and duration that would apply to a student without a disability. The student must continue to receive the educational and behavioral services required by IDEA and the student's IEP.

Continuation of FAPE During Disciplinary Removals

FAPE may not be terminated because a student is suspended or expelled. During the first 10 cumulative school days of removal, services must be provided to the extent required by IDEA and the school's general discipline procedures. The student must also be permitted to make up missed assignments and examinations in accordance with Pennsylvania law and school policy.

After a student has accumulated 10 school days of removal in the same school year, services must be provided during every subsequent day of removal so the student can continue participating in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and progress toward the goals in the IEP.

If the subsequent removal is not a change of placement, school personnel, in consultation with at least one of the student teachers, determine the required services. If the removal is a change of placement, the IEP team determines the appropriate services and settings.

Special Education Department Approval

> **Required approval: No disciplinary removal of a student eligible under IDEA may be assigned without consultation and approval from the Special Education Department. Internal approval does not replace any required parent agreement, PDE authorization, manifestation determination, notice, procedural safeguards, or continuation of educational services.**

Authority and References

34 C.F.R. Sections 300.530-300.536: IDEA Discipline Regulations; 22 Pa. Code Section 711.61: Pennsylvania Code; and PDE's Basic Education Circular: Disciplinary Exclusions of Students Eligible for Special Education.

DEFINITIONS

How to Use These Definitions. Some terms below are defined by Pennsylvania or federal law; others are CCCS school-operational definitions. Statutory terms are written in plain language for staff use and include the legal authority. A school disciplinary finding is not a finding of criminal guilt. Staff should document the facts and apply the Code; law-enforcement agencies and courts determine criminal charges. If a statute or regulation changes, the current law controls.

Consistency Note: Pennsylvania law uses the term "serious bodily injury." For consistency, staff should use that term rather than "severe bodily injury" when interpreting this Code. Every Level 1-4 offense title in this edition is written to match a definition heading exactly.

Abusive Language: Spoken, written, electronic, or nonverbal language directed at another person that is seriously insulting, degrading, obscene, vulgar, or threatening and materially disrupts the school environment or infringes the rights of another person. Protected disagreement or expression is not abusive language solely because it is critical or unpopular.

Authority: CCCS school definition; applied consistently with student-expression rights under 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12.

Abusive Language / Gestures / Cursing: The use of spoken, written, electronic, or nonverbal language or gestures that are obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, threatening, or seriously disrespectful and that disrupt the school environment or are directed at another person in a manner prohibited by this Code.

Authority: CCCS school definition; applied consistently with student-expression rights under 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12.

Academic Cheating: Presenting work as a student's own when it is not, or obtaining or providing unauthorized help on an assignment, test, project, or other academic task. This includes copying, sharing answers, plagiarism, using unauthorized notes or resources, submitting another person's work, or using an artificial intelligence tool when the teacher or assignment rules do not permit it.

Authority: CCCS school definition.

Aggravated Assault: Conduct that meets Pennsylvania's aggravated-assault law, including attempting to cause or causing serious bodily injury under circumstances showing extreme indifference to human life, causing bodily injury with a deadly weapon, or certain assaults against protected persons such as school employees acting within the scope of their duties.

Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2702. School staff should document the conduct and injuries; law enforcement and courts determine the criminal charge.

Aggravated Assault of Student or Staff: Conduct that meets the definition of Aggravated Assault in this Code when the person subjected to the alleged assault is a student or staff member.

Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2702; see Aggravated Assault.

Alcohol: Beer, wine, liquor, spirits, or another beverage or consumable substance containing alcohol. Possession, use, sale, distribution, or being under the influence of alcohol may violate this Code.

Authority: CCCS school definition; see Pennsylvania Liquor Code and applicable school-safety reporting requirements.

Alternative Placement / Alternative Education: A lawful educational placement outside a student's regular school program. Alternative placement is not the same as an out-of-school suspension or expulsion. When CCCS uses Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY), Pennsylvania eligibility, due-process, review, and educational requirements apply.

Authority: Pennsylvania Department of Education AEDY requirements.

Arson: Intentionally starting a fire or causing an explosion, or intentionally or recklessly placing a person or property in danger by fire or explosion, under circumstances covered by Pennsylvania law.

Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3301.

Artificial Intelligence-Generated or Modified Media: Text, code, images, audio, or video data created or changed from its original source through artificial intelligence technology, programs, or platforms.

Authority: Public School Code § 1303.1-A(e), as amended by Act 20 of 2026.

Behavior Contract: A written agreement among the student, parent/guardian, and school that identifies expected behavior, supports, monitoring, and the responses that may occur if the agreement is not followed.

Authority: CCCS school definition.

Bodily Injury: Impairment of physical condition or substantial pain.

Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2301.

Bomb Threat: A direct or indirect communication that a bomb, explosive, or similar dangerous device is present, will be used, or has been placed, when the communication is intended to terrorize, cause an evacuation, create serious public inconvenience, or otherwise meets applicable law.

Authority: See 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 2706, 4905 and 4906.

Bullying: An intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act, or series of acts, directed at another student or students, occurring in a school setting, that is severe, persistent, or pervasive and has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education, creating a threatening environment, or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.
Authority: Public School Code § 1303.1-A(e), as amended by Act 20 of 2026.

Bullying / Cyberbullying: Conduct that meets the definition of Bullying or Cyberbullying in this Code. Cyberbullying includes qualifying conduct carried out through electronic technology or communication, including artificial intelligence-generated or modified media.
Authority: Public School Code § 1303.1-A, as amended by Act 20 of 2026; see the separate Bullying and Cyberbullying definitions.

Burglary: Entering a building, occupied structure, or secured portion of one without lawful privilege and with the intent to commit a crime inside, under circumstances defined by Pennsylvania law.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3502.

Burglary / Arson / Vandalism / Criminal Trespass: Conduct that meets the definition of Burglary, Arson, Vandalism / Criminal Mischief, or Criminal Trespass in this Code.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 3301, 3304, 3307, 3502 and 3503; see the separate definitions.

Class Cutting / Leaving Class Without Permission: Intentionally leaving an assigned class, instructional area, or supervised setting without permission, or intentionally failing to report to an assigned class or location.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Controlled Substance: A drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I through V of Pennsylvania's Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
Authority: The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, 35 P.S. § 780-102.

Criminal Homicide: Intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or negligently causing the death of another human being. Pennsylvania classifies criminal homicide as murder, voluntary manslaughter, or involuntary manslaughter.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2501.

Criminal Trespass: Knowingly entering, gaining entry to, or remaining in a building, occupied structure, or other place when the person knows that they are not licensed or privileged to be there, as defined by Pennsylvania law.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3503.

Cursing / Lewd / Inappropriate Language: Using spoken, written, electronic, or nonverbal language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar, obscene, or otherwise inappropriate for the school setting. This category is intended for lower-level inappropriate language that does not rise to a more serious threat, harassment, or abusive-language offense.
Authority: CCCS school definition; applied consistently with student-expression rights under 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12.

Cyber Harassment of a Child: With intent to harass, annoy, or alarm, engaging in a continuing course of electronic conduct directed to a child, or published through an electronic social-media service, that makes a seriously disparaging statement or opinion about the child's physical characteristics, sexuality, sexual activity, or mental or physical health or condition, or threatens to inflict harm.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2709(a.1).

Cyberbullying: Bullying through electronic technology or communication, including data, computer software, online platforms, devices, systems, networks, Internet services, email, social media, or other digital means, including artificial intelligence-generated or modified media, when the conduct meets the statutory requirements for direction at another student, severity/persistence/pervasiveness, and educational or school impact.
Authority: Public School Code § 1303.1-A(e), as amended by Act 20 of 2026.

Dangerous Instrument: An instrument, article, object, or substance that, because of its design or the way it is used or intended to be used, is readily capable of causing serious bodily injury or death. If the item meets the Pennsylvania school-weapon definition, the weapon provisions of this Code apply.
Authority: CCCS school definition informed by 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 2301 and 912.

Deadly Weapon: A firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; a device designed as a weapon and capable of causing death or serious bodily injury; or another device or instrument that, in the way it is used or intended to be used, is likely to cause death or serious bodily injury.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2301.

Defiance / Non-Compliance / Disrespectful Behavior: A student's refusal, after a reasonable direction and opportunity to comply, to follow a lawful and reasonable instruction from school personnel, identify themselves when reasonably required, or comply with a safety or disciplinary direction. A disagreement, respectful request for clarification, or legally protected expression is not, by itself, defiance.
Authority: CCCS school definition; applied consistently with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12.

Defiance to Staff: A refusal, after a reasonable direction and opportunity to comply, to follow a lawful and reasonable instruction from school personnel or to comply with a school safety or disciplinary direction.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Denial of Bus Transportation: Temporary or longer-term loss of school transportation privileges because of transportation-related misconduct, when authorized by law, school policy, and the entity responsible for transportation. During any lawful denial, the parent/guardian remains responsible for ensuring the student's attendance.
Authority: CCCS school definition; implementation should be coordinated with applicable charter-school transportation requirements.

Destructive Device: An explosive, incendiary, poison-gas device, bomb, grenade, certain rockets or missiles, mines, or other devices or combinations of parts designed or intended to function as a destructive weapon, subject to the exclusions provided by federal and state law.
Authority: Plain-language school definition informed by federal destructive-device law and Pennsylvania weapons provisions.

Detention: A supervised period outside regular instructional time during which a student is required to remain in a designated location as a disciplinary or corrective response.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Disorderly Conduct: Conduct carried out with intent to cause public inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm, or with reckless disregard of that risk, including fighting or threatening behavior, unreasonable noise, obscene language or gestures, or creating a hazardous or physically offensive condition with no legitimate purpose.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 5503.

Disrespect to Staff: Verbal or nonverbal conduct directed toward a staff member that is insulting, demeaning, or seriously uncivil and that causes a material disruption or continues after reasonable redirection. A respectful disagreement, question, or request for clarification is not, by itself, disrespect.
Authority: CCCS school definition; applied consistently with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12.

Disruptive Behavior: Conduct that materially and substantially interferes with or obstructs teaching, learning, school operations, or a safe and orderly educational environment.
Authority: CCCS school definition; consistent with 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12.

Disruptive Behavior - Escalated: Disruptive Behavior, as defined in this Code, that is repeated, more serious in impact, continues after reasonable interventions or redirection, or otherwise warrants escalation under the Code.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see also Disruptive Behavior and Escalation.

Distribution: Selling, transferring, delivering, sharing, or giving a prohibited item or substance to another person, with or without payment.
Authority: CCCS school definition; for controlled substances, see Pennsylvania's Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.

Dress Code Violation: Failure to comply with the Board-approved CCCS dress code or uniform requirements after reasonable notice and an opportunity to correct the issue. Enforcement must be consistent with applicable student rights and nondiscrimination requirements.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12.

Drug / Controlled Substance: For purposes of this Code, a controlled substance, counterfeit controlled substance, illegal drug, unauthorized prescription medication, or other substance possessed, used, sold, distributed, or misused for an intoxicating or mind-altering effect. Lawfully prescribed or over-the-counter medication used in accordance with school health procedures is not a disciplinary drug violation.
Authority: CCCS school definition; 'controlled substance' is defined by 35 P.S. § 780-102.

Drug / Controlled Substance Possession: Unauthorized possession of an illegal drug, Controlled Substance, counterfeit controlled substance, or prescription medication not possessed in accordance with school health procedures, including an edible or other ingestible form.
Authority: CCCS school definition informed by 35 P.S. § 780-101 et seq. Lawfully authorized medication is excluded.

Drug Paraphernalia: Equipment, products, or materials used, intended for use, or designed for use in planting, growing, manufacturing, preparing, testing, storing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing a controlled substance into the body in violation of law.
Authority: 35 P.S. § 780-102.

Drug-Like Substance: A non-controlled or non-prescription substance that is used or possessed for the purpose of producing an intoxicating, mind-altering, or impairing effect, including misuse of certain over-the-counter products, inhalants, or similar substances.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Electronic Device: A cell phone, smartphone, smartwatch, tablet, laptop, Chromebook, camera, audio/video recorder, gaming device, headphones or earbuds with communication functions, or another electronic or network-connected device.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Elopement: Leaving a school building, school grounds, school transportation, or a supervised school activity without authorization, or leaving supervision in a manner that creates a safety concern.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Escalation: Moving a behavior to a higher level of response because of the seriousness of the conduct, a repeated pattern of behavior, increased impact or safety risk, or failure of prior interventions and supports to improve the behavior. Escalation is not automatic and should be based on the individual circumstances.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Ethnic Intimidation / Racial and Ethnic Intimidation: Committing a qualifying assault, property-damage, or trespass offense with malicious intent motivated by hatred toward the race, color, religion, or national origin of another person or group, as defined by Pennsylvania law.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2710.

Expulsion: Exclusion from school by the governing Board for a period exceeding 10 school days and which may be permanent. A formal hearing is required before expulsion.
Authority: 22 Pa. Code § 12.6(b)(2) and § 12.8.

Extortion: Intentionally obtaining or withholding another person's property, money, services, or other benefit by using a threat, including a threat to commit a crime, accuse someone of a crime, expose a secret, or cause another type of harm.
Authority: Plain-language summary of 18 Pa.C.S. § 3923.

Failure to Attend Detention: Knowingly failing to report to, remain at, or complete an assigned detention without permission, an approved excuse, or another authorization from school personnel.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

False Fire Alarm / Alarm Tampering: Knowingly causing a false alarm of fire or another emergency to be transmitted to an organization or person responsible for responding to emergencies. Alarm tampering also includes intentionally disabling, damaging, activating, or interfering with a fire or emergency alarm or safety system without authorization.
Authority: False alarms: 18 Pa.C.S. § 4905; alarm tampering: CCCS school definition and applicable fire/safety law.

Fighting: A mutual or reciprocal physical altercation between two or more individuals involving aggressive physical contact. This school classification does not determine whether any participant committed a criminal assault.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Forgery: With intent to defraud or injure, altering another person's writing or record without authority, creating or completing a writing so that it falsely appears to have been made or authorized by another person, or knowingly using a forged writing. 'Writing' includes electronic signatures and recorded information.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 4101.

Gambling: Participating in an unauthorized game of chance, wager, or betting activity for money, property, services, or another thing of value.
Authority: CCCS school definition; applicable Pennsylvania gambling laws may also apply.

Gang-Related Attire / Symbols: Clothing, symbols, gestures, displays, or other items that are objectively identified through reliable school-safety or law-enforcement information as signifying gang affiliation or activity and that create, or can reasonably be forecast to create, a substantial disruption or legitimate safety concern. Color, style, neighborhood association, or protected expression alone is not enough.
Authority: CCCS school definition; applied consistently with student-expression rights under 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12.

Harassment: Conduct carried out with intent to harass, annoy, or alarm another person, including certain unwanted physical contact or threats of contact, following another person, repeated acts serving no legitimate purpose, or repeated or threatening, lewd, or obscene communications.
Authority: Plain-language summary of 18 Pa.C.S. § 2709. School-based harassment may also be addressed under civil-rights and Board policies.

In-School Suspension (ISS): Temporary exclusion from regular classes while the student remains in a supervised school setting and continues to receive educational services. Before ISS, the student must be told the reason and given an opportunity to respond; parent/guardian communication and additional procedures apply as required by Pennsylvania law.
Authority: 22 Pa. Code § 12.7.

Incomplete Assignments: Failure to complete or submit required academic work. This is an academic matter and should be addressed through instructional, academic, and family supports rather than exclusionary discipline solely because work is incomplete.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Indecent Assault: Indecent or sexual contact with another person, causing another person to engage in such contact, or intentionally causing specified bodily-fluid contact for sexual arousal or gratification, under circumstances prohibited by Pennsylvania law, including lack of consent, force or threat, incapacity, or specified age circumstances.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3126.

Indecent Assault / Indecent Exposure: Conduct that meets the definition of either Indecent Assault or Indecent Exposure in this Code.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 3126 and 3127; see the separate definitions.

Indecent Exposure: Exposing one's genitals in a public place, or where other people are present, under circumstances in which the person knows or should know the conduct is likely to offend, affront, or alarm.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3127.

Informal Hearing: A due-process meeting that gives a student and parent/guardian an opportunity to understand and respond to the reasons for certain school exclusions. Pennsylvania requires the opportunity for an informal hearing when an out-of-school suspension exceeds three school days and in other circumstances specified by regulation.
Authority: 22 Pa. Code §§ 12.6 and 12.8.

Inhalant Abuse: Intentionally inhaling chemical vapors, fumes, aerosols, or similar substances for the purpose of producing an intoxicating or mind-altering effect.
Authority: CCCS school definition; applicable controlled-substance and health/safety laws may also apply.

Institutional Sexual Assault: In the school context, sexual intercourse, deviate sexual intercourse, or indecent contact between a school employee, volunteer, or another nonstudent person who has direct contact with students and a student of the school, under circumstances covered by Pennsylvania law. Consent is not a defense under the statute.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3124.2(a.2). Note: the statutory school provision excludes school students from the definitions of employee and volunteer.

Interference With Custody of a Child: Knowingly or recklessly taking or enticing a child under 18 from the custody of a parent, guardian, or other lawful custodian when the person has no legal privilege to do so, subject to defenses provided by law.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2904.

Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse: Deviate sexual intercourse with another person under circumstances prohibited by Pennsylvania law, including forcible compulsion, threat of forcible compulsion, unconsciousness or unawareness, drug-induced incapacity, inability to consent, or specified age circumstances.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3123.

Kidnapping: Unlawfully removing another person a substantial distance or unlawfully confining another person for a substantial period in a place of isolation for a prohibited purpose, such as ransom, facilitating a felony, causing bodily injury, terrorizing another person, or interfering with governmental functions.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2901.

Kidnapping / Interference With Custody of a Child: Conduct that meets the definition of Kidnapping or Interference With Custody of a Child in this Code.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 2901 and 2904; see the separate definitions.

Loitering: Remaining, lingering, or idling in a school area without permission, legitimate school purpose, or assigned activity after being directed to move or report to an authorized location.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Minor Altercation: A verbal confrontation, argument, or non-injurious conflict that does not rise to the level of fighting, assault, threatening conduct, or another more serious offense.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Misuse of School Property: Using school-owned or school-controlled property in an unauthorized, unsafe, damaging, or inappropriate manner that does not rise to the level of theft, vandalism, or another more serious offense.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Misuse of Technology / Technology Violation: Using school technology, accounts, networks, devices, or digital resources in an unauthorized or prohibited manner, including bypassing security or filtering controls, using another person's credentials, accessing prohibited systems or content, damaging or altering technology, disrupting networks, unauthorized downloading, or using technology to commit another violation of this Code.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Obscene and Other Sexual Materials and Performances: Possessing, creating, displaying, sharing, transmitting, or performing sexually explicit or obscene material in a manner prohibited by law, Board policy, or this Code. When a legal determination of obscenity is required, Pennsylvania law controls.
Authority: See 18 Pa.C.S. § 5903.

Offensive Touching: Intentional unwanted or inappropriate physical contact with another person that is likely to cause offense or alarm, including intentionally causing another person to come into contact with saliva, urine, feces, or another bodily fluid. If the conduct meets the elements of assault, harassment, or a sexual offense, the applicable statutory definition controls.
Authority: CCCS school definition informed by 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 2701, 2709 and Chapter 31.

Offensive Touching - Student to Staff: Offensive Touching, as defined in this Code, when the person subjected to the touching is a staff member.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see Offensive Touching.

Offensive Touching - Student to Student: Offensive Touching, as defined in this Code, when the person subjected to the touching is another student.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see Offensive Touching.

Open Lewdness: A lewd act performed when the person knows the act is likely to be observed by others who would be affronted or alarmed.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 5901.

Other Forms of Harassment or Intimidation: Harassing, threatening, coercive, or intimidating conduct that is prohibited by this Code, Board policy, or applicable law but is not more specifically identified elsewhere in the offense list.
Authority: CCCS school definition; applicable civil-rights and Pennsylvania laws may also apply.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) / Suspension: Exclusion from school for one to ten consecutive school days. Before suspension, the student must be informed of the reason and given an opportunity to respond, except when immediate health, safety, or welfare concerns justify immediate action. Written parent/guardian notice and other due-process requirements apply.
Authority: 22 Pa. Code § 12.6(b)(1).

Physical Altercation: Aggressive physical contact between students that does not, based on the known facts, rise to the school's definition of fighting or to another more serious offense. The school classification does not determine whether a criminal assault occurred.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Pornography: Obscene or sexually explicit material, images, recordings, or performances whose possession, creation, display, or distribution is prohibited by law, Board policy, or this Code.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see 18 Pa.C.S. § 5903 where applicable.

Possession: Having an item or substance on one's person, in clothing or belongings, in a locker or assigned space, or otherwise within the person's custody or reasonable control. Possession may be actual or constructive.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Possession / Use / Sale of Tobacco / Vaping Material: Possessing, using, selling, distributing, or transferring Tobacco / Vaping Material in violation of this Code or applicable law.
Authority: CCCS school definition informed by applicable Pennsylvania tobacco and vaping laws; see Tobacco / Vaping Material.

Possession / Use / Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance: Unauthorized possession or use of a Controlled Substance, or being Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance, as those terms are defined in this Code. Lawfully authorized medication used in accordance with school health procedures is not included.
Authority: CCCS school definition informed by the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, 35 P.S. § 780-101 et seq.

Possession of a Weapon: Possession, as defined in this Code, of a Weapon / Dangerous Instrument. Pennsylvania school-weapon law and the Code's weapons procedures apply when the item meets the statutory or school-policy definition.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 912; see Possession and Weapon / Dangerous Instrument.

Presence in a Prohibited Area: Knowingly entering or remaining in an area that students are not authorized to access, or remaining in an area after being directed to leave. More serious unauthorized entry may constitute criminal trespass.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see 18 Pa.C.S. § 3503 when applicable.

Principal: The building Principal or the Principal's authorized designee when the Code assigns a responsibility or decision to the Principal.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Pushing / Aggressive or Intimidating Physical Postures / Defiant Behavior: Intentional pushing, aggressive or intimidating physical posturing, or defiant conduct that creates a disruption or reasonable safety concern but does not rise to the level of fighting, assault, or another more serious offense.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Rape: Sexual intercourse under circumstances defined as rape by Pennsylvania law, including forcible compulsion, threat of forcible compulsion, certain circumstances involving unconsciousness, unawareness or incapacity, and sexual intercourse with a child under 13.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3121.

Rape / Statutory Sexual Assault / Sexual Assault / Institutional Sexual Assault: Conduct that meets the definition of Rape, Statutory Sexual Assault, Sexual Assault, or Institutional Sexual Assault in this Code. Institutional Sexual Assault is a statutory term generally involving a person in a position of authority or direct contact and should be applied only when legally appropriate.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 3121, 3122.1, 3124.1 and 3124.2; see the separate definitions.

Reckless Endangerment: Recklessly engaging in conduct that places or may place another person in danger of death or serious bodily injury.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2705.

Reckless Endangerment / Robbery: Conduct that meets the definition of Reckless Endangerment or Robbery in this Code.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 2705 and 3701; see the separate definitions.

Reprimand: A verbal or written warning that identifies unacceptable behavior and directs the student to correct it.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Restitution: Payment for, repair of, or replacement of property that was damaged, destroyed, lost, or wrongfully taken, when permitted by law and school policy.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Riot / Rioting: Participating with two or more other people in disorderly conduct with intent to commit or facilitate a felony or misdemeanor, prevent or coerce official action, or under other circumstances defined by Pennsylvania's riot statute.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 5501.

Rioting / Bomb Threats / Swatting / Terroristic Threats: Conduct that meets the definition of Riot / Rioting, Bomb Threat, Swatting, or Terroristic Threat / Terroristic Threatening in this Code.
Authority: See 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 2706, 4905, 4906 and 5501 and the separate definitions.

Robbery: Committing a theft while using force, causing bodily injury, threatening immediate bodily injury or serious bodily injury, or physically taking property from another person by force, as defined by Pennsylvania law.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3701.

Sale / Distribution of a Controlled Substance: Selling, transferring, delivering, sharing, giving, or otherwise distributing a Controlled Substance, with or without payment, as defined in this Code.
Authority: CCCS school definition informed by the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, 35 P.S. § 780-101 et seq.

Sale / Possession / Use / Under the Influence of Alcohol: Selling, possessing, using, distributing, or being under the influence of Alcohol in violation of this Code or applicable law.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see Alcohol.

School Setting: In the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at an activity sponsored, supervised, or sanctioned by the school.
Authority: Public School Code § 1303.1-A(e), as amended by Act 20 of 2026.

Security Threat: Conduct, communication, device, object, digital activity, or unauthorized access that creates or reasonably appears to create a credible threat to the safety or security of students, staff, visitors, school facilities, transportation, technology systems, or school operations.
Authority: CCCS school definition. Criminal classifications and threat-assessment decisions are governed by applicable law and school safety procedures.

Serious Bodily Injury: Bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death, causes serious permanent disfigurement, or causes prolonged loss or impairment of the function of a body part or organ.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2301. This is the statutory term; use it consistently instead of 'severe bodily injury.'

Serious Bodily Injury to Oneself or Another: An incident in which conduct causes or results in Serious Bodily Injury, as defined in this Code, to the student or another person.
Authority: CCCS school definition using the statutory term Serious Bodily Injury; see 18 Pa.C.S. § 2301.

Sexual Assault: Sexual intercourse or deviate sexual intercourse with another person without that person's consent, when the conduct falls within Pennsylvania's sexual-assault statute and is not classified under a more specific sexual offense.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3124.1.

Sexual Harassment: Unwelcome sex-based conduct prohibited by Title IX or other applicable law or Board policy, including quid-pro-quo conduct by a school employee, unwelcome conduct that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies equal access to the school's education program or activity, and conduct that constitutes sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking under applicable federal law.
Authority: Federal Title IX regulations, 34 C.F.R. Part 106, and CCCS Board policy.

Sexual Harassment / Racial and Ethnic Intimidation: Conduct that meets the definition of Sexual Harassment or Racial and Ethnic Intimidation / Ethnic Intimidation in this Code.
Authority: See 34 C.F.R. Part 106, applicable Board policy, and 18 Pa.C.S. § 2710.

Sexual Misconduct: Sexual conduct occurring in the school environment that violates this Code or Board policy but does not necessarily meet the legal definition of a criminal sexual offense or sexual harassment.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Simple Assault: Attempting to cause, or intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing, bodily injury to another person; negligently causing bodily injury with a deadly weapon; or using physical menace to place another person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2701. School staff should document objective facts; law enforcement and courts determine the criminal charge.

Simple Assault on Student: Conduct that meets the definition of Simple Assault in this Code when the person subjected to the alleged assault is a student.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2701; see Simple Assault.

Slander / Harmful False Statements: For school discipline purposes, knowingly or recklessly making or spreading a materially false statement about another person when the conduct is intended or reasonably likely to harass, intimidate, threaten, substantially disrupt the school environment, or infringe another person's rights. Ordinary disagreement, criticism, or legally protected expression is not included.
Authority: CCCS school definition. 'Slander' is not a Pennsylvania criminal offense and should not be used as a criminal classification.

Spitting: Intentionally projecting saliva onto or at another person. Depending on the circumstances, the conduct may also meet the school or legal definition of offensive touching, harassment, assault, or another offense.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Stalking: Repeatedly following or committing acts toward another person, or repeatedly communicating with another person, in a manner that demonstrates an intent to place that person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or to cause substantial emotional distress.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2709.1.

Statutory Sexual Assault: Sexual intercourse with a person under 16 when the other person is at least four years older and the individuals are not married to each other. The grading of the offense depends on the age difference established by Pennsylvania law.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 3122.1.

Stealing / Theft: Unlawfully taking, exercising control over, or withholding another person's property with intent to deprive the owner of it. For school purposes, theft may also include knowingly receiving or retaining property believed to be stolen.
Authority: Plain-language summary of 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 3921 and 3925.

Swatting: Knowingly making or causing a false report of a serious emergency, crime, threat, or dangerous condition for the purpose or foreseeable effect of causing law-enforcement or emergency personnel to respond to a person, school, home, or other location when no such emergency exists.
Authority: CCCS school definition informed by 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 4905 and 4906.

Teasing / Taunting / Trash Talk: Verbal, written, electronic, or nonverbal comments intended to provoke, mock, embarrass, or demean another person but that do not, based on the known facts, meet the definition of bullying, harassment, a threat, or another more serious offense.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Terroristic Threat / Terroristic Threatening: A direct or indirect threat to commit a crime of violence with intent to terrorize another person, cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly, or public transportation facility, or otherwise cause terror or serious public inconvenience, including conduct committed with reckless disregard of that risk.
Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2706.

Threatening School Officials or Staff: A verbal, written, electronic, visual, or nonverbal communication or action directed at a school official or staff member that communicates an intent to cause harm or violence and creates a reasonable safety concern. Conduct meeting the statutory elements of a Terroristic Threat is governed by that definition.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see also 18 Pa.C.S. § 2706 where applicable.

Threatening Student: A verbal, written, electronic, visual, or nonverbal communication or action directed at a student that communicates an intent to cause harm or violence and creates a reasonable safety concern. Conduct meeting the statutory elements of a Terroristic Threat is governed by that definition.
Authority: CCCS school definition; see also 18 Pa.C.S. § 2706 where applicable.

Tobacco / Vaping Material: Cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, electronic nicotine-delivery systems, nicotine products, and related cartridges, liquids, components, or materials prohibited by law or school policy. Lawfully authorized cessation products are excluded when used as directed.
Authority: CCCS school definition informed by applicable Pennsylvania tobacco and vaping laws.

Unauthorized Recording: Making, attempting to make, livestreaming, sharing, or distributing an audio, video, photograph, or digital recording when school rules or applicable law prohibit the recording, when the recording violates another person's reasonable privacy interests, or after an authorized staff member has directed the student to stop.
Authority: CCCS school definition; Pennsylvania wiretap/privacy law may also apply.

Unauthorized Use of an Electronic Device: Using an electronic device at a time, place, or in a manner not permitted by school rules or a reasonable staff direction, including prohibited social-media use, recording, communication, gaming, or use of artificial intelligence tools. More serious digital conduct may be classified under another offense.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Under the Influence / Use: A condition in which alcohol, a controlled substance, unauthorized drug, or another intoxicating substance has affected or appears to have affected a student's behavior, judgment, coordination, speech, physical condition, or ability to function safely. School staff do not determine a criminal level of intoxication; immediate health and safety procedures should be followed.
Authority: CCCS school definition.

Unlawful Restraint: Knowingly restraining another person unlawfully in circumstances that expose the person to risk of serious bodily injury, or holding another person in involuntary servitude, as defined by Pennsylvania law.

Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 2902.

Unprepared for Class: Reporting to class without required materials, assignments, equipment, or other items the student was reasonably expected to bring. This is an academic/classroom-management matter and should not, by itself, be treated as grounds for exclusionary discipline.

Authority: CCCS school definition.

Vandalism / Criminal Mischief: Intentionally or recklessly damaging, defacing, tampering with, or destroying school or another person's property. Damage to a school or educational facility may also constitute institutional vandalism under Pennsylvania law.

Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. §§ 3304 and 3307.

Violation of Social Media Policy / Harmful Digital Communication: Using social media or another digital platform to engage in conduct prohibited by this Code or Board policy, including cyber harassment, impersonation accounts, unauthorized recordings, fake school accounts, threats, or harmful digital communication that substantially disrupts school operations, infringes the rights of others, or creates a reasonable safety concern. Protected expression is not a violation solely because it occurs online.

Authority: CCCS school definition; applied consistently with Pennsylvania bullying/cyberbullying law, student-expression rights, and applicable privacy law.

Violent Felony: For school reporting purposes, a felony offense involving violence or force as identified by applicable Pennsylvania law and school-safety reporting requirements. Staff should not independently classify an incident as a felony; the underlying conduct should be documented and reported as required.

Authority: CCCS operational definition; see 22 Pa. Code Chapter 10 and Pennsylvania school-safety reporting law.

Weapon / Dangerous Instrument: For Pennsylvania's school-weapon law, a weapon includes, but is not limited to, a knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle, or any other tool, instrument, or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury. The Code may also prohibit look-alike weapons or ordinary objects used or brandished as weapons, even when the object does not meet the criminal statute.

Authority: 18 Pa.C.S. § 912(a); CCCS school policy may be broader for safety purposes.