



# **STUDENT BEHAVIOR HANDBOOK 2016-2017**

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1. **General Summary**

The goals and objectives of the Peoria Public Schools Behavior Code outlined in Board Policy 7:190 are to provide effective behavior interventions and discipline practices that: (1) ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff; (2) maintain a positive, weapons-free, and drug-free learning environment; (3) keep school property and the property of others secure; (4) address the causes of a student’s misbehavior and provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and (5) teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

2. **New Laws**

Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the State of Illinois mandated changes to school discipline policies and practices statewide. The new State law is commonly called “Senate Bill 100”, and can be found [here](#). The new law required all Boards of Education in the State of Illinois to update their student discipline policies. For Peoria Public Schools, the Board’s updated Student Discipline Policies can be found in Section 7 of the School Board Policy Manual, located [here](#). The updated policies became effective in Peoria Public Schools on July 1, 2016.

3. **This document is only a summary...**

...of what is contained in the Board Policies and in the Superintendent’s Procedures which implement the Board Policy. If there are any differences between what is written in this summary and the Board Policy, the language of the Board Policy governs.

4. **Code of Student Behavior—the Short Version.**

For student reference, District staff have prepared a highly condensed version of the Peoria Public Schools Behavior Code. It’s called “25 Things That Can Get You Suspended or Expelled From School”. It can be found [here](#).

5. **Code of Student Behavior—More Detailed Version**

The full statement of the Peoria Public Schools Student Behavior Code can be found in [Board Policy 7:190](#). It can also be found [below](#).

6. **What are the Consequences of Student Misconduct?**

The Administrative Procedure (AP) has been developed by District Staff to carry out Board Policy 7:190 and to provide for consistent application of school discipline in all of the Peoria Public Schools.

The AP divides misconduct into two basic types: “[Minor Offenses](#)”, which are addressed by the classroom teacher, and “[Major Offenses](#)” which are initially addressed by the School Administrators, usually the building Principal or Assistant Principal.

The School Administrators will always try to determine the root cause of a student’s misbehavior and, if there is a way to keep a student in the classroom and learning without excluding him or her from school, non-exclusionary measures will be attempted. However, if these measures do not resolve the behavior issue, the consequences for Major Offenses can include out of school suspension for up to ten days or even expulsion from school, if the School Administrators feel that exclusion from school is in the best interests of both the student and the school.

The Administrative Procedure for Policy 7:190 establishes guidelines for use by School Administrators to determine the consequences of a student’s misbehavior for each of the Minor and Major Offenses listed in the Code of Student Behavior.

7. **Student Behavior—School Transportation**

Peoria Public Schools is concerned for the safety of Students and employees who use District-owned transportation vehicles, for the safety of persons in other vehicles on the roads, and for the safety of pedestrians.

Students traveling to and from school on Peoria Public Schools buses or to and from school activities away from their home school must be aware of special behavior rules governing those times. Student misbehavior on a bus or other school vehicle can cause injury to themselves and/or other Students and District employees. Student misbehavior on a bus or other school vehicle can also distract the driver, causing an accident and/or serious injuries or death to himself/herself, other Students, as well as to the bus drivers and monitors. Student misbehavior on transportation vehicles can cause expensive damage to District-owned transportation vehicles.

The Board Policy and Administrative Procedures governing student conduct on Peoria Public Schools buses or other transportation vehicles are [Board Policy 7:220](#) and Administrative Procedure 7:220-AP.

The specific rules for Student behavior on Peoria Public Schools transportation vehicles can be found [here](#). As the result of Student misbehavior, a Student may be suspended from riding Peoria Public School buses or other transportation vehicles on either a short-term basis or on a long-term basis. **NOTE: If your Student is suspended from the bus as the result of his or her misbehavior, the Student’s parent or guardian is responsible to transport the Student to and from School.**

8. **Student Behavior—Students With Disabilities**

Students with disabilities are not exempt from the Student Behavior Code or from the consequences of misbehavior, but there are additional considerations under Federal and

State law when Students with disabilities are being considered for out of school suspensions or for expulsion. These are covered by [Board Policy 7:230](#) and the accompanying [Administrative Procedure](#).

9. **Questions**

If you have additional questions about Student Discipline policies and procedures, please contact the Office of the Director of Student Affairs at the Peoria Public Schools Administration Building, 309-672-6540.

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25 THINGS THAT CAN GET YOU SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED FROM SCHOOL  
(The Condensed Version\*\*\* of the Student Behavior Code)

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- 1) Tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes.
- 2) Alcohol.
- 3) Drugs, using or possessing, including:
  - “Controlled substances”, marijuana, “medical marijuana”.
  - Anabolic steroids.
  - Performance-enhancing substances
  - Somebody else’s prescription medicine OR prescription medicine prescribed for you by your doctor for a condition, but being used for something other than that condition.
  - Stuff that is inhaled in order to “get high”.
  - Fake drugs or things that look like drugs.
  - Drug paraphernalia.
- 4) Non-prescription medicines, if you give or sell them to others.
- 5) Weapons, both real and “look alike” (fake) weapons.
- 6) Cell phones or other wireless electronic device used without permission unless a real (not fake) emergency.
- 7) Using a laser pointer without permission.
- 8) Disobedience to your Teachers, the Principal, other School Staff Members, or District Staff Members.
- 9) Cheating or helping others to cheat.
- 10) Bullying, hazing, aggressive behavior like fighting, making loud or disruptive noises, coercion, threats, intimidation, harassment, extortion, or encouraging or helping others to do these things
- 11) Sexual activity like touching or exposure of private body parts, “mooning”, and sexual assault.
- 12) Using violence against another student while on a date.
- 13) Damaging property—school property or the property of others.
- 14) Stealing property, trying to steal property, or possessing stolen property.

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- 15) Trespassing: being in a place inside the school building or outside on school property where you aren't supposed to be.
- 16) Pranks: calling "911", the police or fire department, making a bomb threat, or pulling a fire alarm when unneeded.
- 17) Cutting school or cutting classes.
- 18) Being involved in a school fraternity, sorority or secret society.
- 19) Being involved in a gang, wearing or displaying gang symbols, using gang speech, or recruiting members for a gang.
- 20) Violating any criminal law.
- 21) Using the Internet to make threats to your school, a fellow student, or a school employee.
- 22) Any activity in or out of school that is threatening to others, or to property, or which interferes with the educational process in school.
- 23) Failing to wear your uniform.
- 24) Gross disrespect for others, including verbal abuse, threats, and racial or religious slurs.
- 25) Lying to a School Staff Member

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**CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOR**  
**FULL STATEMENT-MINOR OFFENSES**

(From Administrative Procedure 7:190-AP)

**Minor Behavior offenses include, but are not limited to:**

Inappropriate physical contact - minor, but inappropriate physical contact (horseplay).

Defiance/disrespect/non-compliance - Failure to respond to adult requests.

Disruption - Inappropriate disruptions.

Inappropriate verbal language

Misuse of Property

Any other minor problem behaviors that do not fall within the above categories, including:

- sleeping in class
- not working in class
- eating and drinking outside of the cafeteria
- chewing gum
- lack of required materials for class

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**CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOR**  
**FULL STATEMENT-MAJOR OFFENSES**

(From Administrative Procedure 7:190-AP)

**Prohibited Student Conduct**

The Administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco or tobacco products, or any alternative nicotine product (e.g. materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes), or any cartridge or component of an alternative nicotine product.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
  - a. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including medical cannabis, marijuana, and hashish) and/or residue.
  - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited.



e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.

f. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.

g. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.

h. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

4. Students who are, or appear to be, under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

5. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a "weapon" as that term is defined in the Weapons section of this policy, or violating the Weapons section of this policy.

6. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.

7. Using or possessing a cellular telephone, video recording device, or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take explicit, invasive or inappropriate photographs, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone.

Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day while in the school building, unless: (a) the Principal or supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP); or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

8. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.

9. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.

10. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards or other school records, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.

11. Engaging and/or encouraging other students to engage in hazing or any kind of bullying (as described in Board policy 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment) or aggressive behavior that may result in physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use

of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, cyber-bullying or other comparable conduct.

12. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault. "Sexual activity" does not include the non-disruptive expression of gender identity or sexual orientation or preference.

13. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7:185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited.

14. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, stealing, attempting to steal, or being in possession of school property or another person's personal property.

15. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.

16. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb, or explosive device or weapon on school grounds, school bus, or at any school activity.

17. Being absent without a valid excuse as defined by Board Policy 7:70; State law and School Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.

18. Involvement with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.

19. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia. The Board believes that the presence of gangs and gang activities can cause a substantial disruption of, or material interferences with school and school activities. A “gang” as defined in this policy is any group of two or more persons whose purposes include the commission of illegal acts. By this policy, the Board of Education acts to prohibit existence of gangs and gang activities as follows:

No student shall:

a. wear, possess, use, distribute, display or sell clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other things which are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang.

b. commit any act or omission, or use any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, hand-shakes, etc.) showing membership or affiliation in a gang.

c. use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interest of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to:

1. soliciting others for membership in any gangs; requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person;

2. committing any other illegal act or other violation of school district policies;

3. inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

20. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing, reckless conduct, aiding and abetting.

21. Making an explicit threat on an Internet web site against, including but not limited to: a school, employee, or any school-related personnel under circumstances described in Section 10-22.6(d-5) of the School Code.

22. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function.

23. Failing to comply with the mandatory uniform policy, but only after repeated attempts to secure compliance, such as conferences with parents/guardians, have been unsuccessful.

24. Gross disrespect, gross insubordination or gross verbal abuse of another. Gross verbal abuse includes a threat and racial or religious slur.

25. Any misrepresentation communicated to a Staff Member.

26. Dispensing, selling or otherwise distributing non-prescription medication.

**SPECIFIC RULES OF STUDENT BEHAVIOR  
FOR THE SCHOOL BUS OR OTHER DISTRICT VEHICLES**

The following specific rules must be followed on all district vehicles:

1. Obey the driver/monitor at all times.
2. All students must ride their assigned bus to and from their assigned stop only. If you wish your child to ride a different bus or get off at a different stop, it is necessary that the school office receive and approve a signed and dated note from a parent or guardian; otherwise, neither the teacher nor the bus driver will allow your child to take a different bus or get off at a different stop.
3. Remain properly seated (facing forward, feet towards the floor and out of the aisle, back against the seat back) until the bus or vehicle has completely stopped and the door has been opened.
4. Keep the aisles clear: no feet, bags or musical instruments are allowed in the aisles. Backpacks must be held in laps.
5. Keep hands, arms, feet, legs and head inside the vehicle.
6. Keep windows up at all times unless instructed otherwise by the driver.
7. Do not throw anything at the bus, inside the bus or from the bus.
8. No eating, drinking or chewing gum allowed on school buses.
9. Maintain orderly conduct at bus stops or other designated loading/unloading spots.
10. Weapons, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, laser pointers, balloons, skateboards, and all similar items that may disrupt the safe operation of the bus are prohibited.
11. Glass items, large items or sharp objects are not to be transported on school buses.
12. Animals and insects are not allowed on school buses. If these are needed for class purposes, parents must transport them to and from school.
13. No headphones of any kind are allowed to be used while on the bus. No cell phones, cameras or MP3-type players may be used or out of backpacks at any time on the bus. These items may be confiscated if seen. The District will not investigate if these types of items become lost or stolen.

14. No verbal or visual profanity, no gang signing and no screaming while on the bus. Talk quietly or in a normal indoor conversational voice at all times.

15. No perfumes, hairsprays, colognes, fragranced items or other aerosols may be sprayed on the bus or immediately before boarding the bus due to potential for serious respiratory reaction by others.

16. Parents and other non-PPS students are prohibited from entering the bus.

17. All athletic-type balls must be transported in a backpack or athletic-type bag.

## **STUDENTS**

### **STUDENT BEHAVIOR-STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

When a disabled student has committed an act of gross disobedience or misconduct which could result in an out-of-school suspension or referral for expulsion, the District shall make every reasonable effort to notify the student's parents/guardian of the misconduct.

#### **Suspensions**

As a result of gross disobedience or misconduct, a special education student ordinarily may be suspended for up to ten (10) *consecutive* school days without constituting a change in placement regardless of whether or not the misconduct is related to their disability. However, any suspension beyond ten (10) *cumulative* school days will require additional procedural safeguards.

After a special education student is removed from his or her placement for 10 cumulative school days in a year, for any subsequent removal, the District shall provide services to the extent necessary to enable the child the opportunity to participate appropriately in the general curriculum and advance appropriately toward achieving IEP goals as determined by the student's teacher and authorized administrator. In addition the District will comply with federal and state legal requirements regarding manifestation determination reviews and review, revision or development of a behavior intervention plan.

#### **Interim Alternative Educational Setting**

If a student carries or possesses a weapon to/at school or school premises or at a school function, knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs, or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school, on school premises or at a school function, or inflicts serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises or at a school function, school personnel are specifically authorized to place the student in an appropriate interim alternative educational setting or another setting for up to forty-five (45) school days without regard to whether the conduct was a manifestation of the student's disability.

#### **Manifestation Determination Review**

If a student with disabilities reaches ten (10) school days of suspension, the IEP team or Section 504 team must convene, within ten (10) days an IEP or Section 504 meeting and conduct a review to determine the relationship, if any, between the student's disability and the conduct subject to the disciplinary action. The student's conduct will be considered a manifestation of the student's disability if the team determines that:

1. The conduct in question was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the student's disability; **OR**

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2. The conduct in question was the direct result of the school district's failure to implement the IEP/504 Plan.

If the student's conduct is a manifestation of the student's disability, the IEP/Section 504 team must consider the appropriateness of the student's current educational placement. The student may be returned to his/her current placement with modifications to the IEP/Section 504 document or behavior intervention plan or the team may consider alternative placements. If the student does not have a behavior intervention plan in place, a functional behavioral analysis of the student will be conducted and a behavior intervention plan developed.

If the student's conduct is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the student may be disciplined under the District's discipline policy for regular education students. Disciplinary action taken against the student may include but not be limited to:

1. Notifying parents/guardians.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Seizure of contraband.
5. Temporary removal from the classroom.
6. Detention/Saturday School.
7. In-school suspension. Student is removed from his/her classroom to another room in the school.  
The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
8. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 consecutive school days, provided that appropriate procedures are followed. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds and school related and/or sponsored events.
9. Suspension of bus riding privileges.
10. Expulsion from school and all school-sponsored activities and events for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds and school related and/or sponsored events.
11. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves potential criminal offenses.
12. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhance community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure giving the student and/or parent(s)/guardian(s) the choice.



Expulsions

If the IEP/Section 504 team determines that the student's misconduct was a manifestation of the student's disability, the student cannot be expelled. If the IEP/Section 504 team determines that the misconduct was *not* a manifestation of the student's disability, the student may be referred to the Board of Education for an expulsion hearing, but must be provided a free and appropriate public education during any subsequent period of expulsion. The extent of those services will be determined by that student's IEP/Section 504 team.

If a special education student is referred to the Board of Education for expulsion proceedings, the procedures outlined in Board Policy 7:190 shall be followed.