

Pierce County Middle School



Student Handbook

"Where Excellence is the Standard"

Perry Tison, Principal
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This agenda belongs to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone: _____

**PIERCE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL
STUDENT HANDBOOK
2018-2019**

This handbook is provided to inform students and parents about the curriculum, procedures and regulations, and extracurricular activities at Pierce County Middle School. It is not possible to include all the information that exists for students and parents. Please read the handbook carefully and contact the school office for any additional explanation or information needed.

Pierce County Central Office Staff

Dr. Kevin Smith, Superintendent

LeVance Gay, Assistant Superintendent

Yvette Newton, Director of Curriculum, Assessment & Instruction

Lanna Denison, Director of Student Achievement/Federal Programs

Belinda Tiller, Director of Student Services

Dr. Anita Harris, Special Programs & Assessment Coordinator

Becky Swain, School Food Service Director

Jennifer Johnson, Social Worker

William Hall, Psychologist

The Pierce Board of Education is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

Pierce County Middle School *Mission Statement*

Pierce County Middle School is a learning community focused on maximizing student achievement and promoting excellence for all.

**School Colors: Blue and Silver
Mascot: Bears**

Bell Schedule

7:50 - Students admitted to classrooms or breakfast

8:10 - Homeroom begins/students are tardy

3:10 - Car Riders released

3:15 - Bus students released



Pierce County Middle School
Right to Know Professional Qualifications of Teachers and Paraprofessionals

Date: **August 6, 2018**

Dear Parents,

In compliance with the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the **Pierce County School District** would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessionals. The following information may be requested:

1. Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
3. Is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
4. Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teacher's and/or paraprofessional's professional qualifications, please contact Principal, Perry Tison at **912-449-2077**.

Sincerely,

Perry Tison

Pierce County Middle School
Derecho de los padres a saber maestro y asistente de calificaciones

Fecha: **August 6, 2018**

Estimados Padres,

En conformidad con los requisitos de la Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria, el Distrito Escolar del Condado de Pierce le informará que puede solicitar información sobre las calificaciones profesionales de los maestros y / o paraprofesionales de su estudiante. Se puede solicitar la siguiente información:

1. Si el maestro ha cumplido con los criterios de calificación y licencia del estado para los niveles de grado y materias en las cuales el maestro proporciona instrucción;
2. Si el maestro está enseñando bajo una situación de emergencia o provisional a través del cual se han renunciado a los criterios de calificación o de licencia del Estado; y
3. Es la enseñanza en el campo de la disciplina de la certificación del profesor.
4. Si el estudiante recibe servicios de los paraprofesionales, y si es así, sus calificaciones.

Si desea solicitar información concerniente a las calificaciones profesionales de su maestro y / o paraprofesional, por favor comuníquese con Perry Tison, 912-449-2077.

Sinceramente,

Perry Tison

PUBLIC NOTICE

Non-Discriminatory Policy

Federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964); sex (Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act of 1990); or disability (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) in educational programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance.

Employees, students and the general public are hereby notified that the Pierce County Board of Education does not discriminate in any educational programs or activities or in employment policies.

The following individual has been designated as the employee responsible for coordinating the Pierce County school system's effort to implement this nondiscriminatory policy. LeVance Gay, Pierce County Board of Education - 449-2044

Inquiries concerning the application of the Perkins Act, Title VI, Title IX or Section 504 and ADA to the policies and practices of the school may be addressed to the person listed above.

Gender Equity in Sports

State law prohibits discrimination based on gender in athletic programs of local school systems (Equity in Sports Act). Students are hereby notified that the Pierce County local school system does not discriminate on the basis of gender in its athletic programs. The sports equity coordinator for this school system is LeVance Gay. Inquiries or complaints concerning sports equity in this school system may be submitted to the sports equity coordinator.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Model Notice for Directory Information

Confidentiality of student records shall be preserved while access is provided to parents, eligible students (those over eighteen years of age or enrolled in post-secondary educational institutions), professional educators with legitimate educational interests, and those federal or state officials whose access is authorized in connection with an audit or evaluation of federal or state supported education programs or for the enforcement or compliance with federal legal requirements related to those programs. The Superintendent shall direct the publication of procedures through which parents or eligible students may request the correction of errors in student records.

Pierce County Board of Education designates the following information as "directory information." Unless a parent or eligible student makes a timely request to the principal of the school where the student is enrolled that such information not be designated directory information on the individual student, such information will not be considered confidential and may be disclosed upon request.

1. Student's name, address and phone number;
2. Student's date and place of birth;
3. Student's email address;
4. Student's participation in official school clubs and sports;
5. Weight and height of the student if he/she is a member of an athletic team;
6. Dates of attendance at the Pierce County School System;
7. Honors and awards received during the time enrolled in the Pierce County School System;
8. Video, audio or film images or recordings;
9. Photograph; and
10. Grade Level

Student records shall be provided to schools within or outside the Pierce County School System upon request of the school where a student is enrolling in accordance with Georgia Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-.14, Transfer of Student Records.

Equal Educational Opportunities

The Pierce County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, or sex in its employment practices, student programs and dealings with the public. It is the policy of the Board of Education to comply fully with the requirements of Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act and all accompanying regulations.

Any employee, student, applicant for employment, parent or other person who believes he or she has been discriminated against or harassed in violation of this policy must make a complaint in accordance with the procedures outlined below.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Complaints made to the Pierce County Schools regarding alleged discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color or national origin in violation of Title VI, on the basis of sex in violation of Title IX or on the basis of disability in violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans With Disabilities Act, will be processed in accordance with the following procedure:

- A. Any student, employee, applicant for employment, parent or other person with a complaint alleging a violation as described above shall promptly notify, in writing or orally, either the principal for his/her school or the appropriate coordinator designated from time to time by the Board of Education. If the complaint is oral, either the coordinator or school principal to whom the complaint is made shall promptly prepare a memorandum or written statement of the complaint as made to him or her by the complainant and shall have the complainant read and sign the memorandum or statement if it accurately reflects the complaint made. If the complaint is made to a school principal, he or she shall be responsible for notifying the appropriate coordinator of the complaint.
- B. If the alleged offending individual is the coordinator designated by the Board of Education, the complaint shall either be made by the complainant to the Superintendent or, if the complaint is initially made to the school principal, reported by the principal to the Superintendent.
- C. The coordinator or his or her designee shall have fifteen work days to gather all information relevant to the complaint made, review the information, determine the facts relating to the complaint, review the action requested by the complainant, and attempt to resolve the complaint with the complainant and any other persons involved. The coordinator or designee shall prepare a written response to the complaint detailing any action to be taken in response to the complaint and the time frame in which such action will be taken and copies of this response shall be furnished to the complainant, the appropriate coordinator and the Superintendent or his or her designee.
- D. If the complaint is not resolved at the conclusion of this fifteen-day period or if the complainant is not satisfied with the resolution of the complaint, the complainant shall have the right, within five work days of receiving a copy of the written response, to have the complaint referred to the Superintendent of Schools. If the alleged offending individual is the Superintendent, the Complainant may have the complaint referred to the Board of Education, rather than the Superintendent.
- E. The Superintendent shall have fifteen work days to review the complaint and the response of the coordinator or designee and attempt to resolve the complaint. The Superintendent shall furnish to the complainant a written response setting forth either his or her approval of the action recommended by the coordinator or designee or the action to be taken by the system in response to the complaint in lieu of that recommended by the coordinator or designee and the time frame in which such action shall be taken.
- F. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the response of the Superintendent, then the complainant shall have the right, within fifteen work days of the receipt of the written response of the Superintendent, to have the complaint referred to the Board of Education. In order to have the Board review the Superintendent's decision, the complainant must file with the Superintendent a written statement setting forth the reasons he or she disagrees with the response of the Superintendent and the action the complainant is requesting the system to take. The complainant shall also include in the written response a request that his or her complaint be referred to the Board of Education.

- G. Within thirty work days of receipt of the written request of the complainant, the Superintendent shall present the matter to the Board of Education at its regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose. The Board shall review the original complaint, the response of the coordinator or designee, the response of the Superintendent, and the response of the complainant. In addition, the Board may, but is not required to, hear directly from any individuals with knowledge of any relevant facts relating to the complaint.
- H. The Board of Education will either uphold the recommendation of the Superintendent or require the system to take some other action in response to the complaint. A copy of the action of the Board will be furnished to the complainant, either as a part of the minutes of the Board of Education or as a separate written statement. The Board shall be the final reviewing authority within the system.
- I. This policy is not intended to deprive any employee of any right they may have to file a grievance pursuant to any other policy of the local Board of Education, specifically the policy designed to implement Official Code of Georgia Annotated ' 20-2-989.5, where appropriate. This policy is not intended to provide an alternative process for resolving evaluation and employment disputes where there already exists a due process procedure mandated by state law or State Department of Education regulations, specifically including, but not limited to, hearings to be conducted pursuant to the Fair Dismissal Act of Georgia. The complainant retains at all times the right to contact the Office of Civil Rights or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission with regard to any allegations that the system has violated the statutes described above.
- J. The school system shall be responsible for distributing and disseminating information relevant to this policy and procedure to students, applicants for employment and employees through appropriate procedures.
- K. No reprisal shall occur as a result of reporting unlawful harassment under this policy, and any attempt to retaliate against a complainant shall be disciplined as is appropriate.
- L. The confidentiality of any individual making a complaint or report in accordance with this policy, to the extent it is reasonably possible, shall be protected, although the discovery of the truth and the elimination of unlawful harassment shall be the overriding considerations.

Information Guide

Part I: General Information

Attendance.....	8
Authority of the Principal	9
Bus Conduct and Bus Students	9
Cell Phones	10
Conferences	10
Dress Code.....	10
Early Dismissal/Checkouts	11
Extracurricular Activities.....	11
Field Trip Policy	12
Fire Drills	12
Guidance Department	12
Hospital/ Homebound Instruction	12
Immunization Records	12
Insurance	12
Internet Acceptable Use Policy	13
Lockers	16
Lunchroom	16
Media Center Policies and Procedures	17
Medication	17
Report Cards	17
School Nurse	17
School Safety Plan	17
Section 504	18
Sexual Harassment	18
Student Records	18
Tardy to School	18
Telephones	18
Tornado Drills	18
Unauthorized Areas	18
Video Recording.....	18
Visitors	18
Withdrawal from School	19
Yearbook	19

Part II: Parent and Family Engagement

Pierce County Board Policy Family Involvement in Education	20
PCMS Parent & Family Engagement Plan	21
PCMS Parent & Family Engagement Plan in Spanish.....	27
Program For Gifted and Talent Parent Notification	33
Promotion and Retention Policy	33
Parent Involvement in Discipline	34
Student Behavior Policy (PBIS)	34

Part III: Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct Policies	36
Progressive Discipline Procedures/Policy	36
Code of Conduct and Discipline	39
Definition of Terms	43
Search and Seizure	44
Bullying Policy	45

Part IV: Parent/Student Consent Forms

Handbook Acknowledgement Form	46
Internet Consent Form (parent & student)	48
Opt Out of Club Participation.....	48
Dance Rules and Consent Form (parent & student)	49
PCMS Technology Responsible Use Guidelines (parent & student).....	50
Head Lice Policy	51

PIERCE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL POLICIES

Part I: General Information

ATTENDANCE

Georgia law requires that parents or guardians have children under 16 years of age in attendance at school each day school is in session. **Students should not miss more than ten (10) days of school each year. Pierce County Middle School policy is that students in grades 6-8 who are absent from the same class more than 10 times during a school year may risk being retained when attendance is considered with other factors outlined in school policy.** Regular and punctual attendance is necessary for success in school. Repeated tardies, checkouts, and absences may cause a student to become discouraged and bring about failure in school. Early checkouts cause multiple interruptions in the classroom and also lead to traffic problems. **No check outs after 2:45 unless an emergency or prior appointment.**

The two types of absences are excused and unexcused. The following reasons are considered excused:

1. Personal illness or attendance in school endangering a student's health or health of others
2. Serious illness or death in the immediate family necessitating absence from school
3. Celebrating religious holidays observed by the student's faith necessitating absence from school
4. A court order or an order by a governmental agency
5. Conditions rendering school attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety

The principal has the authority to require additional proof of the legitimacy of the excuse. For example, the principal may require doctor's statements justifying the absence of the student, and may require proof that the child's condition rendered the child incapable of attending school. Excuses must be submitted within 3 school days of the date of absence.

Upon returning to school from any absence, a student must bring a note with the following information:

1. Date of excuse
2. Date(s) of absences
3. Reason for absence, including a doctor's excuse if available
4. Signature of parent or guardian.

The student should give the note to his/her homeroom teacher on the day of returning to school to be submitted to the guidance office. Individual students who have situations necessitating their absence from school for a portion of the school day, must be present until 11:30 or for three or more hours of instruction in order to be counted present.

Absences should not penalize student grades if the following conditions are met:

1. Absences are justified and validated for excusable reasons.
2. Make-up work for excused absences is completed satisfactorily and within the allotted amount of time.

Students placed on hospital/homebound program shall be considered present in accordance with the policies and procedures governing the administration of the hospital/homebound program.

Number of absences	Teacher/Admin. Response	Response from Parent Required	Additional person(s) to contact
Three (3) consecutive	Phone and/or parent conference	Yes (if not, then send letter or postcard)	None
Five (5) excused cumulative or consecutive	Phone and/or parent conference	Yes (If not, then send letter or postcard)	None
Five (5) unexcused cumulative or consecutive	After two attempts from teacher, attendance clerk will send certified letter.	Yes---Return Receipt Requested	Guidance Counselor
Seven (7) days Excused Seven (7) days Unexcused	Letter from Principal (Guidance Counselor)	Yes---Mandatory conference required	School Social Worker
Seven (7) days by students 14 and older	Guidance Counselor phone call	None	School Social Worker
Ten (10) days Excused Ten (10) days Unexcused	Adm. Conference with Social Worker Referral to Social Worker	Yes---Home visit from Social Worker	Court Services

STUDENT WITHDRAWALS

Administrators in the Pierce County School System are authorized to withdraw a student who:

- Has missed 10 or more consecutive days of unexcused absences (administrators need to make a valiant effort to determine cause(s) of the absence);
- Is not subject to compulsory school attendance; and
- Is not receiving instructional services from the local school system through homebound instruction or instructional services required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Pierce County School System Attendance Checklist (Steps to be taken prior to Court referral)

1. Before any court referral is considered, contact should have been initiated with students and their families, including a home visit or other forms of direct contact (phone call) with the family (where a home visit is not possible or appropriate.)
2. For families where there has been little or no direct contact, court referrals should be considered when the family has consistently failed to comply with appointments or refused to work with school personnel.
3. Court referral will also be considered
 - in cases where students are not attending school at all and no resolution can be reached;
 - in cases where poor attendance is ongoing over a period of time and no improvement is seen;
 - in certain cases where tardiness is a chronic problem;
 - in certain cases where students chronically leave school early;
4. If there is no improvement, the school social worker shall submit a Juvenile Court Truancy Complaint and may seek prosecution of the parent in the designated court.
5. The social worker or designated school official is expected to attend hearings at the designated court.

AUTHORITY OF THE PRINCIPAL

The principal is the designated leader of the school and, in concert with the staff, is responsible for the orderly operation of the school. In cases of disruptive, disorderly or dangerous conduct not covered in this Code, the principal may undertake corrective measures which he or she believes to be in the interest of the student and the school provided any such action does not violate school board policy or procedures.

BUS STUDENTS AND CONDUCT

Each student code of conduct shall include the following specific provisions prescribing and governing student conduct and safety rules on all school buses.

Students shall be prohibited from acts of physical violence as defined by Code Section 20-2-751.6, bullying as defined by subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-751.4, physical assault or battery of other persons on the school bus, verbal assault of other persons on the school bus, disrespectful conduct toward the school bus driver or other persons on the school bus, and other unruly behavior.

The consequences for physical violence against a teacher, school bus driver, or other school personnel may include expulsion for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public schools.

Bus transportation is furnished to any student who lives more than 1.5 miles from Pierce County Middle School. This transportation is a convenience and a privilege. In order for this program to function properly, full cooperation between parents, children and school personnel is necessary. Bus drivers have primary responsibility for the behavior and safety of all students while being transported on buses. Students not complying with bus rules and not behaving in a cooperative and respectful manner will be referred to the administration for corrective action.

Students who, by their conduct, endanger the lives and safety of others may be excluded from riding the bus. Loss of these privileges does not excuse a student from school. Parents/guardians are responsible for getting students to school should their bus privileges be suspended.

Students must ride their assigned bus. Students are to get off their bus at their regular stop only. Students must have a note signed by their parent/guardian if they are to ride a bus other than their regular bus or to get off their bus at an alternative destination.

CELL PHONES

Students have **no** need for cell phones during the school day. If students bring cell phones, it should be powered off and put away in the student's bookbag during school hours (7:50am-3:15pm). No cell phone should be kept on a student's body or in his/her clothing. Pierce County Middle School will assume NO liability for lost, misplaced, or stolen phones. The following tier will be in place for students who violate this policy:

1st Offense - Warning on grade level/team.

2nd Offense - Cell phone sent to the office and a parent must pick up the phone from the front office.

3rd Offense - Discipline referral for ISS and school will retain the phone for three days before a parent is allowed to pick this up from the front office.

Recurring Offense – Repeat Step 3

CONFERENCES

All students and parents are urged to request a conference with administrators, teachers, and/or the counselor when the need arises. Parents may call the office (449-2077) for an appointment. Conferences will not be scheduled during a teacher's instructional time.

DRESS CODE

Appropriate apparel and cleanliness of a person is important as a matter of health and aesthetics, as well as being conducive to learning. With the rapidly changing styles of clothing, it is impossible to specify everything that is acceptable for student dress. A good rule to follow is that if there is doubt concerning the appropriateness of your clothes for school, **DO NOT** wear them until you check with your school's administration.

Dress code violations will be handled through team and/or school discipline policy. If a student comes to school dressed inappropriately, the student must change clothes to meet the school dress code before he/she may return to class. **If a student incurs multiple dress code violations, a discipline referral for ISS will be enforced.**

In order to preserve discipline and order in the school and create a proper and safe learning environment, the following dress code will be enforced at all times:

Girls

- Dresses, skirts, jeans, shorts, and slacks are appropriate for school wear. **For attire regarding length:** shorts, dresses, and skirts shall be no more than 3 inches (an index card) above the knee. Sheer apparel, bare midriffs and/or backs, very low necklines (no cleavage), strapless tops, tank tops, and spaghetti straps are not permissible. Tight pants, such as leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, etc. may only be worn when otherwise permissible clothing is worn over them. If in doubt, check with an administrator.

Boys

- Jeans, slacks, shorts, sport shirts, jerseys, and tee shirts are appropriate. Tank tops ARE NOT appropriate. Shorts shall be no more than 3 inches (an index card) above the knee. Button type shirts should be properly closed and belts buckled. Pants must cover undergarments and must be worn securely at the hips or waist.

Girls and Boys

- No pants and/or jeans may be worn that are ripped, torn, or have holes where skin and/or undergarments are exposed above the knee.
- No tinting, streaking, or dying of hair other than natural hair color (blond, brunette, black, auburn) unless approved by administration. Unnatural hair colors include the following: blue, green, purple, pink, burgundy, etc.
- Hair must be worn appropriately so it does not interfere with students' vision or the teachers' and/or administrators' ability to maintain eye contact.
- All straps must be fastened at the shoulders.
- No hats, caps, bandanas, sport headbands, gloves, sunglasses, chokers or bracelets that could be harmful, or any head covering will be worn on school campus unless for religious or medical purposes except when approved admin.
- Other prohibited items include: (1) large, long, and/or heavy chains, (2) studded or chained accessories, and (3) sleepwear, including bedroom slippers.
- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- No clothing or other displays of suggestive, sexual or profane wording, symbols or advertising of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal products will be permitted. This also applies to the advertising of non-sanctioned groups and organizations.

- No gang-related markings or tattoos are permitted. Clothing that suggests gang affiliation or racially offensive subject matter will not be tolerated.
- No visible body piercing, nose piercing, or facial piercing is allowed. Cosmetic alterations that are detrimental to the educational environment or to the health and safety of the student or other students is prohibited.

Administration will handle any other questionable attire on an individual basis.

The school administration may adjust this policy at anytime during the school year.

CHECKOUTS FROM SCHOOL

Parents should not ask that students be dismissed before dismissal time except for emergency reasons. It is imperative for students to be present for all academic and connection classes. If a student must check out before the end of the school day, a parent or guardian must come to the office and sign out the student. However, due to traffic congestion and the end of the school day procedures, we ask that no checkouts occur after 2:45 unless an emergency.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities shall be defined as any school-sponsored program from which some or all the activities are outside the regularly scheduled class day. Examples include all individual and team sports, band, and clubs. It does not include field trips, homework, or occasional work required outside the school day for a scheduled class.

Students participating in extracurricular activities must pass three of four academic subjects and one of two electives the semester immediately preceding participation. Students not meeting this requirement will be ineligible for a semester and until they pass three academic subjects and one connection class the semester prior to participation. Students retained in a grade are not eligible to participate during the 1st semester of school. Eligibility for 2nd semester will be based on 1st semester grades.

Pierce County Middle School follows policies and procedures adopted by the Pierce County Board of Education regarding notification of parents about club memberships as required by Georgia Code 20-2-751.5. State law requires that parents have the right to withhold permission for their students to participate in any school sponsored club or organization designated by them. If parents do not wish for their children to participate in extracurricular activities, then they must notify the principal of PCMS, Perry Tison, in writing.

The following school sponsored clubs will be in operation during this school year.

Club	Sponsor	Purpose	Past Activities
4-H Club	Trey Walker	To prepare students to become active and productive model citizens	Local and State Competitions such as DPA
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)	Denise Brown & Stuart Stipe	To share inspirational words from personal experiences	Weekly meetings before school
Junior Beta	Amanda Turner	To promote exemplary student achievement in both academic and connection classes	School and Community Service Projects
Student Council	Holly Ratliff	To promote school and community service	School and Community Service Project
FBLA	Shellie McEuen	To experience the world of business and free enterprise through a variety of leadership programs, community service projects, and educational activities.	Conferences & Competitions
Jr. FFA	John Ratliff	To develop students' potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.	Conferences & Competitions

FIELD TRIP POLICY

Attending field trips is an exciting part of the middle school experience. We do want to stress; however, that attending a school sponsored fieldtrip is a privilege. There are a few important reminders to consider throughout the year.

1. Academics come first! If your child is not passing his/her classes, then they are not eligible to attend a field trip.
2. Attendance is mandatory to be eligible for a field trip.

First Semester Eligibility

To attend a field during the 1st semester the following criteria must be met:

- a student may not have missed more than 4 days of school
- tardies and check-outs from school must be limited to no more than a total 5 for 1st semester
 - Example: a student may be tardy 2 days and check-out 3 days

Second Semester Eligibility

To attend a field trip 2nd semester the following criteria must be met:

- a student may not have missed more than 8 days of school for the year
 - tardies and check-outs from school must be limited to no more than 5 for 2nd semester
 - Example: a student may be tardy 2 days and check-out 3 days
3. Additional requirements may be determined by team, grade level, or organization.
 4. Extenuating individual circumstances will be reviewed by PCMS administrators.

FIRE DRILLS

Fire drills are required by state law. When the fire alarm sounds, all occupants of any part of the building will not leave the area until the principal or designee announces that it is safe to evacuate to the designated areas under the direct supervision of the teacher.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Counselors in the Guidance Department are available to assist students with personal, educational, and /or career concerns. They will help students identify problems, consider alternatives, and make wise choices. They provide assistance to students in planning their individual educational programs and in scheduling their classes. The testing program and the interpretation of the test results to parents and students are also the responsibility of the counselor. If a student desires a conference with the counselor, he/she should go to the Guidance Department. A counselor then will notify the student as to the time and date when a conference can be arranged.

HOSPITAL/HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

Students who have a medically diagnosed physical condition which is not contagious and which restricts them to the hospital or home for at least two weeks may be eligible for hospital/homebound instruction. When such conditions appear to exist, the application forms should be requested by the parents from the guidance office immediately. Students approved for the program are counted present starting with the day the COMPLETED forms are returned to the office and approved.

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS

Georgia law requires that the immunization record that is kept in each student's file is current and updated. Failure to comply will result in the student not being allowed to attend school.

INSURANCE

As a service to the students, the school makes available a low-cost accident insurance. Parents must complete an on-line application and verification of insurance. The school accepts no responsibility for coverage of the insurance and is in no way connected with the company. All students participating in athletics must have insurance. PCMS and the Athletic Department are not liable for any claim or medical bills incurred by students during school or during any athletic practice or event.

PIERCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

A. Mission:

The Pierce County Board of Education believes the use of technology is an important part of the teaching and learning process and a necessary tool for efficient school management. Technology tools possess great power and potential when used responsibly but can be harmful if used improperly. In general, the efficient, ethical and legal use of technology resources is required of all users. Technology resources are provided for educational purposes that are consistent with the instructional goals of the Pierce County School District. Use of these resources outside of an educational purpose is generally prohibited.

This Technology Acceptable Use Policy has been developed to provide procedures and guidelines concerning the online activities of students and employees. These procedures and guidelines are to be taught to students by the instructional staff using age-appropriate instruction regarding safe and appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and regarding cyberbullying awareness and response.

B. Rights and Privileges:

All users accessing technology resources provided by Pierce County Schools shall comply with the guidelines provided in the Pierce County Internet Safety and Technology Acceptable Use Policies as well as all other Board of Education policies and procedures. Students or parents if the student is a minor, must read this policy and the Student Technology Acceptable Use Agreement and sign the acknowledgement page located in the student handbook in order to have access to school technology resources. This document must be returned to the office of the student's school and serves as a contract between the family and the school district. The signed acceptable use agreements for employees shall be kept on file in the office of the facility to which the employee is assigned.

The Pierce County Board of Education reserves the right to monitor, access, and disclose the contents of any user's files, activities, or communications. Additionally, access to the Internet and technology resources is a privilege, not a right. Therefore, users violating the guidelines of this policy shall be subject to revocation of these privileges and disciplinary or legal action when appropriate.

C. Security:

Security is a high priority for any networked computer system. Users should never divulge or allow others to use their accounts or passwords. Use of another individual's account is prohibited and may result in the loss of access privileges by both parties and disciplinary action.

Users bringing any storage media from outside the school district's facilities must have them scanned for viruses. A user identifying a security problem must notify the supervising classroom teacher, media specialist, or technology specialist. The security problem is not to be demonstrated to any other user.

D. Internet Safety and Technology Protection Measures:

In order to protect minors from inappropriate material, student access to and use of the Internet at school must be provided under staff direction and be monitored as is any other classroom activity. In addition teachers should provide age appropriate guidance to students in the proper use of the Internet and school technology.

The Pierce County Board of Education provides an Internet screening system consistent with the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) which blocks access to inappropriate sites. It cannot be assumed, however, that users are completely prevented from accessing inappropriate material or from sending or receiving objectionable communications. For additional guidance on Internet safety please review the Pierce County School Board's Internet Safety Policy.

E. Guidelines for Safe Internet Use:

Staff, and students under the direct supervision of a teacher, may use Internet for personal development through research and exploration that are consistent with the instructional goals of Pierce County Schools. Students should not be permitted to “surf” the Internet without direct supervision of staff. All uses of the Internet must be in compliance with Pierce County School’s Technology Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policies. Guidelines for internet use include:

Guidelines for Students:

1. Never provide personal information such as last name, address, telephone number, a photo of yourself, or school name over the Internet.
2. Never respond to, and always report to a teacher or parent, any message that makes you feel uncomfortable or that is from an unknown origin.
3. Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you meet online.
4. Do not use technology to bully or harm other people or their reputation.

Guidelines for All Users:

1. Do not send or receive text, images, movies, or sound, which contains pornography, profanity, obscenity or language that offends or tends to degrade others or is inappropriate in an educational setting.
2. Do not use or attempt to use the password or account of another person, or use a computer while logged in under another user’s name.
3. Do not purposefully damage or interfere with computer or network operations, including (but not limited to) the introduction of malicious programming designed to damage, alter, or provide access to unauthorized resources.
4. Do not damage computers and/or network equipment (mice, cables, connectors, keyboards, etc.).
5. Do not attempt to read, alter, delete, or copy files or electronic messages belonging to other users.
6. Do not open attachments or files from unknown senders.
7. Do not use the Internet for any illegal purpose such as copying/downloading copyrighted software, music and movies or other copyright violations.
8. Do not alter computer software or load games, shareware, or any other unauthorized program on any school computer.
9. Do not send or forward personal communication without the original author’s consent.
10. Do not use the Internet for financial gain or any commercial activity not directly related to the goals of the Pierce County School District.
11. Take great care in protecting your login password. The user name and password provide access to school computer resources and your files. If your password is compromised, change it immediately or contact the media specialist or network administrator immediately.
12. Users may not use the school’s technology resources while access privileges have been revoked.

F. Additional Guidance for Employees:

1. Students should never log on with a staff member’s user name and password.
2. Do not allow high school or middle school students to use a computer unless they are logged in under their own user name (elementary schools use generic logins).
3. Follow the guidelines in the Internet Safety and Technology Acceptable Use Policies while supervising students. This includes instructing and guiding students in the proper and ethical use of school technology.
4. Plan lessons using the Internet carefully.
 - a. Visit the sites you want the students to view beforehand and check the material carefully.
 - b. Direct students to quality, age-appropriate content.
 - c. Avoid students casually surfing the Internet. Unsupervised or undirected use of the Internet can lead to viewing inappropriate material.
5. Students are forbidden from chat sites, with the exception of online class requirements.

6. Email accounts are provided to employees for professional purposes. Email accounts should not be used for personal financial gain or propagating unsolicited broadcast messages.
7. All employees must request permission from the building administrator prior to sending any message to an entire school's staff or larger group/list they are not specifically authorized to use.

PIERCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

Introduction

It is the policy of the Pierce County Board of Education to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act, which can be located at http://www.fcc.gov/ccb/universal_service/chipact.doc

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter access to inappropriate information over the Internet.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Students must be supervised by staff when accessing the Internet for any purpose. The technology protection measures may be modified to assist with teaching and learning activities. Modifications will be made based on collaboration of the instructional and technology staff and will be handled on a case by case basis for any lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of Pierce County School's online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Pierce County School's staff to supervise and monitor the online activities of minors through direct observation and/or technological means in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act. Procedures for the disabling, or otherwise modifying, any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Technology Director or designated representatives.

Online Behavior Education

In accordance with the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, it is the policy of the Pierce County Board of Education to educate minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyber bullying awareness and response. These procedures and guidelines shall be taught to students by the instructional staff using age-appropriate school developed curriculum.

Adoption

In the Spring of 2001 a public hearing was held to present the proposed Internet Safety and Acceptable use policies to the public. The public hearing's purpose was to explain to interested parties the dangers on the Internet, the purpose for and content of the new policies, and what "technology protection measures" the district had in place to help protect children. The Pierce County Board of Education adopted these new policies May 2001. These policies were again revised, on the recommendation of the Georgia Department of Education, and adopted by the Pierce County Board of Education at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on October 11, 2004.

CIPA DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Technology Protection Measure - The term “technology protection measure” means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. OBSCENE, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
2. CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
3. Harmful to minors.

Harmful to Minors - The term “harmful to minors” means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

Sexual Act: Sexual Contact - The terms “sexual act” and “sexual contact” have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

LOCKERS

Lockers are available for 6th grade students upon payment of a \$6.00 locker rental fee. All students are encouraged to use locks on their lockers. Student lockers are school property; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Students are not permitted to write on their lockers or place any type of sticker on their lockers. School officials may inspect lockers at any time. Students will be charged if their locker is damaged. Students are not permitted to go to their locker during lunch.

LUNCHROOM/NUTRITION PROGRAM

Breakfast will be served at no cost to students. The price for PCMS student meals will be \$1.75 for lunch. Free/reduced priced meals are available for those who qualify. Reduced price meals will be thirty cents for lunch. Bottled water will be sold for fifty cents.

Middle school students may charge no more than \$25.00 for lunches and breakfasts. Weekly bills are sent by the child to parents when there is a \$15.00 balance due. This means that a parent/guardian will receive 3 bills by the time an account reaches the limit of \$25.00. Once a child’s charges reach \$25.00 (the limit), the child will receive a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and a carton of white milk instead of a regular plate. Unpaid lunch charges at the end of the school year are forwarded on to the next school year and must be paid before a student may eat a regular meal in the cafeteria.

Lunch payments should be made before meals are eaten. Meals should not be charged. Payments must be in an envelope with the student’s name, homeroom teacher, and amount of money on the front. Checks are PREFERRED---NOT CASH. Envelopes and money should be given to the cashier before school. Please send money for at least one week’s meals IN ADVANCE so that meals are never charged.

Lunchroom Rules:

1. All students are to enter the lunchroom quietly.
2. Use of acceptable table manners and language is expected.
3. Students will not throw food, napkins, etc.
4. Lunches/breakfasts purchased at fast food restaurants, packaged in original wrappings will not be allowed in the lunchroom.

Lunchroom – Sales of Food and Beverage on Campus

In order to conform to USDA regulations and to meet standards of the State Department of Education, the Pierce County School System shall prohibit the sale of foods and beverages of minimal nutritional value in the food service area or on any other school premises. This applies to the time period from the beginning of the school day through the end of the last lunch period.

MEDIA CENTER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Accessibility:

The PCMS Media Center is open to students and faculty at 7:45 a.m. each day of school during the school year. The Media Center is one in which students and teachers have access individually and in small groups to resources. Students who wish to use the library during class time must secure a permit authorized by their teacher. Permits are not necessary if a class is accompanied by a teacher.

Student Checkout Procedures:

1. Students WILL NOT BE ALLOWED to check out books for other students.
2. Each student may check out two books at a time.
3. The general collection of materials is checked out for a period of two weeks with the option of one-time renewal. (This gives the student four weeks in which to use materials borrowed from the media center. A longer period of time would deprive others the use of that material.)
4. A fine of .10 cents per school day will be charged for overdue materials not to exceed \$ 2.00. All fines must be paid BEFORE checking out another book.
5. Books checked out to a student become the SOLE RESPONSIBILITY of that student. A replacement charge will be made for lost books and damaged books.
6. A \$2.00 book processing charge will be added to the price of the lost or damaged book. This charge is non-refundable.
7. Students who have two overdue media center books or have outstanding fines are subject to termination of media center privileges.

MEDICATION

There are times when students need to bring prescription and/or non-prescription medications to school. However, due to the potential high risk associated with the unsupervised possession, use, distribution, and possible mixing of such medicines, the Pierce County School Board of Education has adopted the following policy.

Students will not be permitted to have in their possession any form of prescription or non-prescription (aspirin, Tylenol, etc.) drugs. Any parent who wishes their child to take any form of medication (prescription or non-prescription) at Pierce County Middle must adhere to the following procedures

1. The parent must send a note to the school informing the school nurse of the amount of medication to be taken and the time it is to be taken.
2. The medication must be in the original container.
3. The medication must have been prescribed for the student who is to take it.
4. Immediately after the student arrives on campus, the medication and note must be taken to the school nurse, who will be in charge of distributing the medication.
5. No student shall distribute prescription or non-prescription medication to anyone.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be sent home at nine weeks intervals. These reports will be sent on the fifth student school day following the end of the grading period. All report cards must be signed by the parents and returned to the students' homeroom teacher within four student-school days after being sent home. Homeroom teachers will take action on the fifth day if the report card has not been returned.

SCHOOL NURSE

PCMS has a full time nurse. If students are sick, they will be sent to the school nurse. The school nurse will be responsible for calling parents when students are sick. The school nurse can administer medication provided parents complete required paperwork for medication distribution. The school nurse provides information on health services including dental care, personal hygiene, etc. The nurse is available from 7:45 am-3:15 pm.

SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

A school safety committee continually updates our current plan to address and prevent violence in schools, respond effectively to such incidents, and provide a safe learning environment for our students, teachers and other school personnel. The plan addresses preparedness for natural disasters, hazardous materials, acts of violence, and acts of terrorism. This plan is certified by the Georgia Emergency Management Association (GEMA) on an annual basis. The state of Georgia has a safety hotline number (1-877-SAY-STOP) that is available 24 hours a day.

Notice of Rights of Students and Parents Under Section 504

Any student or parent/guardian (grievant) may request an impartial hearing due to the school system's actions or inactions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, or educational placement under Section 504. Requests for an impartial hearing must be in writing to the school system's Section 504 Coordinator; however, the grievant's failure to request a hearing in writing does not alleviate the school system's obligation to provide an impartial hearing if the grievant orally requests an impartial hearing through the school system's Section 504 Coordinator. The school system's Section 504 Coordinator will assist the grievant in completing the written Request for Hearing. The Section 504 Coordinator may be contacted through the school system's central office. Copies of the 504 Procedural Safeguards and Notice of Rights of Students and Parents Under Section 504 may be found at the system website or may be picked up at the central office or at any of the school offices.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination prohibited by Title VII of the Civil Rights act of 1964 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1973 and local board policy GAE. Pierce County Middle School is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from sexual harassment, in which all employees and students can work and study together. The school district will act to investigate all complaints, either formal or informal, verbal or written and to discipline any student or employee who sexually harasses a student or employee of the school district.

STUDENT RECORDS

Student records are kept in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Included in this act is the provision that student records are not released without permission of parents until the student reaches eighteen years of age and assumes control of his/her records.

TARDY TO SCHOOL

School begins at 8:10 a.m. Students are tardy at 8:10 am. If a bus is late, the students who ride that bus will be given a pass in the office and then report to their homeroom teacher.

TELEPHONES

Incoming calls for students will not be accepted unless it is an extreme emergency. In case of an emergency, phones will be available for student use in the office or students may be instructed to use their own phone to contact parents. Due to the cell phone policy, students should not use their personal cell phones to contact their parents unless permission is given from the office.

TORNADO DRILLS

Tornado drills will be scheduled during the school year. Students will follow all procedures provided to them by the state and national guidelines.

UNAUTHORIZED AREAS

Students are not permitted to be in an unassigned area without written permission. By definition, an unassigned area is any area a student may be in if he/she is not in his/her assigned class.

VIDEO RECORDING

It is illegal to video or record any confidential communication, including a private conversation, telephone call, or parent/teacher/student conference without **all parties to the conversation consenting**. It is also illegal to video or record in restrooms, locker rooms, or any other designated area while on school property.

VISITORS

All visitors must report to the front office and sign in. Visitors must secure permission from the office to be on campus and obtain a pass. Students are not permitted to have visitors on campus during the school day. Parents are invited to visit the school at any time but are asked to make arrangements in advance with the teacher and principal if they would like to make a classroom visit providing it does not disrupt the learning environment.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

If it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from school, the parent/guardian who enrolled the student must come to PCMS to withdraw the student. The counselor's office assists in the withdrawal of all students. All fees/fines must be cleared before records will be released.

YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks are sold each year at PCMS. Teachers from each hall are identified during morning announcements, so that students know who to pay for the yearbook. Students may purchase any unsold books after the yearbook presentation. These are sold on a first come, first serve basis.

PIERCE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL
Pierce County Middle School Parent & Family Engagement BOARD POLICY
Part II: Parent & Family Engagement in Education

Pierce County Middle School

2018-2019 School Year
Plan Revised March 23, 2018

**Parent & Family Engagement Plan
for Shared Student Achievement**

5216 County Farm Road
Blackshear, GA 31516
<http://pcms.pierce.k12.ga.us/>
Mr. Perry Tison, Principal
(912) 449-2077



What is it? This document is a plan that describes how Pierce County Middle School will provide opportunities to improve parent & family engagement to support student learning. PCMS values the contributions and involvement of parents & family members in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways PCMS will implement meaningful consultation with parents, family members, students, school staff, business leaders, philanthropic organizations and other stakeholders to support parent and family engagement and how families can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it developed? PCMS welcomes parent and family member input and comments at any time regarding our plan to involve parents and families. All parent and family member feedback will be considered for the revision of the plan each year. Our plan is posted on our school website for families to view and give input throughout the year. Parents and family members can email suggestions to ldenison@perce.k12.ga.us or send a copy of the online stakeholder feedback form to the school office. We also distribute an annual survey to all families to ask for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent and family engagement. During our PCMS Café meetings, families are able to give feedback about our parent and family engagement activities, and to review and revise this Parent and Family Engagement Plan, as well as the school wide plan, our school-parent compact, the district parent and family engagement plan, and the parent and family engagement budget for the upcoming school year.

Who is it for? All PCMS students and families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. PCMS will provide full opportunities for participation of parents & family members with limited English proficiency, economically disadvantaged, limited literacy, any racial or ethnic minority background, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, when feasible.

Where is it available? At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student handbook that is given to all students. Also, it is distributed in the local community. Parents & family members can request a copy of the plan at the front desk, view a copy on the PCMS website, or retrieve a copy in the Family Resource Center.

2018-2019 District Goals

What is Title I?

Pierce County Schools are identified as a Title I school district as part of Section 1116 of the Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging State academic standards in order to reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parent and family engagement. All Title I schools must work together with all families to develop a written parent and family engagement plan.



- ✓ High Academic Achievement
- ✓ Quality Teachers, Administrators, & Staff
- ✓ Supportive Learning Environment
- ✓ Effective, Efficient Operations
- ✓ Strong Parental & Community Support
- ✓ College & Career Readiness

*PCMS...
Where Excellence is
the Standard*

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, PCMS and our families will develop a school-parent compact. This compact is an agreement that parents, family members, teachers and students will develop explaining how parents, family members and teachers will work together to make sure all students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, family members, students and teachers during Parent Cafés meetings. The compacts are sent home at the beginning of the school year with a signature sheet signed by teachers, parents, family members and students. The signature sheet is returned to the homeroom teacher while the compact is for families to keep and refer to throughout the year. Each teacher has a copy of the compact to review with families during parent/teacher conferences. A copy of the compact is also posted on the school website or may be obtained in the front office.

PCMS welcomes parent & family input and comments at any time regarding the following: **PCMS & District Parent and Family Engagement Plans**, the Comprehensive LEA Implementation Plan (CLIP), the **PCMS School Improvement Plan**, the School-Parent Compact, the District Needs Assessment, and the use of the required 1% of Parent and Family Engagement funds.



Let's Get Together!

PCMS will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, family members, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Look for dates and times not listed below on PCMS website, Facebook, and sent home with your child.

Camp Bear- Tuesday, July 31, 2018 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

- ✓ Transition from the fifth grade to sixth grade during Camp Bear. All new 6th graders are invited to attend PCMS for ½ day. Students are oriented about policies and procedures and meet team teachers.

Open House-Thursday, August 2, 2018

- ✓ Tour the school, visit the classrooms, and meet your child's teachers along with our helpful, friendly school staff.

ESOL/Migrant Open House – Thursday, August 2, 2018 at 5:30 pm

- ✓ Parents will have time to meet with our PCMS ESOL teacher. This is also an opportunity to meet with the system-wide translator and complete all necessary enrollment paperwork in their native language. Parents will find this a good time to ask questions of the teacher and administrators about the upcoming school year.

Annual Title I Extravaganza - Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ Come visit with your child's teachers and ask questions you didn't realize you had at Open House.
- ✓ Learn how to monitor your child's progress: Checking Infinite Campus Parent Portal, setting up REMIND, and Google Classroom.
- ✓ Find out about the Georgia Milestones and other assessment information.
- ✓ Spend an evening understanding what your child is learning in school.
- ✓ Find out about GA College 411 and Graduation Plans
- ✓ We invite you to a time of learning and sharing about our Title I program including our parent & family engagement plan, the school wide plan, the school-parent compacts and parents' requirements. Invitations will be sent to all families and posted on the school website, the PCMS Facebook page, and with the local media.

Mentor & Volunteer Training - Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

- ✓ Receive training and pertinent information to prepare you to be the best volunteer and/or mentor you can be!
- ✓ Volunteers and Mentors can also be trained throughout the school year by contacting the school office at (912) 449-2077.

"Table Talk" Workshops

- ✓ Join us for a delicious lunch while gaining knowledge to support your child's educational success. Workshops are open to all Pierce County families! Invitations are sent to all families and posted on the schools' websites. Lunch is sponsored by our community partners. All workshops begin at **12:00 noon**.

Date: 09/05/18	Location: Blackshear Elementary	Topic: TBA
Date: 10/03/18	Location: Patterson Elementary	Topic: Literacy & Reading Strategies
Date: 11/07/18	Location: Blackshear Elementary	Topic: Math Strategies to Help your Child
Date: 02/06/19	Location: Pierce County Middle	Topic: Technology Tools for Academic Success

District Migrant Family Nights- held at Blackshear Elementary School on October 23, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m., January 17, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m., March 14, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.

- ✓ Come hear about the Migrant program
- ✓ Learn about various strategies being used to help your child succeed at school and how you can help your child at home
- ✓ Give us your ideas/suggestions

Celebrate Parent Engagement Month-November 2018

- ✓ We invite parents & family members to come to school and eat Thanksgiving lunch with their child.

PCMS Cafés

- ✓ Come talk with teachers/staff about how we can improve our family engagement activities/events at PCMS, what the school can provide you with to help support your child's learning at home and the best ways to communicate with you. Also, the PCMS Cafés will provide opportunities for you to assist in revising elements of our Title I program plans, school-parent compact, building school staff capacity trainings and the budget. Join us for meetings at **3:20 p.m.** on the following dates:
 - **Tuesday, January 22, 2019**
 - **Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

Annual Title I Family Engagement Survey – January/February

- ✓ As partners in your child's education, your opinions & suggestions are important to our success! Please take a few moments to complete our survey. Flyers and website updates will give you important information regarding this input opportunity.

District Parent Advisory Council Meeting – Thursday, February 14, 2019, at PC Board of Education

- ✓ All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from the Pierce County School District as well as review and provide input into our District Parent & Family Engagement Plan and the District Improvement Plan. Please RSVP Angie Meadows at (912)807-0048.

Band Concerts-held in December & May

- ✓ More information will be advertised on the PCMS website, Facebook page, and sent home with your child.

Athletic (February & May) & Academic (May) Awards Ceremonies

- ✓ Award ceremonies to recognize students with outstanding achievements.

Moving to Middle School - Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ Orientation for next year's 6th grade parents and family members to discuss the transition from elementary to middle school. More information will be advertised on the PCMS website, Facebook page, and sent home with your child.

New Student/Parent Tours - Offered as needed when new students enroll at PCMS.

- ✓ Learn helpful information to prepare for a successful school year at PCMS as a new student and parent.

Parent and Family Engagement

PCMS believes that parent and family engagement is the participation of families in regular two-way and meaningful communication. This involves student academic learning and other school activities ensuring that...

1. Parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
2. Parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
3. Parents and family members are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

Parent Resource Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center in the Media Center at PCMS to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to check their student's grades on the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



Check out our “**Virtual**” Pierce County Family Resource Room on Pinterest for engaging resources to support your child's learning at home! Our “**Virtual**” resource room has valuable activities for Pre-K through 12th grades including instructional videos from Pierce County teachers! Visit it today at...
www.pinterest.com/pcresourceroom/



Parent & Family Engagement Standards

PCMS and our families have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging families, students, and the community. These standards are as follows:

- Welcoming All Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking Up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with Community

PCMS is committed to helping our parents/families attend the activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare and/or translation services, when feasible, in order to participate in our programs.

(912) 449-2077 ~ Terry Tatum

ttatum@pierce.k12.ga.us

Translations Services – Alicia Sweat ~

(912) 281-3249

PCMS Supports Our Families!

PCMS will take the following measures to promote and support parents & family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will...

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and family programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish (to the extent feasible), and posted on the school website.
- ✓ Conduct staff development on parent & family engagement practices and effective strategies for staff to improve communication with families and ideas to increase parent & family engagement.
- ✓ Partner with Pierce County elementary schools to share school information about parent & family engagement activities that will help prepare parents, family members and their child for middle school and improve school transition.
- ✓ Partner with Pierce County High School to share school information about parent & family engagement activities that will help prepare parents, family members and their child for high school and improve school transition.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish (to the extent feasible) on the school website and in the school newsletter for families to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways families can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, such as phone messages, social media, flyers and REMIND.
- ✓ Work with our parents and family members to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials for families at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents and family members work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ✓ Collaborate with community leaders, philanthropic organizations, and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parent and family engagement plan and activities.
- ✓ Use our PCMS Cafés to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement plan.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at school events, place input cards in the suggestion box holder in the main lobby and post stakeholder feedback form on the school website in order to respond to parents' and family members' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

PCMS Parent Café Meetings

PCMS invites all families to join the PCMS Parent Café meetings to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The meetings will occur 2 times during the school year, but families can also submit their ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys, website and suggestion box. If you would like to learn more about the Parent Café, please contact Terry Tatum, Assistant Principal at (912) 449-2077 or complete the “Sign Me Up” form below.



Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the students’ and the school’s goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided or leave your comments in the Suggestion Box located by the main office.

Comments:

Optional:

Name: _____

Phone: _____



Sign Me Up!

Please complete the form below and return to your child’s teacher.

- Yes, I am interested in attending the PCMS Parent Café meetings.
- I would like to be involved in one of the following ways: (circle below)
 - Special Events
 - Mentoring a child
 - Volunteering
 - Other: _____

Name: _____

Child’s Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Escuela Secundaria del Condado Pierce

El Plan de Compromiso de Padres y Familias para Logros Estudiantiles Compartidos

5216 County Farm Road,
Blackshear, GA 31516
<http://pcms.pierce.k12.ga.us/>
Sr. Perry Tison, Principal



¿Qué es? Este documento es un plan que describe cómo **Escuela Secundaria del Condado Pierce** proporcionará oportunidades para mejorar los padres & familias y participación para apoyar el aprendizaje de los estudiantes. **PCMS** valora las contribuciones y la participación de los padres y miembros de la familia a fin de establecer una asociación con el objetivo común de mejorar el logro académico de los estudiantes. Este plan describe las diferentes maneras **PCMS** pueden ayudar a planear y participar en actividades y acontecimientos para promover al estudiante que aprende en la escuela y en casa.

¿Cómo es desarrollado? **PCMS** dan las bienvenidas a los padres y miembros de la familia y comentarios en cualquier momento con respecto a nuestro plan de participación de los padres y las familias. Todos los padres y familiares serán considerados para la revisión del plan cada año. Nuestro plan está publicado en nuestro sitio de la red de la escuela para todos para ver y aportaciones a lo largo del año escolar. Sugerencias pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a ttatum@pierce.k12.ga.us o enviado de vuelta a la oficina de la escuela usando el formulario de comentarios de los interesados en línea en la página del web de **PCMS**. Padres y familias están invitadas a asistir a nuestro Parent Café de **PCMS** reuniones para dar reacción sobre nuestro padre y actividades de compromiso de la familia, y examinar y revisar este plan, el plan de mejoramiento escolar, nuestros Compacts entre la escuela- padres, el plan de compromiso de padres y familias del distrito, las oportunidades de capacidad del personal de construcción, y el presupuesto de compromiso de padres y familias. También distribuimos una encuesta anual para obtener información y sugerencias sobre este plan y el uso de fondos para el compromiso de padres y familias.

¿Para quién es? Todos **PCMS** estudiantes y sus familias son animados e invitados a participar plenamente en las oportunidades que se describen en este plan. **PCMS** proporcionará oportunidades completas para la participación de los padres y miembros de la familia con dominio limitado del inglés, desfavorecidos, limitada alfabetización, cualquier minoría racial o étnica, padres con discapacidades y los padres de niños inmigrantes, cuando sea factible.

¿Dónde está disponible? El plan está incluido en el manual del estudiante que se da a todos los estudiantes al inicio del año escolar y a nuevos estudiantes en la inscripción. También el plan es distribuido en la comunidad local. Las familias pueden solicitar una copia de este plan en la **PCMS** frente oficina, o ver una copia en el la página del web de **PCMS**.

¿Qué es Título I

PCMS es identificada como una Escuela de Título I como parte de Sección 1116 de cada Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA). El Título I está diseñado para apoyar los esfuerzos de reforma de las escuelas estatales y locales vinculadas a los estándares académicos del estado para mejorar la enseñanza y el aprendizaje para los estudiantes. Los programas del Título I deben basarse en medios eficaces para mejorar el rendimiento estudiantil e incluir estrategias para apoyar el compromiso de los padres y la familia. Todas las escuelas del Título I deben desarrollar conjuntamente con todas las familias un plan de compromiso de padres y familias por escrito.

2018-2019 Objetivos del Distrito

- ✓ Logro Académico Alto
- ✓ Calidad de Maestros Administradores y Personal
- ✓ Entorno Aprendizaje Soportante
- ✓ Efectivo, Operaciones Eficiente
- ✓ Apoyo Fuerte Paternal & Suporte Comunidad
- ✓ Colegió & La Carrera

**PCMS... Dónde
Excelencia es el
Estándar**

Compactos Escuela-Padres



Como parte de este plan, PCMS y nuestras familias desarrollarán compactos escolar-padres de nivel de grado. Estos compactos son acuerdos desarrollados por padres, miembros de la familia, maestros y estudiantes para explicar cómo los padres, familias y maestros trabajarán juntos para asegurar que todos los estudiantes alcancen los estándares

de grado. Los compactos serán revisados y actualizados anualmente basados en la retroalimentación de los padres, miembros de la familia, estudiantes y maestros durante las reuniones de Parent Café de PCMS. Copias de los compactos son mantenidas por los maestros y revisadas con los padres durante las conferencias de padres y maestros durante el año. Copias de los compactos se envían a casa con todos los estudiantes que se publican en el sitio web y pueden obtenerse en la oficina del principal.

PCMS dan las bienvenida a los miembros y comentarios de los padres y familiares en cualquier momento con respecto a los siguientes: **PCMS** y Planes del Distrito & Compromiso de Padres y Familias del Distrito, el Comprehensive LEA Implementation Plan (CLIP), **PCMS**, El Plan de Mejoramiento Escolar, el Compacto Escolar-Padres, el Distrito Evaluación de Necesidades y el uso del 1% requerido de padre & fondos de compromiso



PCMS recibirá los acontecimientos siguientes para construir la capacidad para padre fuerte y compromiso de la familia para apoyar una sociedad entre la escuela, padres, miembros de familia y la comunidad para mejorar el logro académico estudiantil. Busque fechas y tiempos no puestos en una lista abajo en el sitio web PCMS, Facebook, y enviado a casa con su hijo.

Camp Bear- martes, 31 de julio de 2018 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

- ✓ Transición del quinto grado al sexto grado durante el Camp Bear. Todos los nuevos 6° grado están invitados a asistir a PCMS para el día. Los estudiantes están orientados sobre políticas y procedimientos y cumplen con los maestros del equipo.

Open House-Jueves, 2 de agosto de 2018

- ✓ Visitar la escuela, visitar las clases, y reunirse con los maestros de su hijo junto con nuestro servicial, amable, el personal de la escuela.

Open House de ESOL/Migrante – Jueves, 2 de agosto de 2018 en 5:30 pm

- ✓ Los padres tendrán tiempo para reunirse con nuestro maestro de ESOL PCMS. Esta es también una oportunidad para reunirse con el traductor de todo el sistema y completar todos los trámites de inscripción necesarios en su idioma nativo. Los padres encontrarán que este es un buen momento para hacer preguntas al maestro y a los administradores sobre el próximo año escolar.

Anual Título I Extravagancia- jueves, 13 de Septiembre de 2019 en 5:30 pm

- ✓ Venga a visitar a los maestros de su hijo y haga las preguntas que no se dio cuenta que tuvo durante Open House.
- ✓ Aprenda a monitorear el progreso de su hijo: Chequeando Infinite Campus Parent Portal, setting up REMIND, y Google Classroom.
- ✓ Averiguar sobre el Georgia Milestones evaluación y otra información.
- ✓ Pase una tarde entendiendo lo que su niño está aprendiendo en la escuela.
- ✓ Averigua sobre GA College 411 y Planes de graduación
- ✓ Los invitamos a un tiempo de aprendizaje y compartir sobre nuestro programa de Título I incluyendo nuestro plan de compromiso de padres y familia, el plan de mejoramiento escuela, y compactos escuela-padres. Las invitaciones serán enviadas a todas las familias y publicadas en el sitio web de la escuela, la página de Facebook de PCMS, y con los medios locales.

Entrenamiento Mentores & Voluntarios -Miércoles, 19 de septiembre de 2018 en 8:30 am

- ✓ Recibir formación e información pertinente para prepararte para ser el mejor voluntario y/o mentor que puedas ser!
- ✓ Los voluntarios y mentores también pueden ser entrenados durante el año escolar poniéndose en contacto con la oficina de la escuela al (912) 449-2077.

“Table Talk” Temas

- ✓ Acompáñenos para un almuerzo delicioso aprendiendo cómo apoyar el éxito educativo de su hijo. ¡Los talleres están abiertos a todas las familias del Condado Pierce! ! Las invitaciones se envían a todas las familias y se publican en los sitios web de las escuelas. El almuerzo es patrocinado por nuestros socios comunitarios. Todos los talleres empiezan a las 12:00 mediodía.

Fecha: 09/05/18 Locación: Primaria Blackshear Tema: TBA

Fecha: 10/03/18 Locación: Primaria Patterson Tema: Estrategias Alfabetismo & Lectura

Fecha: 11/07/18 Locación: Primaria Blackshear Tema: Estrategias Matemáticas Como Ayudar Hijo

Fecha: 02/06/19 Locación: Secundaria Tema: Consejos Tecnología para Aprovechamiento Académico

Noches del Distrito Familias Migrante- sostenido en Escuela Primaria Blackshear el 23 de octubre de 2018 a las 6:00 pm, el 17 de enero de 2019 a las 6:30 pm, el 14 de marzo de 2019 a las 6:00 pm

- ✓ Venga a escuchar sobre el programa de migrantes
- ✓ Aprenda sobre las diversas estrategias que se utilizan para ayudar a su hijo a tener éxito en la escuela y cómo usted puede ayudar a su hijo en casa
- ✓ Darnos sus ideas/sugerencias

Celebre el Compromiso de los Padres y Familias - Noviembre 2018

- ✓ Invitamos a los padres/familias a que vengan a la escuela y coman el almuerzo de Acción de Gracias con sus hijos.

PCMS Cafés

- ✓ Venga a hablar con los maestros/personal acerca de cómo podemos mejorar nuestras actividades/eventos de compromiso familiar en PES, lo que la escuela puede proporcionarle para ayudar a apoyar el aprendizaje de su hijo en casa y las mejores maneras de comunicarse con usted. También, los cafés del PES proporcionarán oportunidades para que usted ayude en la revisión de nuestros planes del programa del título I, el acuerdo de la escuela-padre, construyendo entrenamientos de la capacidad del personal de la escuela y el presupuesto. Únase a nosotros para las reuniones a las 3:20 p.m. en las siguientes fechas:

Martes, 22 de enero de 2019

Martes, 12 de marzo de 2019

Encuesta Anual del Título I Compromiso de la Familias- Enero/Febrero

- ✓ Como socios en la educación de su hijo, sus opiniones y sugerencias son importantes para nuestro éxito! Por favor, tómese unos momentos para completar nuestra encuesta. Folletos y actualizaciones de sitios web le dará información importante sobre esta oportunidad de entrada.

Reunión del Distrito Asesores de Padres – Jueves, 14 de febrero, 2019- en la Junta de Educación PC

Todos los padres son Bienvenidos a escuchar las últimas actualizaciones del Distrito Escolar del Condado Pierce, así como revisar y proporcionar información en nuestro plan de compromiso de padres y familia del distrito y el plan de mejoramiento del distrito. Por favor RSVP Angie Meadows at (912) 807-0048.

Conciertos de la banda celebrada el- Diciembre & Mayo

- ✓ Más información será anunciada en el sitio web de PCMS, página de Facebook, y enviado a casa con su hijo.

Atlético (Febrero & Mayo) & Académico (Mayo) Ceremonias de Premiación

- ✓ Award ceremonies to recognize students with outstanding achievements.

Movimiento para Secundaria – martes, 7 de mayo 2019 @ 5:30 pm

- ✓ Orientación para los padres y miembros de la familia del 6° grado del próximo año para discutir la transición de la escuela primaria a la secundaria. Más información será anunciada en los sitios web de Bes y PCMS, páginas de Facebook, y enviado a casa con su hijo.
- ✓ Discusión Digital Footprint / Discusión Media Social

Nuevo Estudiante/ Recorrido Padres- Ofrecido cuando los nuevos estudiantes se inscriban en PCMS.

- ✓ Aprenda información útil para prepararse para un año escolar exitoso en PCMS como un

Compromiso Padres y Familias

PCMS cree que el compromiso de los padres y la familia es la participación de los padres/familias en la comunicación regular de dos vías y significativa. Esto implica el aprendizaje académico del estudiante y otras actividades de la escuela que aseguran que...

1. Los padres y miembros de la familia juegan un papel integral en ayudar a aprender de sus hijos;
2. Los padres y miembros de la familia son alentados a participar activamente en la educación de sus hijos en la escuela;
3. Los padres y miembros de la familia son socios completos en la educación de sus hijos y están incluida, según proceda, en la toma de decisiones y en comités para ayudar en la



Estándares de Compromiso Padres y Familias

PCMS y nuestras familias han adoptado los Estándares Nacionales de la PTA para las Alianzas Familia-Escuela como modelo de la escuela para involucrar a los padres, miembros de la familia, estudiantes y la comunidad. Estos estándares son:

- Bienvenidas a todas las familias
- Comunicación Efectiva
- Apoyar el Éxito del Estudiante
- Hablar Con Cada Niño
- Compartir el poder
- Colaboración con Comunidad

Cuarto Recursos Para Padres y Familias

Venga a visitar el Centro de Recursos para Padres en el Centro de Medios de comunicación en PCMS para revisar libros, materiales de estudio y actividades para usar en casa con su hijo. Las computadoras están disponibles para que los padres revisen las calificaciones de sus estudiantes en el portal de padres del campus infinito. Lunes a Viernes, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



Compruebe nuestro “Virtual” el Cuarto del Recurso de la Familias del Condado Pierce en Pinterest para recursos simpáticos de apoyar el aprendizaje de su hijo en casa! Nuestro “Virtual” cuarto de recursos tiene actividades valiosas para los grados PreK-12, incluyendo videos instructivos de los maestros del Condado de Pierce! Visite el sitio hoy...

www.pinterest.com/pcresourceroom/

***PCMS** está comprometido a ayudar a nuestras familias a asistir a los padres y actividades de participación de las familias enumeradas en este plan. Por favor llame o escríbanos si necesita ayuda con los servicios de cuidado de niños o traducción para participar en nuestros programas.*

912.449.2077 ~ ~ Terry Tatum

[**ttatum@pierce.k12.ga.us**](mailto:ttatum@pierce.k12.ga.us)

[**Servicios de Traducción – Alicia**](#)



PCMS Apoya Nuestros Padres!

PCMS tomará las medidas siguientes para promover y apoyar a padres/familias como una fundación importante de la escuela a fin de reforzar la escuela y alcanzar nuestros objetivos escolares. Vamos a...

- ✓ Asegurar que toda la información relacionada con la escuela y los programas de padres/familia, reuniones y otras actividades se publique en inglés y español (en la medida de lo factible), y se publique en el sitio web de la escuela y se incluya en boletines de grado.
- ✓ Proporcionar desarrollo en prácticas de participación de padres y familias y estrategias efectivas de personal mejorar la comunicación con los padres/familias ideas para incrementar el compromiso de padres y familia.
- ✓ Asociarse con las escuelas primarias de Pierce County para compartir la información de la escuela sobre actividades de compromiso de padres y familias que ayudarán a preparar a los padres, familiares y sus hijos para la escuela intermedia y mejorar la transición escolar.
- ✓ Social con Escuela Preparatoria del Condado Pierce para compartir información de escuela de padres y familias actividades de compromiso que le ayudará a preparar los padres/las familias y sus hijos para la escuela secundaria y mejorar la transición de la escuela.
- ✓ Compartir información en inglés y español (en la medida de lo factible) en el sitio web de la escuela y en los boletines informativos para padres/familias para entender los estándares académicos y las evaluaciones de la escuela, así como las maneras en que los padres/familias pueden monitorear sus el progreso del niño y el trabajo con los educadores.
- ✓ Comunicar con todas las familias y la comunidad de manera regular sobre eventos del school wide y actividades, boletines informativos, medios sociales, volante, agendas estudiantiles y Remind.
- ✓ Trabajar con nuestros padres y miembros de la familia para desarrollar entrenamientos relevantes y presentaciones útiles para educar a nuestro personal sobre la importancia del compromiso con los padres y la familia y cómo apoyar el aprendizaje de los estudiantes
- ✓ Proporcione los materiales necesarios para los padres/familias en conferencias, reuniones y actividades para ayudar a los padres/familias a trabajar con sus hijos para mejorar el rendimiento académico de sus hijos.
- ✓ Colaborar con líderes comunitarios y grupos de negocios para aumentar la participación y el conocimiento del plan de compromiso y actividades de padres y familias de la escuela.
- ✓ Uso PES Cafés Para mejorar el conocimiento de las actividades y eventos enumerados en la escuela de padres y plan de compromiso familiar.
- ✓ Recoger comentarios de los padres y familias en eventos escolares, tarjetas de entrada depositan en el buzón en el vestíbulo principal y los interesados formularios recopilados para responder a los padres / familias solicitar apoyo adicional para las actividades de participación

PROGRAM FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED PARENT NOTIFICATION

Assurance of Equal Access to Gifted Programs

Pierce County School District endorses the philosophy that education is a means by which each individual has the opportunity to reach his or her fullest potential. We believe that all students have a right to educational experiences that challenge the level of their individual development, whether it is below, at, or beyond the level of their age peers. Special programs for gifted students are one outgrowth of this commitment.

Students in grade K-12 who demonstrate a high degree of intellectual academic, and/or creative abilities may be nominated for evaluation to determine eligibility to participate in the Program for Gifted Students. Referrals for consideration may be made by teachers, parents or guardians, counselors, administrators, peers, self, and other individuals with knowledge of the student's abilities.

The State Board of Education determines eligibility criteria for placement in this program. For a summary of those criteria or for further information about Pierce County's Program for Gifted Students, please contact the Gifted Program teacher at your child's school or the Gifted Program Coordinator at the Central Office.

Notificación: Garantía de Acceso

El Distrito Escolar Pierce County se adhiere a la filosofía de la educación como medio a través del cual un individuo tiene la oportunidad de alcanzar su máximo potencial. Creemos que todos los estudiantes tienen derecho a experiencias educativas que desafíen el nivel de su desarrollo personal, tanto si está por debajo, al nivel, o por encima del de sus compañeros de la misma edad. Los programas para estudiantes superdotados son un resultado de este compromiso.

Los estudiantes de grados K-12 que demuestren un alto grado de capacidades intelectuales, académicas y/o creativas pueden ser nominados para una evaluación que determine si pueden ser candidatos para participar en el Programa de Estudiantes Superdotados. Las recomendaciones pueden provenir de los profesores, padres, tutores legales, orientadores, administradores, compañeros, el propio candidato y cualquier otra persona que conozca la capacidad del estudiante.

La Junta de Educación del Estado determina los criterios de selección para acceder a este programa. Si desea un resumen de esos criterios o mayor información sobre el programa del Condado de Pierce County para el Programa de Estudiantes Superdotados, póngase en contacto, por favor, con el profesor del Programa de Superdotados en el colegio de su hijo/a o con el Distrito Escolar Coordinadora del Programa de Superdotados.

6-8 Promotion/Retention Criteria

Promotion/Retention Criteria will be in compliance with the State Board Rule and local promotion criteria. Parents will be notified of promotion/retention criteria once determined by the State Department of Education and approved by the local Board of Education.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN STUDENT DISCIPLINE

This Code of Conduct is based on the expectation that parents, guardians, teachers, and school administrators will work together to improve and enhance student behavior and academic performance and will communicate freely their concerns about, and actions in response to, student behavior that detracts from the learning environment. School administrators recognize that two-way communications through personal contacts are extremely valuable; therefore, they provide information to parents as well as on-going opportunities for school personnel to hear parents' concerns and comments.

Parents and students should contact the principal of the school if specific questions arise related to the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct specifies within its standards of behavior various violations of the Code that may result in a school staff member's request that a parent/ guardian comes to the school for a conference. Parents are encouraged to visit the school regularly and are expected to be actively involved in the behavior support processes designed to promote choices and behavior.

Georgia law mandates that any time a teacher or principal identifies a student as a chronic disciplinary problem student, the principal shall notify by telephone call or by mail the student's parent or guardian of the disciplinary problem, invite the parent or guardian to observe the student in a classroom situation, and request at least one parent or guardian to attend a conference to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan.

Georgia law also states that before any chronic disciplinary problem student is permitted to return to school from a suspension or expulsion, the school shall request by telephone call or by mail, at least one parent or guardian to schedule and attend a conference to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan.

The law allows a local board of education to petition the juvenile court to require a parent to attend a school conference. If the court finds that the parent or guardian has willfully and unreasonably failed to attend a conference requested by the principal pursuant to the laws cited above, the court may order the parent or guardian to attend such a conference, order the parent or guardian to participate in such programs or such treatment as the court deems appropriate to improve the student's behavior, or both. After notice and opportunity for hearing, the court may impose a fine, not to exceed \$500.00, on a parent or guardian who willfully disobeys an order of the court under this law.

Student Behavior Policy

Our school is participating in Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS).

What is Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports?

PBIS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. It is a systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by developing research based, schoolwide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. Rather than a prescribed program, PBIS provides systems for schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide, classroom, non-classroom, and student specific plans. PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all specific plans. PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a safe and productive learning environment where teachers can teach and students can learn.

What is PBIS at our school?

A unified set of behavioral expectations/rules have been adopted and serve to define our expectations for behavior within our schools. In the *Pierce County Schools*, students are expected to demonstrate the following core values:

1. Be Responsible (doing what you are supposed to do)
2. Be Respectful (treating everyone the right way)
3. Be Safe (with self, others, and property)

When a student chooses to participate in behavior that is contrary to good order and discipline of the school, consequences will be implemented to correct the behavior. Consequences are designed to teach students self-discipline and to help them substitute inappropriate behaviors with those that are consistent with the set expectations in all schools. Depending on the severity of the behavior and the number of times the behavior has occurred, a continuum of consequences may be used to correct student behavior.

Bears

are...



PCMS Mission Statement Excellence is Standard

Safe, Responsible, and Respectful

	Hallways	Cafeteria	Bathroom
Be Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep to the right of center. WALK at all times at a normal pace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eat your own food. Follow lunchroom procedures. Use utensils appropriately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay in your stall. Flush, wash, & rush. Refrain from horseplay.
Be Responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always use agenda as hall pass. Keep your hands and belongings off the walls. Walk directly to your destination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean up your table & floor area. Throw away your trash. Food should be on your plate or in your mouth. Use appropriate language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any problems. Report vandalism. Use toilet seats & dispensers correctly.
Be Respectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep quiet; other students are working. Keep your hands to yourself. Honor others' personal space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use good manners. Include others in conversation. Be polite to everyone in the lunchroom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the restroom clean. Respect privacy & property.

PIERCE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Part III: CODE OF CONDUCT

It is the purpose of the Pierce County School District to operate each school in a manner that will provide an orderly process of education and that will provide for the welfare and safety of all students who attend schools within the district. In accordance with that purpose, the Pierce County Board of Education has adopted a policy which requires all schools to adopt codes of conduct which require students to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that facilitates a learning environment for themselves and other students. These standards for student behavior are designed to create the expectation that students will behave themselves in such a way so as to facilitate a learning environment for themselves and other students. The standards are designed to encourage students to respect each other and school district employees, to motivate students and to obey student behavior rules established at the school. In the matters of school discipline and policy, all students will be treated fairly and equally by the same rules in accordance with their due process rights.

The school's primary goal is to educate, not to punish; however, when the behavior of an individual student comes in conflict with the rights of others, corrective actions may be necessary for the benefit of that individual and the school as a whole. Accordingly, students shall be governed by policies, regulations and rules set forth in this Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct is effective during the following time and in the following places:

- At school or on school property at all times;
- Off school grounds at any school activity, function or event and while traveling to and from such events;
- On vehicles provided for student transportation by the school system.

Also, students may be disciplined for criminal conduct off campus that may pose a threat to the school's learning environment or the safety of students and employees.

Parents are encouraged to become familiar with the Code of Conduct and to be supportive of it in their daily communication with their children and others in the community.

PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

When it is necessary to impose discipline, school administrators and teachers will follow a **progressive discipline process**. The degree of discipline to be imposed by each school official will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior of a particular student and will take into account the student's discipline history, the age of the student and other relevant factors.

The Code of Conduct provides a systematic process of behavioral correction in which inappropriate behaviors are followed by consequences. Before a student is suspended for ten days or less, the principal or designee will inform the student of the offense for which the student is charged and allow the student to explain his or her behavior. If the student is suspended, the student's parents will be notified, if possible. **School officials will involve the School Resource Officer (SRO) and/or law enforcement officials when evidence surrounding a situation necessitates their involvement or when there is a legal requirement that an incident be reported.**

The maximum punishments for an offense include long-term suspension or expulsion, including permanent expulsion, but those punishments will be determined only by a disciplinary tribunal as outlined in the Pierce County Board of Education policies.

In the event that a student is referred to a disciplinary tribunal, parents or the student may elect not to contest whether the student has violated the Code of Conduct or the appropriate discipline, and in such cases, an agreement may be negotiated which would include the parents or student waiving a right to a hearing before disciplinary tribunal. Such an agreement and waiver must be approved also by the tribunal facilitator from the superintendent's office.

PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE POLICY

The progressive discipline model is divided into four levels. Each level represents progressively more serious misbehavior and consequences. The level of discipline imposed shall be based on the severity of the misbehavior.

LEVEL I

Level I discipline is used for minor acts of misconduct, which interfere with orderly school procedures, school functions, extracurricular programs, approved transportation, or a student's own learning process. Students may be disciplined by the professional staff member involved or may be referred directly to the principal.

Professional staff may utilize any of the discipline management techniques appropriate for the situation, including but not limited to the following:

1. Detention during lunch
2. Classroom isolation from peers.
3. Student participation in conference with parent/guardian and teacher
4. Participation in a school-service project, which enables the student to be engaged in the desired character trait(s).

The principal/designee may utilize any of the above discipline management techniques, and/or may employ:

1. Student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher, and/or principal.
2. Restriction from school programs and special assemblies.
3. Partial and full day in-school suspension (ISS) for up to three school days.
4. Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
5. Corporal punishment.
6. Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s).
7. Financial restitution with a minimum of \$10.00 for damage caused to the school-related environment.

LEVEL II

Level II discipline offenses are intermediate acts of misconduct, which requires administrative intervention. These acts include, but are not limited to, repeated, but unrelated, acts of minor misconduct and misbehaviors directed against persons or property but which do not seriously endanger the health, safety or well-being of others. Consideration of necessary behavior support services should be given if not already provided.

Students guilty of a Level II offense may receive any of the discipline management techniques appropriate for the situation as determined by the principal or designee, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher, and/or principal.
2. Restriction from programs and special assemblies.
3. Assignment to lunchtime detention
4. Partial and full day in-school suspension (ISS) for up to five school days.
5. Suspension from school for up to five school days, which shall include any time during which the student was subject to suspension pending investigation.
6. Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
7. Financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
8. Participation in a school-service project, which enables the student to be engaged in the desired character trait(s).
9. Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s).
10. Bus suspension from one to 10 days.

LEVEL III

Level III discipline offenses are serious acts of misconduct including, but not limited to, repeated misbehavior that is similar in nature, serious disruptions of the school environment, threats to health, safety, or property and other acts of serious misconduct. These offenses must be reported to the principal/designee. Offenses that threaten the health, safety, or well-being of others may result in immediate suspension of the student from the school and/or school-sponsored activities for up to 10 school days pending disciplinary investigation of the allegations. Student and parent/guardian participation in a conference with the principal/designee is a required element of all discipline actions in this category, even if such a conference has previously occurred. Initiation of necessary behavior support services should be given if not already provided. Due process procedures required by federal and state law will be followed. These may include such procedures as the school disciplinary tribunal and/or procedural safeguards provided by the 1997 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Students guilty of a Level III offense may receive any of the discipline management techniques appropriate for the situation as determined by the principal or designee, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Restriction from programs and special assemblies.
2. Full day in-school suspension (ISS) for up to 15 school days.
3. Suspension from school for up to 10 school days, which shall include any time during which the student was subject to suspension pending investigation.
4. Placement in an alternative education program for up to one semester and until such a time as the student meets the exit requirements for the alternative school program.
5. Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
6. Financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
7. Development of a written or graphic representation that reflects understanding of the specific misbehavior, the nature of the expected behavior and the related character trait(s).
8. Participation in a school-service project, which enables the student to be engaged in the desired character trait(s).
9. Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s).
10. Bus suspension from 10 to 30 days.

LEVEL IV

Level IV discipline offenses are the most serious acts of misconduct. The offenses must be immediately reported to the principal. These violations are so serious that they may require use of outside agencies and/or law enforcement. Such acts may also result in criminal penalties being imposed. Any misconduct that threatens the health, safety, or well-being of others may result in immediate suspension of the student from the school and/or school-sponsored activities for up to three school days, pending disciplinary investigation of the allegations. Student and parent/guardian participation in a conference with the principal is a required element of all discipline actions in this category, even if such a conference has previously occurred. Initiation of necessary behavior support services should be given if not already provided. Due process procedures required by federal and state law will be followed. These may include such procedures as the school disciplinary tribunal and/or procedural safeguards provided by the 1997 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Students guilty of a Level IV offense may receive any of the discipline management techniques appropriate for the situation as determined by the principal or designee, including, but not limited to the following:

1. In-school suspension (ISS) for up to 30 school days.
2. Suspension from school for up to 10 school days, which shall include any time during which the student was subject to suspension pending investigation.
3. Placement in an alternative education program for up to two semesters and until such a time as the student meets the exit requirements for the alternative school program.
4. Permanent expulsion from the regular school program.
5. Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
6. Financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
7. Development of a written or graphic representation that reflects understanding of the specific misbehavior, the nature of the expected behavior and the related character trait(s).
8. Participation in a school-service project, which enables the student to be engaged in the desired character trait.
9. Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s).
10. Bus Suspension for more than 30 days or permanent expulsion.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

00. Continuation of Action

The student has committed multiple actions for a single incident.

Disposition: Level 1, 2

01. Alcohol

A student shall not manufacture, sell, purchase, transport, possess, or use intoxicating alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol during the school year.

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

Up to ten days OSS and notification of police permissible

02. Arson

A student shall not participate in the unlawful and intentional damage or attempted damage to any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device. Examples include firecrackers, fireworks, and trashcan fires if they are contributing factors to a damaging fire.

Disposition: Level 2, 3

Up to ten days OSS and notification of police permissible

03. Battery

A student shall not participate in the actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against his or her will or intentionally causing bodily harm to an individual – when one individual physically attacks or “beats up on” another individual. This includes an attack with a weapon or one that causes serious bodily harm to the victim. This includes the actual placement of a bomb or one sent through the mail, regardless of whether the bomb explodes. This incident code will be used only when the attack is very serious – serious enough to warrant calling the police or bringing in security, where the intent is to do bodily harm to someone.

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3, 4

Suspension/Expulsion permissible

04. Breaking/Entering Burglary

A student shall not participate in unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a crime. This applies to school buildings or activities relating to a school function.

Disposition: Level 3

Notification of Police permissible; recommendation of expulsion permissible

05. Computer Trespass

A student shall not participate in the unauthorized use of a computer or computer network with the intention of deleting, obstructing, interrupting, altering, damaging or in any way causing the malfunction of the computer, network, program(s), or data.

Disposition: Level 2, 3

06. Disorderly Conduct

A student shall not behave in a manner that substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function, substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment, or poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others.

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

07. Drugs, Except Alcohol & Tobacco

10 days OSS permissible and referral to juvenile/police authorities with a recommendation of expulsion permissible.

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

A student shall not use, cultivate, manufacture, distribute, sell, purchase, possess, transport, or import any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or equipment or devices used for preparing or using drugs or narcotics. This includes being under the influence of drugs or substances represented as drugs. This includes over the counter medications if abused by the student.

** All offenses involving narcotics, stimulant drugs, or other controlled drugs should be referred to the principal/designee for disposition.

08. Fighting

A student shall not fight or cause a fight on school grounds or during a school function. This includes the mutual participation in a fight involving physical violence where there is no one main offender and no major injury. A fight does not include verbal confrontations, tussles, or other minor confrontations.

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

Up to ten days OSS and notification of police permissible

09. Homicide

A student shall not participate in the murder, non-negligent manslaughter, killing of one human being by another, or killing a person through negligence.

Disposition: Level 3
Notification of authorities

10. Kidnapping

A student shall not participate in the unlawful seizure, transportation, and/or detention of a person against his/her will, or of a minor without the consent of his/her custodial parents or legal guardian.

Disposition: Level 3
Notification of authorities

11. Larceny/Theft

A student shall not participate in the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away with the property of another person without threat, violence, or bodily harm. Included are pocket picking, purse or backpack snatching if left unattended, theft from a building, theft from a motor vehicle, theft from a coin-operated machine, and all other types of larcenies. This incident code will be used only when the theft is serious enough to warrant calling the police or bringing in security.

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3
Notification of authorities

12. Motor Vehicle Theft

A student shall not participate in the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. This includes theft of car, truck, motorcycle, dune buggy, RV, or anything that is self-propelled.

Disposition: Level 3
Notification of authorities

13. Robbery

A student shall not take, or attempt to take, anything of value that is owned by another person or organization, under confrontational circumstances by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. An essential difference between robbery and larceny is that a threat or battery is involved in a robbery. Example: Extortion of lunch money.

Disposition: Level 2, 3
Notification of authorities permissible

14. Sexual Battery

A student shall not sexually molest another person, indecently expose himself, rape or engage in any heterosexual or homosexual act on school property during school functions, or under school supervision. This includes the touching of private body parts of another person either through human contact or using an object.

Disposition: Level 3
Suspension/Expulsion permissible; Notification of authorities

15. Sexual Harassment

A student shall not participate in deliberate, repeated, and unsolicited physical actions, gestures, or verbal or written comments of a sexual nature, when such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with a student's academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning environment. Examples: leering, pinching, grabbing, suggestive comments or jokes, or pressure to engage in sexual activity. Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, inappropriate touching, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated conduct or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature.

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

16. Sex Offenses

A student shall not participate in sexual intercourse, sexual contact, or other unlawful behavior or contact intended to result in sexual gratification without force or threat of force and where the victim is capable of giving consent. This includes indecent exposure and obscenity. Examples include entering or downloading pornographic content onto school computers or possession of pornographic materials on school grounds.

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3
Suspension/Expulsion permissible

17. Threat/Intimidation

A student shall not, in any manner, use threats, fear, or intimidation, to cause physical injury or behave in such a way as to cause physical injury or mental anguish to a school employee or student on the school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds or while under school supervision.

Disposition: Level 2, 3

According to the state of Georgia, the term “bullying” means “(1) any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so; or (2) any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm.” In compliance with Georgia law (House Bill 84), “upon a finding that a student has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, such student shall be assigned to an alternative school.”

A student shall not threaten to strike, attack, or harm any person in school or at any school-sponsored or supervised activity.

18. Tobacco, Vapes, & Vape Oils

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

A student shall not possess, use, distribute, or sell tobacco or vape products, including cigarettes, tobacco, snuff, and oils in any form on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, or on transportation to or from school.

19. Trespassing

Disposition: Level 2, 3

A student shall not enter or remain on a public school campus or School Board facility without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry. This includes students under suspension or expulsion, and unauthorized persons who enter or remain on a campus after being directed to leave by the chief administrator or designee.

20. Vandalism

Disposition: Level 2, 3

Notification of authorities permissible

A student shall not destroy or deface private property or school property, either on school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds or while under school supervision. This includes the willful and/or malicious destruction, damage or defacement of public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

Examples: graffiti, destroying school computer records, carving initials or words in desktops, spray painting on walls

22. Weapons Possession – Knife ♦

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

Notification of authorities permissible

A student shall not possess, use, or intend to use any type of knife, including a pocket or penknife, to inflict harm on another person, or to intimidate any person.

23. Weapons Possession – Other ♦

Disposition: Level 2, 3

Notification of authorities permissible

A student shall not possess, use, or intend to use any instrument or object to inflict harm on another person, or to intimidate any person. Included in this category are chains, pipes, razor blades, ice picks, dirks, nunchakus, brass knuckles, Chinese stars, billy clubs, tear gas guns, electrical weapons or devices, explosives, propellants. Firecrackers and other fireworks are also included if fire is not involved.

- ♦ Senate Bill 563 makes it “unlawful for any person to carry to or to possess or have under such person’s control while within a school safety zone or at a school building, school function, or school property or on a bus or other transportation furnished by the school any weapon or explosive compound.” Violation of this law is a felony, punishable by “a fine of not more than \$10,000, by imprisonment for not less than two nor more than ten years, or both.” According to the bill, “weapon means and includes any pistol, revolver, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, or any dirk, bowie, knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, metal knacks, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any weapon of like kind, and any stun gun or laser.”

All offenses involving weapons shall be referred to the principal/designee and School Resource Officer, SRO, for disposition.

24. Other Serious Discipline Incident

Disposition: Level 1, 2

Any other discipline incident for which a student is administered corporal punishment, in-school or out-of-school suspension, expelled, suspended from riding the bus, assigned to an alternative school, referred to court or juvenile system authorities, or removed from class at the teacher’s request. 41

25. Weapons Possession - Handgun ♦

Disposition: Level 3

Notification of authorities

Possession of a firearm, which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand; and any combination of parts from which a firearm described above can be assembled.

26. Weapons Possession - Rifle/Shotgun

Disposition: Level 3

The term “rifle” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger. The term “shotgun” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or single projectile for each single pull of the trigger.

27. Serious Bodily Injury

Disposition: Level 3

The term “serious bodily injury” means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, protracted and obvious disfigurement; or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.

28. Other Fire Arm

Disposition: Level 3

29. Bullying

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

“Bullying” means a pattern of behavior, which may include written, verbal, physical acts, or through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology occurring on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive so as to have the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s education, threatening the educational environment, or causing substantial physical harm or visibly bodily harm.

30. Other-Attendance Related

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

Repeated or excessive unexcused absences or tardies; including failure to report to class, skipping class, leaving school without authorization, or failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions

31. Other-Dress Code Violation

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

Violation of school dress code that includes standards for appropriate school attire

32. Academic Dishonesty

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

Receiving or providing unauthorized assistance on classroom project, assignments, or exams

33. Other-Student Incivility

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

Insubordination or disrespect to staff members or other students; includes but is not limited to refusal to follow school staff member instructions, use of vulgar or inappropriate language, and misrepresentation of the truth.

34. Other-Possession of Unapproved Items

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

The use of unauthorized item disruptive to the school environment.

35. Gang-Related

Disposition: Level 2, 3

Any group of three or more students with a common name or common identifying signs, symbols, tattoos, graffiti, or attire which engage in criminal gang activity.

36. Repeated Offenses

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

Collection of offenses not previously assigned a state reportable action that occurs on a single or across multiple school days that leads to a state reportable disciplinary action.

40. Other Non-Disciplinary Incident

Disposition: Level 1, 2, 3

This code is used exclusively for the reporting Physical Restraint.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Arson: Intentionally starting or attempting to start any fire or combustion .

Assault: Any threat or attempt to physically harm another person or any act which reasonably places another person in fear of physical harm. (Example: threatening language or swinging at someone in an attempt to strike)

AWOL: Unauthorized absence and or leave from class, school, activity, or event.

Battery: A beating or other wrongful physical violence or constraint without the person's consent.

Bomb/Explosive : A devise containing combustible material and a fuse.

Bullying: "Bullying" means any act which occurs on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities, or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system, that is: 1) any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so, 2) any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or 3) any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that: a) causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1; b) has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education; c) is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or d) has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Burglary: Unauthorized entry into a school district building (unoccupied) with the intent of committing a felony when the building is closed to the students and the public (See Theft).

Bus Misconduct: Failure to comply with rules of bus safety or Student Conduct Behavior Code.

Bus Suspension: The student is suspended from the bus for a specified period of time by the local school administrator. The student is expected to the attend school, but the parents are responsible for providing transportation to school.

Chronic Lack of Supplies: Repeatedly reporting to class without necessary materials such as books, physical education attire, supplies, etc.

Corporal Punishment: Physical punishment of a student by a school official in the presence of another certified school employee.

Detention: Student attends a work/study session outside of regular school hours. Student arranges for transportation.

Disciplinary Tribunal: A panel of three school officials appointed by the Board of Education to sit as fact finder and judge with respect to student disciplinary matters.

Disobedience/Insubordination: Failure of the student to comply with a reasonable direction or instruction by staff.

Disorderly Conduct: Behaving in a violent or seriously inappropriate manner, which disrupts the educational process.

Disrespect: Responding in a rude and impertinent manner.

Disruption: Behaving in a manner, which interferes with educational activities.

Drug/Alcohol/Chemical Offense: Any controlled substance or alcohol; includes any transfer of a prescription drug or any substance represented or believed to be a drug, regardless of its actual content.

Due Process: A student is afforded oral or written notice of the charges against him/her and is given an opportunity for a review, hearing or other procedural rights in accordance with state and federal laws.

Expulsion: Suspension of a student from a public school beyond the current school quarter or semester. Such action may be taken only by disciplinary tribunal.

Extortion: Use of "mild" threats or intimidation to demand money or something of value from another (no weapon).

False Fire Alarm: Reporting a fire to school or fire officials or setting off a fire alarm without a reasonable belief that a fire exists.

Felony: Any offense punishable as a felony under Georgia or federal law.

Fighting: Involves the exchange of mutual physical contact such as pushing, shoving, and hitting, with or without injury.

Fireworks: The term "fireworks" means any combustible or explosive composition or any substance or combination of substances or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration, or detonation, as well as articles containing any explosive or flammable compound and tablets and other devices containing an explosive substance.

Gambling: Playing any game of skill or chance for money or anything of value.

Harassment/Intimidation/Verbal Abuse: Disturbing consistently, by pestering or tormenting in the classroom, on the school bus, or elsewhere on the school site.

Inappropriate Dress: Dressing in a manner that disrupts the teaching and learning of others or in violation of the school's dress code.

Inappropriate Personal Property: Possession of personal property that is prohibited by the school rules, such as food, beverages, and electronic equipment.

In-School Suspension: The student is removed from regular classes for a specified period of time at the local school. Class work assignments are sent to the student by the teachers.

Loitering/Trespassing: Entering any school property or school facility without proper authority (includes student entry during a period of suspension or expulsion).

Long-Term Suspension: The student is suspended out-of-school for more than ten (10) days.

Non-Prescription Drug: Over-the-counter drug not authorized by a registered physician and not prescribed for the student. Student use is prohibited except in accordance with local school policy.

Permanent Expulsion: The student is removed from all public school property and activities or events for an indefinite period of time. This action may be taken by the Board of Education or Student Disciplinary Board. School work may not be made up or credit given.

Plagiarism: To steal from the writing of others

Prescription Drug: Use of a drug (medication) authorized by a registered physician and prescribed for the student. Student or parent should inform the school on the use of medically prescribed drug.

Profanity/Vulgarity: Writings, speech, or gestures that convey an offensive, obscene, or sexually suggestive message.

Robbery: Taking property from a person by force or violence, or threat of aggression.

Sexual Assault/Offenses: Intentional sexual contact of a harmful or offensive manner.

Short-Term Suspension: The student is suspended out of school up to ten (10) days by the local school administrator. The student may be suspended for an accumulation of offenses, as well as a major offense. Suspended students may make up those tests and assignments that the teacher determines will have impact on the student's final grade and mastery of course content. Assignments that the teachers does not require to be made up will not count towards a student's final grade. It is the student's responsibility to arrange to make up work within five (5) school days upon return to school. During the term of suspension, the student is not allowed on the school campus or at any school activity or school-sponsored event.

Tardiness: Failure to be in assigned place at the assigned time without a valid excuse.

Theft/Larceny: Unlawful taking and carrying away of property belonging to another person (while the building is occupied) with the intent to deprive the lawful owner of its use (See Burglary).

Transmission: The passing of any substance, article, or weapon to another person.

Truancy: The student stays out of school without permission or valid excuse.

Vandalism/Graffiti: The willful or malicious destruction or defacement of public or private property.

Waiver of Right to Attend Student Disciplinary Panel: Parents may sign a waiver if they cannot attend or do not elect to attend the panel hearing. In the event a parent or student does not attend the hearing, it will proceed as scheduled.

Weapon: An article or implement that can cause bodily harm. This includes guns, knives, razors, clubs, and nun chahka, or any other object intended to be used to inflict bodily harm, as identified in O.C.G.A. 16-11-127.1

Zero Tolerance: There will be consequences for serious drug, weapon, and youth gang/hate group offenses on school property or at a school activity, function or event. The school system will be proactive. Each individual case will be reviewed.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Students and parents are hereby notified that school officials and the School Resource Officer, SRO, may search a student if there is reasonable suspicion the student is in possession of an item that is illegal or against school rules. Student book bags, motor vehicles, school lockers, desks, and other school property are subject to inspection and search by school administrators at any time without further notice to students and parents. Students are required to cooperate if asked to open book bags or lockers. Metal detectors and drug or weapon sniffing dogs may be utilized at school at any school function, including activities, which occur outside normal school hours or off the school campus at the discretion of administrators.

The Pierce County Board of Education believes that all students can learn better in a safe school environment. Behavior that infringes on the safety of students will not be tolerated. Bullying, as the term is defined in Georgia law, of a student by another student is strictly prohibited. Such prohibition shall be included in the Student Code of Conduct for all schools within the school system.

Bullying is defined as follows: An act that occurs on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities, or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system, that is:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
 - a. Causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1;
 - b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
 - c. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
 - d. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Acts of bullying shall be punished by a range of consequences through the progressive discipline process, as stated in the Code of Conduct. However, upon a finding by the disciplinary officer, panel or tribunal that a student in grades 6-12 has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, the student shall be assigned to an alternative school.

Upon a finding by a school administrator that a student has committed an act of bullying or is a victim of bullying, the administrator or designee shall notify the parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of the student.

Students and parents will be notified of the prohibition against bullying and the penalties for violating the prohibition by posting information at each school and by including such information in the student/parent handbooks.

**ADOPTED:
PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

PIERCE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Part IV: Parent/Student Consent Forms

Student/Parent Handbook Acknowledgement Form

By signing below, we acknowledge that our family has received a copy of the Student/Parent Handbook--Code of Conduct for the Pierce County School System, and we have reviewed this handbook with our child. We acknowledge that we understand the following information presented in this handbook:

Mission Statement	2
Right to Know Professional Qualifications of Teachers & Paraprofessionals	3
Public Notice of Non-Discriminatory Policy.....	4
Public Notice of FERPA	4
Complaints Procedure	5-6
Attendance Policy.....	8
Dress Code.....	10
Checkouts.....	11
Field Trip Policy.....	12
Internet Policy	13-15
Nutrition Program.....	16
Media Center Policies & Procedures.....	17
School Nurse/Medication	17
Video Recording Policy	18
Pierce County Board Policy Parent & Family Engagement	19
Pierce County Middle School Parent & Family Engagement Plan.....	20-32
Program for Gifted & Talented Parent Notification	33
Grades 6-8 Promotion Criteria.....	33
Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports.....	34-35
Discipline Procedures.....	36-44
Search & Seizure	44
Bullying Policy.....	45
Parental Opt-Out of Club Participation Form.....	48
Student Internet Acceptable Use Agreement.....	48
School Dance Policy.....	49
PCMS Technology Responsible Use Guideline	50
Pierce County School District Parent & Family Engagement Plan...Sent in first day of school homeroom packet	

We further acknowledge that if we object to our child participating in any of the following, we must contact the principal in writing within ten (10) days of the student’s enrollment:

- Interviewing, photographing and videotaping of students by staff or the news media to be used for local newspapers and/or school websites
- Your child’s participation in any student club organization (see page 10 for a list of clubs and organizations).

Handbook Acknowledgement Form (parent & student signature)

Parent/Guardian’s Signature _____ Date _____

Student’s Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/ Student Consent Forms/

Parte IV: Padre / Estudiante de formularios de consentimiento

Estudiante / Manual para Padres Formulario de Reconocimiento

Al firmar a continuación, reconocemos que nuestra familia ha recibido una copia del Manual del Estudiante / Padre --- Código de Conducta para el sistema escolar del condado de Pierce, y hemos revisado este manual con nuestro hijo. Reconocemos que entendemos la siguiente información presentada en este manual

Misión de.....	2
Los padres del Derecho a Saber	3
Comunicación Pública de política no discriminatoria	4
Comunicación Pública de FERPA.....	4
Asistencia Política de	5-6
vestido	8
Política de Campo de viaje	12
Política de la de Internet	13-15
Centro de Medios Políticas y Procedimientos	17
Nutrición página del Programa	16
Criterios de Promoción de Grados 6-8	35
Procedimientos Disciplinarios	38-46
Política de Intimidación	47
Escuela de Danza Política de	51
Pierce County Middle School Familias y Padres Plan de Participación	21-33
Programa para la página de Notificación a los padres para Dotados y Talentosos	34
Padres Opt-Out de la página del Club Formulario de Participación	50
Internet de los estudiantes de Uso Aceptable Acuerdo de	52
Pierce County Traiga su propia tecnología de Directrices para el Uso Responsable	52

Reconocemos además que si nos oponemos a nuestro niño que participa en cualquiera de los siguientes, que deben comunicarse con el director por escrito dentro de los diez (10) días de la inscripción del estudiante:

- Entrevistas, fotografías y grabaciones en vídeo de los estudiantes por el personal o los medios de comunicación que se utilizarán para los periódicos locales y / o sitios web de la escuela
- La participación de su hijo en cualquier organización de clubes de estudiantes (véase la página 10 para obtener una lista completa de clubes y organizaciones).

Firma del Padre / Tutor _____

fecha _____

Firma del Estudiante _____

fecha _____

PARENTAL OPT-OUT OF CLUB PARTICIPATION

I hereby acknowledge receipt of information regarding student clubs that are scheduled to be operational at the school during the upcoming school year. I understand that if a club for which information has not been provided is started during the school year then I will be provided the club information at that time and my written permission will be required prior to my student's participation. I wish to withhold permission for my child to participate in the following student clubs (please list):

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Violations of the Internet Safety and Technology Acceptable Use Policies may result in an individual's access privileges being revoked, disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action.

A student and his/her parents or guardian will be responsible for damages and will be liable for costs incurred for service or repair required as result of a willful act of the student in violation of the acceptable use policy and/or other policies of the Pierce County Board of Education applicable to technology use.

Please read this document carefully. When signed by the parent/guardian or student if 18 or older, it becomes a legally binding contract. Parent/guardian or staff member may negate this permission with written notification to the Media Staff.

STUDENT

I have read the Internet Safety and Technology Acceptable Use Policies for school technology and the Internet. I understand that any violation of the above conditions, rules or regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I breach any of these conditions, I understand that I may lose all computer privileges and may be liable to further disciplinary and/or legal action.

Student Name (print)

Student Signature

Date

PARENT OR GUARDIAN

As the parent or guardian of this student who is a minor, I have read and accept the terms and conditions of the Pierce County School System Internet Safety and Technology Acceptable Use Policies. I have also explained the terms and conditions of these policies to the student in my care. I understand that technology resources are designed for educational purposes and that the Pierce County School System has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize that it is impossible to restrict access to all controversial materials and I hereby release the Pierce County School System from any liability for my child's use of the Internet. I hereby give my permission to the Pierce County School System for this student to have access and use of the Internet and further certify that the information on this form is correct.

Parent/Guardian Name (print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Dances at Pierce County Middle School

Attending dances at PCMS is considered a privilege. **Dances are ONLY for the sixth, seventh, and eighth graders at Pierce County Middle School.** Dances are held at various times throughout the school year. Dances will be from 6:00-8:00 P.M. No one may leave the dance early unless he/she is picked up by a parent or guardian.

Dance Rules at PCMS

1. All school rules and policies apply to dances.
2. Students are required to pay their admission fee in order to enter the dance.
3. All students must be picked up immediately following the dance. If you are picked up 15 minutes late, you may not be allowed to attend the next dance.
4. The school dress code will be in effect for all dances. Clothing that is not appropriate for school will not be appropriate for a dance. If students show up at a school dance dressed inappropriately, they will be asked to sit in a supervised area until a parent or guardian can be contacted to pick them up or provide appropriate clothing.
5. Any student who is absent from school on the day of a dance cannot attend the dance unless permission from administration is given.
6. Students who are assigned In School Suspension or bus suspension for an accumulated five days or any Out of School Suspension between dances will NOT be allowed to attend the dance. For example, if a student is assigned OSS during the month of August, then he/she could NOT attend the September dance. However, if no other OSS disciplines are assigned during the year, he/she would be eligible to attend subsequent dances in December or February. No students placed in alternative programs or that are home schooled during the school year will be allowed to attend any school dance.
7. Chaperones at PCMS dances may include: Student Council Advisors, PCMS teachers, PCMS administrators, parents of Student Council members, and PCMS School Council members. PCHS Beta Club students may be used to serve concessions or collect tickets. Parents are always welcome at PCMS dances. Additionally, a member of the Blackshear City Police Department or Pierce County Sheriff's department will be on duty.
8. No food or drinks may be brought into the school dance.
9. All dancing must be in good taste. Improper behavior and/or dancing will necessitate the student being asked to call home and leave the dance. The student council sponsor or administrator will determine what constitutes improper behavior. Inappropriate behavior at a dance may result in removal from future dances.

PCMS dances are an extracurricular activity where all rules and discipline policies will be enforced.

August 6, 2018

Dear Parents,

Many students at Pierce County Middle School enjoy attending school dances. Please read and discuss with your child the Dance Policies at PCMS. Students and parents should sign the bottom portion of this page and leave it in the student's agenda.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Perry Tison, Principal

My child and I have read and accept the rules and policies in the Pierce County Middle School Student Handbook.

Student's Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Pierce County Middle School Technology Responsible Use Guidelines

Using digital devices, school-owned, in the Pierce County School District is a privilege. When I use them according to the Responsible Use Guidelines, I will keep that privilege.

“I will . . . “

- Abide by Pierce County’s Acceptable Use Policy.
- Use digital devices, networks and software in the classroom for educational purposes and activities and use my device for personal reasons only at designated times within the parameters of the acceptable use policy.
- Keep my personal information (including home/mobile phone number, mailing address, and user password) and that of others private.
- Show respect for myself and others when using technology including social media.
- Give acknowledgement to others for their ideas and work.
- Report inappropriate use of technology immediately.

No student at Pierce County Middle School is allowed to use a personally owned electronic device during school hours. If students bring an electronic device to school, this device is to be powered off and in a book bag or pocketbook. This device is not allowed to be on the student’s body. If students chose to bring a device, the student takes full responsibility for the security of this. PCMS will not be held liable or responsible for a stolen, damaged, or misplaced device. The school reserves the right to inspect a student’s personal device if there is reason to believe that the student has violated Board policies, administrative procedures, school rules, or has engaged in other misconduct while using a personal device. Violations involving student’s personally owned device may result in the device being taken, parents being contacted, and/or disciplinary action.

Please read and sign:

I understand and will abide by the above guidelines. I further understand that any violation of the above may result in the loss of network and/or device privileges as well as other disciplinary action. As a parent/guardian, I understand that my child will be responsible for abiding by the above guidelines. I have read and discussed the guidelines with my child and he/she understands the responsibility for using a personal device.

Student Name: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Name: _____ Signature _____ Date _____



Pierce County Schools

Case Management of Head Lice

Teachers and/or designated person (school nurse) routinely check for the presence of lice or nits. Mass screenings are no longer considered necessary.

If identified by a teacher, a student should be sent to school nurse who is trained in identifying lice.

If the infested student has nits, the student will return to class with a letter containing recommendations for treatment.

- In elementary school, a general information letter will be sent home with the remaining students in the classroom by the school nurse.
- In middle and high school, letters will be sent home only with the infested student by the school nurse.

If the infested student has live lice, the student's parent/guardian will be notified by the school nurse.

- The first time a student is documented to have lice, the student does not have to go home immediately. The school nurse will recheck the student in 7-10 days after the initial visit.

If live lice are found during the recheck the parents will be notified again by the school nurse and the nurse will recheck the student again in 7-10 days.

- If live lice are found during the second follow up visit, the parent will be notified and a meeting with the parent/guardian will be required. The child will be sent home for the remainder of the day. The nurse will also make a referral to the local Health Department to assist with treatment options.

The school nurse will recheck student in 7-10 days after the student has been seen at the Health Department.

- If live lice are found during the third follow up visit, the parent will be notified and the student will be sent home. The infested student may not return to school for 2 days giving parents time to focus on treatment.