



Patchogue-Medford School District

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Dear Families:

The Patchogue-Medford School District is committed to promoting safe and healthy learning environments where students are secure in their pursuit of educational success, free from the distracting incidence of violent behaviors by others in their school setting. These acts include bullying, threats of intimidation, disruptive behavior in class, the carrying of weapons, fighting, physical assaults and other behaviors that impede learning.

The Patchogue-Medford School Board has developed a Code of Conduct governing the behavior of students, staff and visitors to the district. This document is summarized and attached for your review.

Sincerely,

Donna Jones, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent of Schools

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Enclosure

(A copy of the Code of Conduct is available on our website: pmschools.org under "parent information")

THE PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD SCHOOLS CODE OF CONDUCT

The code includes:

- Provisions regarding conduct, dress and language deemed appropriate and acceptable on school property including school functions; conduct, dress and language deemed *unacceptable and inappropriate* on school property; and the range of penalties associated with violating these provisions.
- Standards regarding acceptable, civil, and respectful treatment of teachers, school administrators, other school personnel, students, and visitors on school property, including the range of penalties associated with violating these provisions.
- Provisions defining the roles of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, boards of education and parents.
- Standards and procedures to assure security and safety of students and school personnel.
- Provisions for removals from the classroom and from school property, including school functions, of students and other persons who violate provisions of the code.
- Disciplinary measures to be taken in incidents involving the possession or use of illegal substances or weapons, physical force, vandalism, violation of the civil rights of others, and the threats of violence.
- Provisions for detention, suspension, and removal of students, which are consistent with federal, state, and local laws, including provisions for school authorities to establish policies and procedures to ensure the maintenance of educational programming and activities for students removed from the classroom or suspended from school.
- Procedures by which violations are to be reported, determined, and by which discipline measures are imposed and carried out.
- Provisions ensuring that the codes, and the enforcement thereof, are in compliance with state and federal laws relating to students with disabilities.
- Provisions setting forth the procedures by which local law enforcement agencies will be notified of code violations that constitute a crime.
- Provisions setting forth the circumstances under, and procedures by which, parents will be notified if their child violates the code.
- Provisions setting forth the circumstances under, and procedures by which, criminal court complaints, juvenile delinquency petitions or person in need of supervision petitions will be filed.
- Circumstances under the procedures by which referral to appropriate human service agencies shall be made.
- Procedures by which minimum suspension periods will be set for students who are substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interfere with the teacher's authority over the classroom, provided that the suspending authority may reduce such period on a case by case basis to be consistent with any other state or federal law or regulation.
- Provisions for minimum suspension periods for acts that would qualify the pupil to be defined as a violent pupil, provided that the suspending authority may reduce such period on a case by case basis to be consistent with any other state or federal law or regulation.

NOTE: Any person wishing to examine the complete document may do so by formal application to the school or district office.