

STUDENT DISCIPLINE AND EXPECTATIONS

Discipline Policy

For any school to maintain an atmosphere that is conducive to learning there must first be an environment that is free from distractions, disruptions, and unsafe conditions. For those students who choose to disobey the rules, in the classroom, on a school bus, on a field trip or any Henrico sponsored event, consequences will result. Consequences are administered on a case-by-case basis. There is not a progressive system such as first the student receives a warning, then a detention, then in-school suspension, etc. as listed in the *HCPS Student Code of Conduct*. **The severity and circumstances surrounding each incident will dictate the level of disciplinary response.** A first time offense, depending on the disruption to the learning environment and severity of the incident, could result in a warning up to a recommendation for expulsion from Henrico County Public Schools. You should read and follow the *HCPS Student Code of Conduct*. and rules that are specific to Pocahontas Middle School.

Pathways Program (In-School Suspension) is the program provided for students who have exhibited misconduct in the regular classroom and an alternative instructional setting is needed on a short-term basis. All class assignments will be completed with Mrs. Jones, Pathways coordinator.

Administrative Detention is held on Mondays from 3:20-4:05 p.m. and Wednesdays from 7:15 - 8:00 a.m.

Time-Out is a brief intervention used for students to redirect their attention to learning. Teachers may send students for a Time Out, located in our Pathways room, for the remainder of the class period. Teachers will contact parents if a student is sent to Time Out during their class period.

Parents and students are requested to read, review, and become familiar with the *HCPS Student Code of Conduct*. . The items listed below are highlighted from that document; however, all rules from that document apply.

DISRESPECT and DISOBEDIENCE

- First Offense: Teacher will refer to the appropriate administrator and call parents. Student will be assigned to Pathways and/or suspended.
- Second Offense: minimum of 2 days out-of-school suspension

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Distribution: Recommendation for Expulsion,
Referral to Disciplinary Review Hearing Officer
Referral to School Resource Officer for legal Action

Possession: First Offense: minimum of 10 days out-of-school suspension
30 school-day exclusion from extracurricular activities
Completion of HCPS Awareness and Intervention Program
Referral to School Resource Officer for possible legal action.

Second Offense: Recommendation for Expulsion,
Referral to Disciplinary Review Hearing Officer
Referral to School Resource Officer for legal action

TEASING/BULLYING/HARRASSING

HCPS defines bullying as:

A person is bullied when he or she is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons, and he or she has difficulty defending himself or herself

- First Offense: Minimum of 3 days in Pathways up to a maximum of 3 days out-of-school suspension
- Second Offense: 5 days out-of-school suspension.

FIGHTING

(As defined by the Code of Student Conduct)

- First Offense: 3 or more days out-of-school suspension depending on severity.
- Second Offense: 5 days out-of-school suspension.
- Third Offense: 10 days out-of-school suspension

INTEGRITY VIOLATIONS

Pocahontas Middle School students pledge that all personal work represents their own effort and creation.

Cheating includes the actual giving, receiving, or use of any unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving of unfair advantage on any form of academic work. **Plagiarism** includes using or copying the language, structure, idea, and/or thought of another and representing it as one's own original work.

- First Offense: no credit for assignment, teacher will contact parent
- Second Offense: no credit for assignment, one day in Pathways

Falsification includes, but is not limited to verbal, written or electronic transmission (i.e., e-mails, images), including the production or use of forgery, or counterfeiting.

- First Offense: 1 day Pathways
- Second Offense: 2 days Pathways

Stealing includes acquiring another's possessions without right or permission. The possession of stolen property is considered theft.

- First Offense: restitution, 1 day out-of-school suspension

- Second Offense: restitution, minimum of 1 day out-of-school suspension, referral to School Resource Officer

TECHNOLOGY

Laptop Vandalism: Minimum of 5 days out-of-school suspension to a maximum of 10 days out-of school suspension

Restitution

Referral to School Resource Officer for possible legal action

Gaming on site:

- First Offense: 1 day of in-school suspension
- Second Offense: 2 days of in-school suspension
- Third Offense: 2 days of out-of-school suspension

Pornography:

First Offense: 5 days of out-of-school suspension, computer scrubbed

Second Offense: 10 days of out-of-school suspension, computer scrubbed

VANDALISM

Penalties for vandalism will be determined by the extent of the damage. Discipline may range from a Pathways assignment to recommendation for expulsion. Students will be required to make restitution for damages. Acts of vandalism will be referred to the School Resource Officer. The School Resource Officer may recommend and issue criminal charges, as appropriate.

Code of Student Expectations

Pocahontas Middle School students demonstrate a high level of achievement and success. In order to maintain this level of performance the following minimum standards are expected from all students.

All students shall:

- Attend class daily; arrive on time; and, be prepared with completed homework, projects, and supplies.
- Show care and respect for peers, teachers, and all staff.
- Show respect for each other's personal space and property.
- Agree that all work shall be original and represent their own efforts and creation.
- Possess only those items that belong specifically to that student.
- Dress in a manner that conforms to the school's Dress Code. Such dress shall reflect a positive image on the learning and work environment of Pocahontas Middle School.

- Participate in activities that do not threaten or compromise the safety of the individual student, other classmates, or any member of the Pocahontas community.
- Use the computer and associated technologies to enhance appropriate and approved learning opportunities.
- Avoid all attempts of vandalism directed at school, community, or personal property.

Be guided by the highest code of personal conduct as outlined in the Henrico County Public Schools' **Code of Student Conduct**, Pocahontas Middle School's **Code of Student Expectations**, and expectations as defined by individual teachers and staff.