



Peggy Heller Elementary School

Parent/Student Handbook 2019-2020

*Lyndsay Olds,
Principal*

*Sonja Hunter, Asst.
Principal*

**201
Lake
View
Drive
Atwater,
CA
95301**

(209) 357-6517

Our Mission

Peggy Heller School promotes a safe, academically challenging atmosphere through **S**mart choices, **O**rganization, **A**ttitude, **R**espect and **R**esponsibility (**S.O.A.R.**)
Every Student, Every Classroom, Every Day!

7th-8th

School Hours

GRADES

START TIME

DISMISSAL TIME

TK – 6th

7:55 am a.m.

2:25 p.m.

The **OFFICE** will be open every day from 7:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. Breakfast is served from 7:10-7:40 am.
Students not eating breakfast or riding a bus should not come on campus until 7:30 am.

Parent Volunteer Program

GENERAL INFORMATION

A child's educational success is best assured when the school and the home are involved as a partnership. We encourage parent volunteers to take an active part in the classroom, the library, and other school activities. Parents possess many skills that are very useful in the classroom. If you have a skill or would just like to volunteer your time and services to help in a classroom, the office, or library, please contact the school office or your child's teacher. **All volunteers must provide evidence of a current TB test showing a negative reading and be fingerprinted before being allowed to work with children in a school setting. Parents may have a ONE TIME VOLUNTEER CLEARANCE per year. This must be done in the office prior to the fieldtrip or volunteering experience. All visitors and volunteers must register in the office and get a visitor's pass.**

School Breakfast and Lunch Program

We are pleased to inform you that Atwater Elementary School District has implemented a new provision that is available to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Programs called the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).

What does this mean for you and your child(ren)?

All enrolled students for the 2019-2020 school year in Atwater Elementary School District, regardless of income level, are eligible to receive a healthy school breakfast and lunch at no charge each day. No further action is required of you. Your child(ren) will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit a meal application.

The CEP is a new alternative to the traditional meal application process associated with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs.

Students attending intermediate school (Bellevue Senior, Mitchell Senior and Peggy Heller Senior) have the opportunity to purchase a variety of snacks and beverages that are in compliance with the "Smart Snacks Sold in Schools" regulation. Please note that snack items, beverages and extra items that aren't part of the breakfast/lunch meal must be purchased. Students have the option of paying for snacks as they come through the serving line or paying in advance by depositing money into their meal. All students are issued a pin number and will be required to enter this number when they receive a meal or purchase snacks. Parents whose students have a medical or dietary condition that requires a special diet must contact the school nurse so that accommodations can be made.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027), found online at <https://www.ascr.usda.gov/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer> and at any USDA office, or write to the USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Cafeteria Procedures

Students are to enter the cafeteria, get their lunch tray and sit where directed by the cafeteria supervisors. Students are not to shout or use excessively loud voices. Food is not to be thrown. Students will be required to clean up around them before they are dismissed. Students are to remain on school grounds

during lunch unless a parent comes to the school office and signs the student out. Carbonated drinks and gum are **not** allowed. Only appropriate single size portions will be permitted in student sack lunches. Nutritional guidelines are still expected to be followed. A few items that are discouraged are Hot Cheetos, sodas, and candy. Sharing of snacks with peers is not hygienically acceptable. **Parents are always welcome to enjoy lunch with their child; however, when providing lunch, it may only be for yourself and your child. Special seating will be provided for you and your child only. Parents are not permitted on the playground.**

Parking Lot & Student Pick Up/Drop Off

*Please take note of signs posted for drop off areas. Front Parking lot by office is not open for drop off. When dropping and picking up students please use the driveway at the far end of the campus. We are instructing students to wait on the sidewalk and not run into the parking lot. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR** unless you are parked in a marked parking space. Stopping to pick up or drop off students is not permitted on Lake View Drive. **No parking is allowed on Lake View Drive.***

TK/Kindergarten Pick Up:

All students in TK/Kindergarten will be released via the black gate next to the office. Adults picking up TK/Kindergarten students at dismissal time will need to present their Kindergarten Pick-Up pass to the staff. If pass is not presented, adults will be asked to wait at the end of the line and show their ID so that staff can verify that the individual is in fact on the emergency card. Older brother and sisters that pick up their kinder siblings may use the Pick-Up pass as well. We ask for your patience with this procedure as it will help us to maximize safety of our smallest Hawks!

Release of Students

It is important for your child to be at school at all times, therefore we discourage parents from removing their children from school unless it is an emergency or your child needs medical treatment. Please make appointments after school hours. If you must pick up your child prior to dismissal time, you may send a note to your child's teacher in advance, but your child cannot be released from school until you come to the office and sign the release book. Children will not be released from school by a phone message. Parents must come in person to the school and sign a child out of school. (Please present identification if asked to do so by office personnel. This is for your child's safety.) **No one may pick up your child unless you have provided their name on your child's emergency card.**

Release of Students cont.

Students are to leave school at dismissal time unless they attend an extended day program. If you wish to pick up your child after dismissal, please do so promptly as there is no supervision provided. All students in grades 1st - 6th will be released via the fence gate next to the cafeteria. Seventh Graders will be routed to the gate located next to the Pick Up/Bus Lane. **All parents/visitors must check in at the office. Excessive pull out of students from the school day will result in the loss of instructional minutes. This loss of time will be documented and referred to SARB if deemed necessary. If there are special circumstances regarding the release of your child (custody restrictions, etc.), please make the office aware.**

Classroom Interruptions

Class instruction is a protected time here at Peggy Heller. We work hard to keep all classroom interruptions to a minimum so that student learning is at a maximum. Please help us by making sure your children are at school on time, equipped with everything they need for the day, and are familiar with transportation arrangements once school is released. We will not call the classroom to deliver messages for students.

PLEASE--NO TELEPHONE MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS UNLESS IT IS AN EMERGENCY. We cannot take phone messages for a child to go to a friend's house or anything which differs from what we know is his/her usual approved routine. **A note signed and dated by you, the parent, must be written to your child's teacher requesting a change in procedure.** We must also be informed by note if a different individual will come for your child after dismissal. At times we have no way of knowing who might be calling to give such messages to children.

School telephones are needed to conduct school business. Students will be permitted to use the office

telephone only with the teacher permission should an emergency arise. **Make sure that your child knows before leaving for school in the morning, what he/she is to do after school.**

Personal Articles

Students are responsible for their own clothing, money, and other personal articles. The school urges parents to mark all clothing and personal articles of value so that they may be easily identified and returned when lost and found. Backpacks and purses are not allowed on the playground. Found articles will be donated to Goodwill at the end of each trimester, so please be punctual to check for misplaced items.

Cell Phones

Students may have cell phones/cell phone watches at school with the following restrictions: they must be turned off during the school day, they must be kept in a backpack or purse, and they must only be used after school **outside the gate only**. Confiscated cell phones/cell phone watches must be picked up by a **parent/guardian** in the office.

Lost or Damaged Books, Equipment or Property

Parents are financially responsible for any books, equipment, or property that is checked out by their child and lost or damaged. When debts are not paid in a punctual manner, measures may be taken until payment is made.

Emergency Care

Every child must have their emergency contacts **up-to-date** with the school office. When a child becomes ill or is injured at school, a parent is contacted and arrangements are made for further care. It is **extremely important** that the emergency contacts be kept up to date in case the school is unable to reach the parent. Please also ensure that the office has the most **up-to-date** list of names of people that have permission to pick up your child. **Students may only be released to individuals listed in our AERIES system.**

Illness

Our district strives to provide a healthy and safe environment for our students. Some illnesses and situations require a child to be absent from school in order to prevent the spread of infection to other children and to allow the child to recuperate. ***Children with the following symptoms or illness should be kept home from school:*** ***Fever:*** Temperature 100.0 or above. May return when fever-free (below 100.0) for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications. ***Vomiting:*** Unless determined to be caused by a non-contagious condition. ***Diarrhea:*** Frequent loose stools not caused by food or medication. ***Illness:*** Unable to participate in routine activities or needs more care than can be provided by school staff. Examples would be the child has uncontrolled coughing, difficulty breathing or other unusual signs for the child.

Medication

In accordance with State law, students required to take prescription or over the counter medication during school hours must have a written statement from their physician and parents before the medication can be administered. **Absolutely no medication will be given at school without this signed statement.** Forms for this purpose can be picked up in the school office and are also available on the AESD website. All medication will be kept locked in the school office. However, with specific physician and parent permission, inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors may be carried and self-administered.

Physical Education Excuse

At all age levels, physical education is an important part of our curriculum. If a student cannot participate for medical reasons, a written request from the parent must be given to the teacher. The parent's request will be allowed for as many as **three consecutive days**. A written request from a doctor filed with the school nurse is required for PE excuses over three consecutive days.

Toys and Sports Equipment

Physical Education and playground equipment is provided by the school. **Please do not allow your child to bring toys, balls, electronic devices, or other distracting or dangerous materials to school.** Such items interfere with the educational process and will be confiscated by the school staff.

Bicycles/Skateboards

Students who ride a bicycle/skateboard/scooter to school must park them properly in the appropriate rack. A lock must be used during the time that the bicycle/skateboard/scooter is parked. The city code requires that bicycles be licensed and all riders must wear helmets. For safety reasons, students must walk equipment off school grounds.

Foggy Day Schedule

Foggy day schedules may occur throughout the year. During days of heavy fog, you may check the district website www.aesd.edu or the local radio station, KYOS-1480 AM, will announce schedules for the Atwater Elementary School District. **Foggy day schedules are for bus students only.** Other students should arrive at the usual time.

AERIES Parent Portal (7th/8th Grade)

Parents can and are encouraged to check their student's grades regularly through the on-line Aeries Parent Portal. Log-in information, user name, and password information is sent home at the beginning of the school year. Students will also be given access to their account.

Report Cards and Progress Reports (7th/8th Grade)

The school year is divided into four quarters. Students will receive four report cards during the school year. Progress Reports are sent home to parents at the midpoint of each quarter.

Mental Health Supports

Protecting the health and well-being of all students is very important at Peggy Heller School. All students will learn about recognizing and responding to warning signs of suicide in friends, using coping skills, using support systems, and seeking help for themselves and friends. If you or a friend are showing signs of depression and suicide risk, please remember to ACT:

- **Acknowledge**-that you are seeing signs of depression or suicide in yourself or a friend and that it is serious
- **Care**- Let your friend know how much you care about them and that you are concerned that they need help
- **Tell**- a trusted adult that you are worried about yourself or a friend

All students will be expected to help create a school culture of respect and support in which students feel comfortable seeking help for themselves or friends. Students are encouraged to tell any staff member if they, or a friend, are feeling suicidal or in need of help. You can also get help at:

National & County Resources	
National Suicide Prevention Hotline	1-800-273-8255
Crisis Text Line	Text HOME to 741741 in the United States
Merced County Mental Health Services	(209) 381-6879
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)	(209) 381-6844
Nine-Line Crisis Counseling (24-Hour) Nationwide Crisis/Suicide Hotline for Runaways, Homeless Youth, and their Families, Short-Term Phone Counseling	(800) 999-9999
Peer to Peer Crisis Teen Line	(800) 852-8336
Sierra Vista Child & Family Services	(209) 205-1058
Marie Green Inpatient Psychiatric Center	(209) 381-6879

ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION

To be eligible to take part in the graduation ceremony and activities, 8th grade students must:

- Maintain a cumulative 2.0 overall grade point average (GPA) during their 7th and 8th grade years. Students with special needs will be evaluated individually through the school's Section 504 or IEP processes.
- Attend at least 90% of the school days in session during the student's enrollment in school. Home/Hospital participation or an Independent Study Program (5-15 days) shall constitute attendance.
- Have no more than (2) home suspensions for the year.
- Not be suspended (in-school or home) during the last 20 school days. (*On or before May 10, 2019*).
- Clear all obligations (i.e. textbook return, library fines, and cafeteria payments)

***The teachers and school administration will ensure that parents and students understand these requirements.**

****Students enrolled in Atwater Senior Academy (ASA) during the 4th quarter do not qualify for participation in graduation activities.**

Athletics

Forms required for participation in athletics: Physical Form, Concussion Form Agreement

Participation in Athletics or school sponsored events is a privilege and students must work to maintain high academic standards, attendance, and behavior. Students are expected to represent Peggy Heller in a positive light and conduct themselves properly and display good sportsmanship. **Athletics or school based activities are a privilege and the final decision regarding eligibility rests with the school administration.**

Eligibility Requirements to participate in Athletic or School Sponsored Activities are as follows:

- Students in 6th grade invited to play, must meet homework and classroom expectations per teacher approval.
- Students in 7th-8th grade, must have a 2.00 GPA or better on their last progress report or report card period.
- Students may not have more than one "F" on their last report card
- Students are not eligible to "try-out" for, or participate in, team activities for ten (10) school days following a one (1) day home suspension, or twenty (20) school days following a two (2) or more day home suspension. The "temporary suspension" from team activities begins the first day of the suspension.

Dances

Eligibility to attend a Peggy Heller school dance is based upon the following criteria:

- Not on the school ineligibility list for academics/attendance
- No in-house or home suspensions within the grading period prior to the dance
- No classroom suspension the day of the dance
- No outstanding obligations.

**No refunds will be made for purchased tickets if students lose their eligibility.*

Attendance

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS VERY IMPORTANT. Excessive absence and tardiness affects school work. Attendance will be reviewed on a regular basis. **Irregular school attendance or excessive tardies will be reported to our local School Attendance Review Board.** The School Attendance Review Board will be notified when a student has reached 15 or more absences. Parent and student will be asked to attend a conference with the principal and members of the review board. If the attendance problem cannot be resolved, a student who has been classified as a truant may be referred to the district attorney or probation officer for truancy mediation.

Absence Verification

The State Code requires that teachers verify each and every pupil's absence from school. Please call the school if your child is or will be absent. This will help school personnel determine if a child is out of school without parental knowledge. If you are not able to call the school, please send a written note with the returning child explaining the reason for the absence. If the child is ill, please state the nature of the illness, such as fever, cold, upset stomach, etc. (Do not merely indicate "sick" or "ill.") Please notify the school office if your child will be absent for five or more days. After twenty consecutive days of unknown absence, the student will be dropped (unenrolled).

EXCUSED ABSENCES: The following are excused absences according to the State Code:

1. Lice, Religious, Funeral, Graduation, Military Deployment/Graduation
2. Medical, Dental, Optometrist or Chiropractic appointment

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES: The following are unexcused absences:

1. Absence not cleared by a doctor's note, parent phone call, or message from Parent Square.
2. Family Vacation that has not been pre-approved
3. Out of Town/State/Country

Students who have unexcused absences may be denied the privilege of making up the school work. Excessive absences and tardiness affects the education of our students.

TARDIES

Tardiness to class is harmful to the individual student and disrupting to the classroom environment. Lost learning time and the disruption to classroom instruction is a great concern. We understand that emergencies may occur (such as a car breaking down, etc.). If this occurs, a parent may write a note explaining the emergency. Three parent notes will be accepted during the year.

If a student is more than 30 minutes tardy, they are considered truant. Parent signature will be required if a student is arriving 30 minutes or more tardy. Habitual truanancies and absences may be referred to the district School Attendance Review Board.

EARLY CHECK OUT

Students will not be pulled from class 20 minutes prior to the dismissal bell. Please make arrangements accordingly. Students pulled out of school early will have those missed minutes calculated and tallied, this time will be considered lost instructional time and could result in a SARB referral.

Please note the following AESD policy:

ATWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY: Parents/guardians of children aged six to eighteen are obligated to send their children to school unless otherwise provided by law. The Atwater Elementary School Board believes that regular attendance plays a key role in the success a student achieves in school. The Board recognizes its responsibility under the law to ensure that students attend school regularly.

The Board will abide by all state attendance laws and may use any legal means to correct the problems of excessive absence or truancy. (Ed. Code 48260.6, 48263)

	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
26a. Attendance - Truant {E.C. 48260}			
Absent from school without a valid excuse.	●		
26b. Attendance -Repeat Truant {E.C. 48260}			
Absent from school more than one day without a valid excuse.	●		
26c. Attendance -Habitual Truant {E.C. 48262}			
	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion

Any student truant three or more times per school year. Students who are habitually truant may be referred to the School attendance Review Board.

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Atwater Elementary School Dress Code

Appropriate dress and good grooming contribute to a positive atmosphere and promote student safety. The District, in accordance with California Education Code, Section 48907, and with the best interest of our students, school and community in mind, adopted the following school dress code. This dress code applies to all school related activities. We appreciate your support and adherence to these guidelines.

- ❖ Hats are permitted, but must be appropriate – No offensive or questionable materials or images. Hats may not be altered in any way. Hats must be worn in a forward position and taken off when indoors. Hoods of sweatshirts may not be worn indoors. No stocking-type caps are allowed.
- ❖ Pants/Shorts will be worn at the waist level without the need to use a belt. All belts must be worn through the loops.
- ❖ Backless, strapless, low-cut necklines or armholes, bare midriff tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops, and tube tops are considered inappropriate for school and shall not be worn. Straps must be at least one inch wide, and only one strap may be visible.
- ❖ Garments that show under clothing or expose the mid-section are a distraction and may not be worn at school.
- ❖ Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be at least “finger-tip length” to be worn at school.
- ❖ Footwear must be worn at all times. Steel-toed shoes, Cleats, or shoes with wheels shall not be worn at school. Students must have appropriate footwear for P.E.
- ❖ Pajama tops, bottoms, and/or slippers will not be allowed unless it's a school spirit day.
- ❖ Clothing, accessories, or jewelry with inappropriate language, pictures, inferences, or symbols which tend to mock, ridicule, provoke, demean or display words or pictures associated with alcohol, tobacco, profanity, sexually suggestive, or drugs cannot be worn at school.
- ❖ Sunglasses may be worn on campus. They must be removed when indoors.
- ❖ Accessories that may cause injury such as, but not limited to oversized or spiked jewelry, studded collars, safety pins, chains or long belts will not be allowed.
- ❖ Hairspray/gel, makeup, and cologne/perfume may not be brought to school. Only non-aerosol deodorant may be kept in the PE lockers. No face paint may be worn.
- ❖ Congregation of students wearing like colors may be perceived as gang affiliated behavior resulting in the request to discontinue the offensive behavior and/or duties.
- ❖ Professional sport team and College/University apparel is only allowed on Dress Up days and at the school sites that encourage ‘College Wednesday’s’ thru the AVID program.
- ❖ Legging pants may be worn by students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade but are prohibited for the intermediate students (4th-6th), except under dresses, skirts, or shorts.
- ❖ Artificial hair coloring is only allowed on Dress Up days.
- ❖ Students are required to wear closed-toe shoes appropriate for recess and free time activities.

The final school-level decisions as to the suitability of dress and grooming rest with the administration. Classroom distractions resulting from dress code violations will not be tolerated. Our students are expected to dress for success every day.

School Gang-Related Guidelines

Our District cooperates with law enforcement in all anti-gang activities and anti-gang related “copy-cat” behaviors. Look-alike gang behavior is prohibited at school. For the safety of our students, it is very important that parents do not purchase or allow students to wear any item that might be perceived as the showing of “colors”. This is clearly a campus safety issue, especially important as students move to and from school and in and out of the neighborhoods.

Any dress, grooming or appearance which disrupts or tends to disrupt the educational process or affect the health or safety of individuals will be prohibited (EC 48900, EC35183, EC 35294.1). Any attire/paraphernalia/symbol that signifies gang affiliation will not be allowed on campus. Any attire/paraphernalia/symbol that displays a logo or other message promoting alcohol or controlled substances, promoting violence, illegal activity or relating to gangs may not be worn on campus.

Some items which are specifically prohibited include, but are not limited to:

1. Gang writing, monikers, graffiti, symbols or tagging on school or personal property
2. Webbed belts of any color or suspenders hanging down or dragging
3. Monogram or lettered belt buckles (S, N, M, R, B, X, 13, 14, etc.)
4. Red or blue shoe laces
5. Multiple items of red or blue

Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports

Please see our website for more information regarding PBIS at Peggy Heller

What is PBIS?

Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) is a program supported by the Atwater Elementary School District to promote and maximize academic and social behavioral outcomes for students. PBIS is a framework created to unify the campus in its message of clear behavioral expectations, promoting and valuing positive behavior, and strategic behavioral interventions needed to support social behaviors. Our staff has put in many hours of preparation to expand our good teaching to supporting positive behavioral expectations school wide. Expectations will be explicitly taught and students will be rewarded frequently for following through with great behavior! As a school, we will be learning how to behave in all our key areas on campus: the classroom, the cafeteria, the playground, and the restrooms. PBIS has helped us to provide a common language that will be honored by everyone on campus. It is our hope that by giving students a chance to learn, practice, and value positive social behaviors, our school culture will continue to grow and develop.

Rewards and Consequences

Students that are following the school wide and classroom behavioral expectations will be acknowledged for their excellent choices through rewards throughout the year. Students will be rewarded on a daily, weekly, monthly, and "trimester" basis (elementary) and "quarterly" basis (Jr. High). A big focus of the PBIS system is to highlight the positive as often as possible. When we have students that struggle with the expectations, they will begin a process of behavioral intervention, starting with re-teaching behaviors and opportunities to make changes. If behaviors continue, staff and administration will work through appropriate consequences that will again help to refocus the student and get them back on track toward positive behavioral expectations. Behaviors are viewed as Major and Minor behaviors and consequences will be used in a fair, appropriate manner in conjunction with expectations from the AESD Student Conduct Handbook and California Educational Code.

Major vs. Minor Behaviors

Minor Behaviors are those that are minor in nature and often are handled at the staff or teacher level. Major behaviors are those that are sent directly to the attention of the administration. Continued infractions at the Minor Level (3 or more) can also be elevated to a major behavior for administration to intervene.

Respect and Civility

We believe everyone - students and District employees - deserves to be treated with respect. There is a great deal of diversity in the families we serve and we believe that our diversity is a strength. We strive to ensure everyone feels welcome in our schools. The school District will not tolerate behavior by students, staff or visitors that insults, degrades or stereotypes any race, gender, disability, physical characteristic, ethnic group, sexual preference, age, national origin or religion. Any person who comes onto a school campus or other school facility and there is reasonable cause to believe that their conduct has willfully disrupted the orderly operation of such campus/facility is subject to having their permission to remain withdrawn by the chief administrator and/or may be subject to arrest [Penal Code 626.4, 626.8]

School Attendance Review Board (SARB)

SARB reviews student attendance and disruptive behavior. Students may be referred to SARB for habitual truancy or irregular attendance. SARB may involve the District Attorney, County Probation Department and County Health and Human Services in a student's case.

School Rules

You have a right to review school rules regarding student discipline. If you wish to do so, please contact the school office. [E.C. 35291, 48980]

Search and Seizure Policy

The Search and Seizure Policy governs the District's authority to search individual students and their property and the student's responsibility to submit to searches. Under Board Policy 5145.12, school officials may conduct a search when

there is a reasonable suspicion the search will uncover evidence that the student is violating the law or the rules of the school or district.

General inspections of school properties, such as lockers and desks, may be conducted on a regular, announced basis. Any items in a locker shall be considered the property of the student to whom the locker was assigned



EDUCATION CODES RELATED TO DISCIPLINE & REQUIRED OR POTENTIAL

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Mandatory Expulsion {E.C. 48915(c)}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
(l) Possession, selling or otherwise furnishing a firearm. However, possession of an imitation firearm, as defined in Education Code 48900(m), shall not be regarded as an offense requiring a mandatory recommendation for expulsion and mandatory expulsion.			•
(1) Brandishing a knife.			•
(2) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.			•
(3) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or battery.			•
(4) Possession of an explosive			•
2. Mandatory Recommendation for Expulsion {E.C. 48915(a)(1)} Unless the Superintendent, Superintendent's designee, principal or principal's designee determines that expulsion should not be recommended under the circumstances or that an alternative means of correction would address the conduct.	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
(l) Causing serious physical injury to another person except in self-defense.			•
(2) Possession of any knife or other dangerous object of an reasonable use to the pupil.			•
(3) Unlawful possession of any drug except for (1) the first offense of possession of not more than one ounce of marijuana, or (2) for the student's possession of over-the-counter medication for his/her use of other medication prescribed for him/her by a physician.			•
(3) Robbery or extortion.			•
3. Acts of Violence {E.C. 48900(a)}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
(l) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.	•	•	•
(2) Willfully used force or violence upon another person.		•	•
4. Weapons and Dangerous Objects {E.C. 48900(b)}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
(l) Possession, sale, or furnishing of weapons (knife, gun, sharp object, club, or an object that could inflict injury) or explosive.		•	•
(2) Explosives, use or possession.		•	•
5. Drugs and Alcohol {E.C. 48900(c)}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion

(I) Possession, use, sale, or furnishing, or otherwise being under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or an intoxicant.		•	•
6. Sale of "Look-alike" Controlled Substance or Alcohol {E.C. 48900(d)}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Offering, arranging, or negotiating to sell drugs, alcohol or any intoxicant and then substituting a look-alike substance intended to represent drugs, alcohol, or an intoxicant.		•	•
7. Robbery or Extortion {E.C. 48900(e)}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.			•
8. Damage to Property {E.C. 48900(t)}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Caused, or attempted to cause damage to school or private property	•	•	•
9. Theft or Stealing {E.C. 48900(g)}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Stealing, or attempting to steal school or private property.	•	•	•
10. Tobacco {E.C. 48900(h)}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Possessed or used tobacco or nicotine products.	•	•	•

11. Profanity, Obscene Acts, Vulgarity (E.C. 48900(i))	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
(1) Directed at peers.	•	•	•
(2) Directed at school personnel		•	•
12. Drug Paraphernalia (E.C. 489000)	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Possessed, offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia.		•	•
13. Willful Defiance or Disruption of School Activities (E.C. 48900(k))	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
(1) Disrupting school activities.	•	•	•
(2) Refusing to follow the valid authority of school personnel, including supervisors, teachers, school officials or other school staff performing their duties.	•	•	•
(3) Failure to follow school rules.	•	•	•
(4) Failure to follow directive or instruction of staff or teachers	•	•	•
(5) Failure to follow conduct code for school bus passengers.	•	•	•
14. Possession of Stolen Property {E.C. 48900(1)}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.	•	•	•
15. Imitation Firearm {E.C. 48900(m)}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Possession of an imitation firearm that is substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude the replica is a firearm.		•	•
16. Sexual Assault or Sexual Batter {E.C. 48900(n)}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault or battery.			•
17. Harassment of a Student Witness {E.C. 48900(0)}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Harassed, threatened, or intimidate a pupil who is a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of intimidation or retaliation.	•	•	•
18. Prescription Drug Soma (E.C. 48900(p))	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.	•	•	•
19. Hazing {E.C. 48900(q)}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Engaged or attempted to engage in hazing.	•	•	•
20. Bullying and bullying by Electronic Act {E.C. 48900(r)}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act, directed specifically toward a pupil.	•	•	•
21 Aided or Abetted to Inflict Physical Injury {E.C. 48900(t)}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Aided or abetted in the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another student.	•	•	•
22. Sexual harassment {E.C. 48900.2}	Alternative to suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Prohibited sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Applies to grades 4-12.	•	•	•
23. Acts of Hate Violence {E.C. 48900.3}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension	Expulsion
Students in grades 4-12 may be suspended or recommended for expulsion for causing, threatening, or attempting to cause, or participating in an act of hate violence defined as willfully interfering with or threatening another person's person or property rights because of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation. Speech that threatens violence, when the perpetrator has the apparent ability to carry out the threat, may be considered an act of hate violence.	•	•	•
24. Other Harassment {E.C. 48900.4}	Alternative Suspension to Suspension		Expulsion

Students in grades 4-12 may be suspended or recommended for expulsion for intentionally engaging in harassment, threats, or intimidation against a student or group of students when the harassment is severe and pervasive and disrupts classes or created disorder or an intimidating or hostile educational environment.		
	• •	•
25. Terrorist Threats {E.C. 48900.7}	Alternative to Suspension	Suspension
Making terrorist threats against school officials and/or property.	•	•