

Code of Student Conduct Behavioral Contract

Prince George's County Public Schools has adopted the Code of Student Conduct to ensure that schools maintain a safe and orderly environment in which all students can learn. The principal must make a **mandatory request for expulsion** for any student who commits any of the misbehaviors listed below.

- ◆ **Acts of Gross Misconduct at Other Schools:** Any Level III or IV misconduct, as well as other serious misconduct, which occurs at a school other than the school in which the student perpetrator is currently enrolled.
- ◆ **Arson:** The willful and malicious burning of or attempt to burn any part of any building or property located within or upon public school-owned premises or property.
- ◆ **Assault:** Physically pushing, hitting, or otherwise attacking another student, staff member, or other person lawfully on school property which results in serious injury to the victim.
- ◆ **Biohazard:** Manufacture, purchase, possession, sale, distribution, use or threat of use of any infectious agents or hazardous biological materials that present a risk or potential risk to the health of humans or school environment.
- ◆ **Bomb Threat:** The real or intentionally false claim that an explosive device is located on school property or at a school function.
- ◆ **False Alarms:** Activating a fire alarm or initiating a report warning of a fire or an impending bombing or other catastrophe without cause.
- ◆ **Group Fight:** A group fight shall mean any physical attack, threat thereof, or actual fighting by two or more students against one or more other students who are not at the time of such physical attack, threat thereof, or actual fighting members of the same group. **For participants in a group fight that has been planned, results in serious bodily injury, and/or causes significant disruption of the school day, the principal shall request an expulsion.**
- ◆ **Physical Attack on any Prince George's County Public Schools Employee:** The act of assaulting, or an attempt to assault, any administrator, teacher, or other staff member, either on school property, including Board of Education owned vehicles, or while in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored and supervised activity.
- ◆ **Possession, Use, or Distribution of Alcohol, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs, Controlled Dangerous Substances, Imitation Controlled Substances, Inhalants, Other Intoxicants, Controlled or Drug Paraphernalia**
- ◆ **Possession of Explosives:** The possession, use, or threatened use of any explosives or other such explosive instrument(s) capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.
- ◆ **Possession or Use of Weapons or Instruments Used as Such:** The act of processing, using, or threatening to use any weapon or any other tool or instrument capable of inflicting bodily injury as a weapon. The terms "weapons", "tools", and "instruments" include, but are not limited to, the following items: any loaded or unloaded firearm; any knife; any razor; any defensive weapon (e.g. gas repellent, mace, stun gun, etc.); any "martial arts" device (e.g. Chinese stars, nunchaku, etc.); or any tool or instrument which school administrative staff could reasonably conclude as being capable of inflicting bodily harm (e.g. blackjack, chain, club, knuckles, night stick, pipe, studded bracelet, etc.) or gives the appearance of any of the aforementioned (e.g. air pistol, air rifle, B.B. gun). The term "firearm" includes (a) any weapon (including (Starter Gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device. **Note: If a student accidentally brings a weapon or look-alike weapon to school, the student should report it to a school employee as soon as the student discovers that the weapon is in his/her possession.**
- ◆ **Shakedown/Strong Arm/Extortion:** The act of obtaining under duress or by threat, borrowing, or attempting to borrow, any money or thing of value from a person in the school, or at a school sponsored activity, unless both parties enter into the agreement freely and without the presence of an implied or expressed threat.
- ◆ **Vandalism/Destruction of Property over \$500:** The act or attempted act of willful destruction or defacement of school or private property either on or off the school grounds where appropriate public school administrators have jurisdiction over students.
- ◆ **Other Acts:** Any singular act which, in the opinion of the principal, was so severe in its purpose, motivation, or commission, that it caused an adverse impact on the educational environment. This includes any **Serious or Repeated Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense.**

All Students Must Read and Sign Each School Year That They Understand the Misbehaviors Listed Above Will Lead to a Mandatory Request for Expulsion from Prince George's County Public Schools.

Students May Ask Questions if They Do Not Understand. Students Also Understand Other Misbehaviors, if Serious Enough, Can Result In a Request for Expulsion.