

Discipline Policy

The Plainfield Central School Discipline Policy is divided into three levels. Level I is the responsibility of classroom teachers and are part of their classroom management plan. Level II addresses general school behavior, and student violations of this nature will be referred to the office for administrative intervention. Level III is for behaviors that may be criminal in nature and are so severe that they require immediate administrative intervention, notification of law enforcement authorities, removal from school for up to ten days, and when appropriate an expulsion hearing.

Levels I: Teacher Discipline

Teachers will manage behavior and implement appropriate disciplinary consequences for classroom offenses except those listed under Level II and Level III. General classroom rules with their consequences will be prominently posted in each classroom and discussed with students. When a teacher or other adult in the classroom feels that a student's behavior is detracting from student learning, they will first provide students with a verbal reprimand (Level I), which will include a write-up to be recorded in the office. Students will be reminded of appropriate behavior, and warned of future consequences. Further violations may result in a parent contact, possibly requesting a meeting to discuss student behavior. Again, a write-up of the incident will be recorded in the office. Teachers may also decide to assign a disciplinary consequence that they deem appropriate, such as an after school or lunch detention.

The following are some possible teacher actions for Level I misbehavior:

1. Parent Contact
2. Written assignment
3. Teacher after-school or lunch detention*
4. Parent/teacher conference
5. Counselor referral
6. CST referral

It shall be the teacher's discretion that determines which of the preceding actions will be appropriate for disruptive student infractions in the classroom. When a student receives four referrals in a month, it will result in a Saturday detention; ten referrals in the school year will result in a Saturday Suspension and referral to CST; and if a student receives more than ten referrals, discipline will be at the administrator's discretion.

* Missed teacher detentions will result in students being assigned an after-school office detention.

Level II Behaviors requiring an office referral

VIOLATION	1ST OFFENSE	2ND OFFENSE	3RD OFFENSE
Aggression (Physical)	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Betting, gambling	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Bullying	*2-day OSS*	*5-days OSS*	*10-days OSS*
Cafeteria misbehavior (minor)	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	Saturday Suspension
Cafeteria misbehavior (major)	2-day OSS	3-day OSS	5-day OSS
Cell Phone possession/use	Saturday Detention Confiscate and retrieval by parent	Saturday Suspension Confiscate and retrieval by parent	Saturday Suspension Confiscate and retrieval by parent
Class Cut	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Classroom misbehavior **	See below	See below	See below
Defacing or destroying school property	2-day OSS & Clean/ Repair/Restitution	3-day OSS & Clean/ Repair/Restitution	5-day OSS & Clean/ Repair/Restitution
Defacing or destroying another student's property	Saturday Detention & Restitution	Saturday Suspension & Restitution	1-day OSS & Restitution
Dress code violation	Parent Called & Violation Corrected	Saturday Detention & Violation Corrected	Saturday Suspension & Violation Corrected

Electronic devices (Other than cell phones -- cameras, games, etc.)	Office Detention, Confiscate & Retrieval by Parents	Saturday Detention, Confiscate & Retrieval by Parents	Saturday Suspension, Confiscate & Retrieval by Parents
Ethnic/Racial slur	2-day OSS	3-day OSS	5-day OSS
Fighting	2-day OSS	3-day OSS	5-day OSS
Gum chewing	Warning	Office Detention	Saturday Detention
Hallway misbehavior	Office Detention	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension
Intentional incitement or school disruption	2-day OSS	3-day OSS	5-day OSS
Laser Pointers (possession or use of)	2 day OSS	3-5 days OSS	10-day OSS and referral to the Superintendent
Late to class ***	See below	See below	See below
Leaving class without permission	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Lying to staff/forging the signature of staff or parent	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Leaving school building or grounds without permission	1-day OSS and a Saturday Suspension	3-day OSS	5-day OSS
Misbehavior for a substitute teacher	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	Saturday Suspension
Notes written to or about another student containing inappropriate remarks or language	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Missed office detention	Saturday Detention	Saturday Detention	Saturday Detention
Name calling	Office Detention	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension
Notes or indirect comments using profanity and/or derogatory remarks about school employees	1-day OSS	2-day OSS	3-day OSS
Obscene gestures, verbal assault, aggressive act name calling, inappropriate touching, harassing, profane or threatening language, or a false accusation toward a school employee	2-day OSS	3-day OSS	5-day OSS
Obscene gestures, verbal assault, inappropriate touching, harassing, profanity, threatening language or actions, or spreading rumors about a student	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Profanity, non-directed	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Public display of affection, including but not limited to hugging, kissing and holding hands in school.	Office Detention	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension
Refusing a reasonable request(non-academic behavior), defiance, non-compliance or disrespectful behavior, including but not limited to ripping up and throwing away detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS	2-day OSS
Restricted area violation	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS
Risk of injury, including spitting	Saturday Detention	Saturday Detention	1-day OSS

Risk of injury (student injured)	3-day OSS	5-day OSS	10-day OSS
Smoking on School Grounds	3-day OSS	5-day OSS	10-day OSS
Tobacco products, possession of: including paraphernalia used for smoking (matches, lighters, papers, etc.)	Saturday Suspension	3-day OSS	5-day OSS
Theft or possession of stolen property (minor)	Restitution & Saturday Suspension	Restitution & 3-day OSS	Restitution & 5-day OSS
Tardy - 4 days in a marking period and each successive day	Saturday Detention	Saturday Suspension	Saturday Suspension
Truancy	Saturday Suspension	Saturday Suspension & 3 hr ISS	Saturday Suspension & 6 hr ISS
Walking home or away from school at dismissal w/o permission	Saturday Suspension	1-day OSS	2-day OSS

*Note: Counselor intervention will occur when applicable.

** Four (4) referrals in a month will result in a Saturday detention; ten (10) referrals in the school year will result in a Saturday Suspension and referral to CST; if a student receives more than ten (10) referrals, discipline will be at the administrator's discretion. (Office discipline is in addition to any teacher actions that may have been taken.) Discipline for students, who consistently interfere with instruction and/or the learning of others, will be at the discretion of the administration.

Bullying: Disciplinary consequences are a guideline only. Consequences will be sufficiently severe to deter violations, which is at the administrator's discretion.

For any suspension out of school, the parent must escort the student back to school upon his/her return.

Administrative Discretion: While exceptions to this policy are rare, the administration reserves the right to make judgments that are in the best interest of all individuals involved. The discretion of the administration shall supersede penalties listed in the Discipline Code. It is understood that discretion means that when, in the opinion of the administration, circumstances surrounding a violation are of such a nature as to be gross misconduct or extremely serious or dangerous actions, that the administration reserves the right to determine a consequence more serious than stated in the code. It is also understood that the circumstances may not be considered serious enough to warrant a penalty stated in the code.

In ANY circumstance not covered by the written rule, the detention and suspension policy is left to the discretion of the administration.

Any student consistently disregarding school rules and having incurred a number of suspensions (3 or more out-of-school suspensions) may be suspended from school for up to 10 days for subsequent occurrences.

Notes:

1. Consequences after the third violation in any category are at the administrator's discretion.
2. During periods of suspension, students are not eligible to participate in or attend any school activity.
3. Students disciplined for possession, consumption, under the influence, or distribution of alcohol and/or drugs will be referred to the Child Study Team.

Level III

These acts are clearly criminal and are so serious that they require administrative action which may result in the immediate removal of the student from school for up to 10 days, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and when appropriate an expulsion hearing.

1. Possession of weapons or dangerous instruments: including but not limited to pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, air gun, spring gun, paint gun, slingshot, bludgeon, artificial knuckles, knife, chemical weapon, explosive devices, any device having a sharp point or edge, such as an ice pick, razor, or any other similarly dangerous instrument capable of inflicting harm (BOE Policy JFCI). School policy shall also include facsimiles of the above items.
2. Possession or distribution of alcohol and/or drugs, including their facsimiles; consumption or being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (BOE Policy JFCH)
3. Vandalism (major) (BOE Policy JGD)
4. Theft (major) (BOE Policy JGD)

5. Arson, false alarm report, bomb threat (BOE Policy JGD)
6. Physical assault to a school employee or another student. (BOE Policy JGD)
7. Major disruption of the school (BOE Policy JGD)
8. In ANY circumstances not covered by the written rule, the detention and suspension policy is left to the discretion of the principal or his/her designee.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is forbidden by federal and state law and will not be tolerated by the Plainfield Public Schools. Students are expected to adhere to a standard of conduct that is respectful and courteous to fellow students and to the public. Should sexual harassment be alleged, Board policy dictates that it shall be thoroughly investigated, that there shall be no retaliation against the victim of the harassment, and that the problem/concern shall be appropriately addressed. Sexual harassment is defined as any repeated unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors, or other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone from (or in) the educational setting.

PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS POLICY JFCI

The Plainfield Board of Education recognizes that possession and/or use of a weapon or dangerous instrument by a student is detrimental to the welfare and safety of the students and the staff within the school district. Possession and/or use of any weapon or dangerous instrument in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle, or at any school sponsored or approved activity, is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, "weapon" and "dangerous instrument" include, but are not limited to, any: pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, air gun, spring gun, slingshot, bludgeon, artificial knuckles, knife, chemical weapon, explosive device, "stun" gun, or other electric shock producing device, any device having a sharp point or edge, such as an ice pick or razor, and any other similarly dangerous instrument capable of inflicting injury.

Possession of an instrument that might otherwise be considered a "dangerous instrument" such as a baseball bat, tool or laboratory device, is permitted if such instrument is in a student's possession because, and to the extent that, such instrument is necessary for the student to participate in an approved school program, extra curricular activity, science fair or other similar event.

Whenever a school administrator has a reasonable suspicion that a student is in possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument, such administrator is authorized to conduct an unannounced inspection of such student's locker, desk, vehicle parked on school property, the pockets of the student's clothing, and/or any purse, gym bag or other receptacle belonging to or under the control of the student. Any search by an administrator must be reasonably related to the objectives of the search, and must not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student.

A student found to have in his/her possession any weapon or dangerous instrument will have that item confiscated, and will be subjected to school discipline, which may result in suspension and/or expulsion. In any case in which there is a possible violation of a criminal law that relates to the possession and/or use of a weapon or dangerous instrument, the school administration will work cooperatively with police, prosecutors and other law enforcement authorities.

Students and staff will be provided with a written copy of this policy annually. Any teacher, employee, student, parent, school volunteer, or other member of the school community who reasonably believes that a student is in violation of this policy, should refer the matter to the building administrator or other appropriate administrator in charge.

Adopted: 2/10/94

BULLYING

In accordance with state law, it is the policy of the Plainfield Board of Education that any form of bullying behavior, whether in the classroom, on school property, or at school sponsored events, is forbidden. Bullying activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school district and are prohibited at all times. Any individual who engages in bullying activity on school property or at a school sponsored activity is subject to discipline.

Bullying is any overt act by a student or group of students directed against another student with the intent to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate the other student while on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity which are repeated against the same student over time.

Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of bullying should report the matter to any teacher or member of the school district administration.

If upon investigation it is determined that bullying has occurred appropriate action shall be taken. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, or expulsion. Disciplinary consequences will be sufficiently severe to deter further violations.