



**Petersburg High School**  
*Home of the Vikings*

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# WELCOME TO PETERSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

This is your student handbook. It is intended to be used to acquaint you with your school, its operation, government, opportunities, and your responsibilities as a student citizen. Knowledge and an understanding of this handbook will ensure that you have an enjoyable and productive year.

## PHILOSOPHY

Petersburg High School (PHS) fosters the development of wise decision-makers who can communicate clearly, think creatively, develop positive values, and attain personal goals. The school provides opportunities to learn skills and attitudes and increase aesthetic awareness. Through instruction and the activity program, the school teaches an appreciation of the citizenship responsibilities of American democracy. Petersburg High School assists students to develop the self esteem, knowledge, and discipline necessary to choose and prepare for a career and recognize learning as a life-long process.

## MISSION STATEMENT

In a safe and orderly environment, Petersburg High School provides an education which enables students to develop their intellectual, social, physical and aesthetic lives.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Petersburg School Board is elected by the people of the Borough of Petersburg. The board is directed by the State of Alaska to establish policies consistent with Alaska law which determines what is taught and to whom. The Petersburg School Board consists of five members elected for a term of three years. The board holds public meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. The Board's Policy Manual presents the school's operating structures and philosophy in much more detail and is available online at [www.pcsd.us](http://www.pcsd.us) or at the district office, 201 Charles W. Street.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**Superintendent of schools.** The Superintendent is charged with the responsibility of administering the educational program within the framework of the Petersburg School Board's policies.

**High school principal.** The high school principal is responsible for the high school buildings and the program of studies carried on therein.

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES (A.P.)**

AP admissions criteria: Students who wish to enroll in Advanced Placement classes must go through an application procedure. The AP teacher will distribute the application materials in the spring for the next school year's class. *The class size is limited to a maximum of 25.*

Applicants for AP English will be asked to submit writing for scoring, and those students receiving the highest scores will be considered for the class. The applications will have a due date, and submissions received after that date may not be considered. Once students have been admitted their junior year, they are not required to re-apply for admission in their senior years. Students who take an AP course do so with the understanding that they are expected to take the AP test in May.

For purposes of GPA, Advanced Placement (AP) courses will be calculated on a 5.0 scale if students complete the course in good standing (70% of higher) and take the AP exam associated with the course.

## **ALCOHOL, ILLEGAL DRUGS AND TOBACCO (PCSD BP 5131.6)**

The use, possession, sale, purchase, or transfer (any transaction) of products containing tobacco, alcoholic beverages and drugs are prohibited in all school buildings, on school grounds, and at all school activities, including parties, dances, athletic events, and school-sponsored trips of any kind. The school district unequivocally supports drug-free schools and disciplinary measures to assure that the schools stay drug free.

See Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs under Extracurricular Activities for violation consequences.

## **ATTENDANCE**

It's very difficult to learn when you're not in class. Students who have been absent are responsible for making up missed work without disrupting the flow of classroom activities. *Alaska Statute 14.30.010. (When Attendance Compulsory)* Tardiness and poor attendance affect children socially and academically. Students may feel awkward walking in late to a class, and other children will notice when a peer is absent in class to help with a project or collaborate in learning, for example. If a student's tardiness or attendance becomes disruptive to their education, a meeting will be scheduled to make a plan so that attendance will not continue to negatively impact your child's education.

*Absences due to vacations are discouraged. We hope you can make your vacation plans during any of the regular school vacation times.*

### **A. ABSENCES**

Being absent from a class for more than 10 minutes may be considered as an absence. Students who will be absent for a prolonged time must complete a trip slip and submit to the office. There are three types of absence: excused, unexcused, and absent. Valid reasons for an excused absence (E) are listed below. Unexcused absences (U) are those for which there is not a legal, excusable reason for the absence. Absent (A) reflects a parent removing a student from school without meeting the criteria for an excused absence.

### **B. HOME NOTIFICATION**

Attendance records are kept each period. Every effort is made to notify parents by phone when a student is absent and the school does not have prior notification. Parents are notified by letter when the student is in danger of failing due to absences.

### **C. TARDIES**

Tardiness is disruptive to the classroom environment and infringes on others' learning rights. Students are expected to be at their assigned learning stations on time. A "tardy" means the student was less than ten (10) minutes late for class. Students arriving to class more than 10 minutes late will be assigned an aggravated tardy which will have more discipline associated and may result in loss of credit on class assignments. After three (3) tardies per quarter per class student, parent, and teacher will receive notification that each additional tardies for that class, students will be assigned 30 minutes of detention with the teacher. Habitual tardiness will result in additional consequences.

### **LEGAL REASONS FOR AN EXCUSED ABSENCE (BP 5113)**

1. Sickness, flu/communicable diseases, or other medical diagnoses. Students with ongoing and/or major illness and who are under the verified care of a doctor may be granted extra days for absence. Home study may be provided for extended medical leave.
2. School-sponsored activities; e.g., local and regional athletic events, AASG, etc.
3. Death in the immediate family, parents, grandparents, or siblings.
4. Students participating in Viking Swim Club or other sanctioned club sports. Absences must be prearranged with the proper forms through the attendance office.
5. Family trips or employment (such as commercial fishing) -- special arrangements must be made with the principal. A trip slip must be on file in the high school office a minimum of three days before departure.

### **ABSENCES REPORTING**

A note or a phone call by parent/guardian explaining daily absences is needed. Please call the main office by 8:15 am at 877-526-7656, or you may call outside office hours and leave a message within the same day of absence.

1. All absences are documented daily by staff and verified by the parent through a phone call or note. If we have not been notified by the time attendance is recorded in the office, we will call to verify the absence. This procedure ensures student safety.

If a student is absent for 5 consecutive days due to medical/illness, after communicating with school officials, we may request a doctor's note to excuse the absence. A "Release from School" form may be requested from the Petersburg Medical Clinic by a patient or patient representative at no charge.

*Please consult Petersburg Medical Center (or attending medical facility) and your insurance provider to predetermine medical costs. Petersburg School District is not responsible for medical charges associated with your child.*

2. If a student is going to be out of school for family trips or other personal reasons, a "Parent Request for Student Absence" needs to be filed in the office before leaving (with the exception of family emergencies.) The students generally know this as a "trip slip" (which must be signed and turned into the office before all travel.) Class work will be done according to the arrangements made ahead of time with individual teachers. Students need to take this form to their teachers a minimum of three school days prior to their absence. In order to receive credit for work missed, the student must have a signed trip slip and complete assigned work on time.

3. Step 1: After five (5) cumulative days of absences per semester in the HS, a letter will be sent home describing the attendance concern along with a copy of the Alaska State Compulsory Attendance Law.
4. Step 2: After ten (10) absences per semester in the HS, a second letter will be sent home describing the attendance concern along with a copy of the Alaska State Compulsory Attendance Law.
5. Step 3: Students who have absences beyond 12 days per semester in the HS, parents will be notified by the school office to make an appointment with the principal and school counselor to assess any concerns, including medical that may be keeping the child from attending school on a regular basis so other supports or concerns can be addressed. This includes a doctor's verification and or other professional evaluations.

### **MAKEUP WORK**

Students are responsible for any missed work when they are absent. In the event the student is absent for illness, the student needs to confer with the teacher, either via email or on the first day returning to school, to create a plan for learning and to get the assignments missed. For pre-arranged absences i.e. Family trip, activity trip, etc., make up work is due upon return to school unless previously arranged with the teacher. If work is not turned in during the agreed-upon time frame, a "0" will be placed in the grade book for those assignments. Unexcused absences may result in reduced or no credit for assignments that were assigned or due on the date of the student unexcused absence(s). Teachers will ensure that students will have access to the information to allow the opportunity for learning to continue.

If you feel there are extenuating circumstances, a parent/guardian has the option of the appeal procedure, starting with the teacher.

### **CHECKING OUT**

Parents are advised to call the school on the morning of a student's absence, if possible. Please call the main office by 8:15am at 877-526-7656 x200, or you may call outside office hours and leave a message. Notification will enable the teacher to plan makeup work, to know approximately how long the student will be absent, and to arrange to send assignments home.

Students who leave school grounds for any reason (excluding open-campus lunch), including students leaving on a school-sponsored trip, are to check out through the office. Returning students must check in to the office before re-entering class. Failure to check out through the office will result in disciplinary action.

**Out of School Suspension.** Daily work is to be handed in the day OSS students return to school, unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher(s). All of their assignments are posted on the teacher's web site. Work not handed in on time turns into a "0".

## **BULLYING**

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated. (Source: [stopbullying.gov](http://stopbullying.gov))

A form of repeated aggression and occurs when a person(s) with a perceived power imbalance willfully subjects another person (victim) to an intentional, unwanted, and hurtful verbal and/or physical action(s) which result(s) in the victim feeling oppressed (stress, injury, intimidation, discomfort) at any school site or school-sponsored activity or event. Bullying may also occur as various forms of hazing, including initiation rites perpetrated against a new student or a new member of a team. Students who engage in such conduct shall be subject to a range of punishment to include parent conference, verbal or written reprimand, in-school or out-of-school suspension, and/or placement in an alternative learning environment.

Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of harassment, intimidation, or bullying while on school property, on school buses, at the bus stop, or at school-sponsored activities or functions. Students or staff members who have witnessed or have reliable information that a student has been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying should report the incident immediately to school staff members, who shall promptly initiate an investigation. Allegations of bullying shall be promptly investigated, giving due regard to the need for confidentiality and the safety of the victim and/or any individual(s) who report an incident(s) of bullying to a teacher, counselor, or principal. An individual has the legal right to report an incident(s) of bullying without fear of reprisal or retaliation at any time.

**Reporting Harassment:** Students or staff members who have witnessed or have reliable information that a student has been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying should report the incident immediately to the principal or his/her designee, who shall promptly initiate an investigation. The STOP It reporting system is a confidential option for reporting. The STOP It app is available for cell phones and a link to the system is available on the school websites. The investigation shall include an assessment of what actions should be taken, as appropriate, to protect the student who has been found to be the victim of harassment, intimidation or bullying. Such actions may include the provision of support services necessary to permit the student to feel safe and secure in attending school. BP 5131.43(c)

**False Reporting Harassment:** Students and staff who knowingly or willfully make a false report of harassment, intimidation or bullying, or provide false information in connection with an investigation, will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension/expulsion for students.

**Retaliation Prohibited:** Retaliation or reprisal against any person who reports an incident of harassment, intimidation or bullying, or cooperates in an investigation, is strictly prohibited. Any such retaliation or reprisals will result in disciplinary procedures, which may include suspension or expulsion of offending students. *All information regarding Reporting of Harassment to Retaliation Prohibited referenced in AR 5131.43(b)*

**Cyberbullying/Harassment via Technology:** The district's computer network, including access to the Internet via that network, whether accessed on campus or off campus, during or after school hours, may not be used for the purpose of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Users are responsible for the appropriateness of the material they transmit over the system. All forms of harassment, intimidation or bullying over the network, commonly referred to as cyberbullying, are prohibited. Cyberbullying also includes, but is not limited to, other misuses of technology to harass,

intimidate, or bully, including sending or posting inappropriate email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or Web site postings, including blogs.

Students and staff who believe they have been the victims of such misuses of technology, as described in this policy, should not erase the offending material from the system. A copy of the material should be printed and a report made under this policy. In situations in which the cyberbullying originated from a non-school computer, but is brought to the attention of school officials, disciplinary measures may be imposed provided the cyberbullying and/or Internet threats:

1. Contain threats of violence against staff members or students; 2. Threaten vandalism to school property; 3. Suggest or advocate physical harm to staff members or students; or 4. Create a significant disruption to the school's educational mission, purpose and objectives.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, the loss of computer privileges, detention, suspension, or expulsion for those committing acts of cyberbullying. In addition, when any kind of threat is communicated or when a hate crime is committed, this shall be reported to local law officials. BP 5131.43(b)

## ***CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)***

Petersburg High School currently offers several Career and Technical Education courses to prepare students for the workplace with career-ready skills and training. They include: Metals, Advanced Metals, Marine Fabrication, Woods, Advanced Woods, Construction, Culinary, Advanced Culinary, Aquaculture, Advanced Aquaculture and CNA (certified nursing assistant).

### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

Petersburg School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex or gender, disability, or age in providing educational services, activities, and programs, including vocational and career technology education programs. Petersburg School District complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and any other legally-protected classification or status protected by applicable law. Any questions or concerns about Petersburg School District's compliance with these federal programs should be brought to the attention of the following persons designated as being responsible for coordinating compliance with these requirements:

For more information regarding accommodations, civil rights or grievance procedures, contact: Superintendent Taylor at (877) 526-7656, Petersburg School District, 201 Charles W. St., PO Box 289, Petersburg, Alaska, 99833.

Petersburg School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

## ***COLLEGE COURSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT***

Students wishing to take courses outside those offered by Petersburg High School for high school credit must have **prior** administrative approval. Submit the college course syllabus and get approval from the counselor and principal.

- The course may have an on the job training component, but it cannot be the main part of the course.
- The course must be completed in the school year in which the student began taking the course. Summer courses must be completed before the first day of the school year.
- Outside courses may not be taken for course retakes to improve GPA and do not replace previously earned grades in other courses.
- The course must be 100-level or above and considered by the college to be a General Education Requirement (GER). College remediation and orientation courses may be accepted for elective credit only.
- College courses for high school credit must be a minimum of 3 credits (0.5 HS credits).
- Any requests submitted after the completion of the semester will NOT be accepted.
- Outside courses may NOT be taken to replace a course currently taught by PHS staff, unless a bona fide conflict exists. Conflicts must be approved by both the high school counselor and principal.
- After completion of the course, the student must submit the final transcript to the counseling office.
- This does not include CTE dual credit courses.
- Cost/fees charged by the university are the family's responsibility.

## **COMPUTER USE, INTERNET RULES, AND WEB PAGE DEVELOPMENT**

Prior to having access to the technology infrastructure of Petersburg High School, students must understand and have on file a signed statement agreeing to comply with district policy related to the acceptable use of technology. Specifically, the Parent/Student Computer Use Contract, Internet Use Agreement, and the Laptop Check out Form must all be signed and submitted to the office prior to access being granted.

Petersburg High School fully expects all members of the school community will use the computer systems in a responsible, appropriate, and legal manner. Use the following regulations as a guide when working within our computer system:

1. The school's Internet connection must be used only for research or information gathering that is directly related to academic assignments or extracurricular projects supervised by the school and faculty.
2. During school hours, game playing on computers is not allowed unless the game is directly related to a school assignment or activity. For example chess would be appropriate if related to the activities of a Chess Club.
3. Students are required to bring their notebook computers to school each day with the battery fully charged. Computers should be plugged in each night to assure a full charge the following day.
4. E-mail (or any other computer communication) must be used only for legitimate and responsible communication between students, faculty, and the outside world. Rude, abusive, threatening, or otherwise inappropriate language is not permitted.
5. Students may access only those files that belong to them or which they are certain they have permission to use.
6. Files stored within the school computer systems should be limited to those relating to formal school courses and activities. Games, commercial software, or graphic files that are not for a school project or formal activity should not be stored on the school computer systems.
7. Laptops, wireless cards, and backpacks belong to and are distributed by the school.
8. Laptop computers may be collected at Christmas break and will be at the end of the school year for maintenance and reimaging.
9. Laptop computers will be available for faculty inspection at any time.

Access to the Petersburg School District computer systems is a privilege, not a right. Violating the letter or spirit of the above regulations may be cause to deny a student access to Petersburg School District computer systems, loss of computer privileges, including the privilege to take their laptop off school grounds, and/or may result in more serious disciplinary action.

## **CREDIT BY EXAMINATION (Course Challenge)**

Credit by Examination is an opportunity for students in grades 9-12 to receive credit through a testing process. Students who have completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade and those entering grades 9-12, who are currently enrolled in PSD, may challenge courses for high school credit. This option is designed to provide students the opportunity to demonstrate mastery through exam. It is not a process for credit recovery or course retakes. Assessments determined by the content area teachers will be used in most instances to challenge courses in mathematics, language arts, science, social studies, and world languages by demonstrating mastery of course material. The course challenge request form, along with a \$25 fee, must be submitted to the PHS office before the course begins for the student. Upon receipt of an approved application for Credit by Examination (Course Challenge), the Principal (or designee) will consult with the content area teachers to determine the appropriate evaluative process. This examination may include an assessment of the student's knowledge and comprehension of the subject through a curriculum-based exam, evaluation of the student's higher-level cognitive skills and comprehension of the concepts through a written essay, and/or evaluation of the student's lab or performance knowledge and techniques by setting up, explaining, performing, and/or demonstrating activities required in a class typical of the one challenged. An eighty-percent (80%) score or higher is required to receive credit, and any score less than 80% will not receive a credit. A student cannot be granted Credit by Examination for a course in which he or she has previously earned credit nor may he or she earn credit for a prerequisite course if they are presently enrolled in or have previously earned credit in an advanced course. If credit is denied, a student may not reapply for a Course Challenge for the same course. Only approved PSD courses can be challenged. Credit awarded for successfully challenging a course will appear on the student's transcript with the grade of "Pass", but no points will accrue to the grade point average. The word "Challenged" will follow the course title. (BP 6155)



## **DANCES**

Dances must be scheduled 1 week prior (minimum), and approved by the advisor, activity director, and principal. Complete and turn in the Activity Request form to the office. Dances will end before midnight unless authorized by the principal and permission to extend curfew is authorized by the Petersburg Police Department. All school dances will be supervised by four chaperones (minimum), including administration, certified staff, and parents, if possible. **Students will not be allowed to leave and return while dances are in progress** and outside containers are not allowed. All dances are restricted to Petersburg High School students unless special permission has been requested and granted by the principal.

Attendance at a PHS dance is a privilege, not a right. By voluntarily entering a dance, students are granting implied consent for staff to perform safety checks, which may include being lightly searched by a same-gender chaperone. In addition, the use of a Passive Alcohol Sensor (Alcohol Light) or Breathalyzer will be used to prevent students under the influence of alcohol from entering the dance, ensuring student safety and deterring illegal conduct.

Parents/students will be notified in the school bulletin prior to the dance of these safeguards, and signage will be posted when student searches and the PAS/Alcohol Light are going to be utilized. Specific details regarding student expectations and dance rules are available in the office. Compliance with these rules is required.

Alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and/or drugs are not permitted at dance functions by students, guests of students, or chaperones. Students are not permitted to have consumed alcohol or drugs or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs immediately prior to attending a dance function. The Alcohol Light (PAS) or Breathalyzer will be used to check all students entering PHS dance functions. The Petersburg Police Department will be called, parents will be notified and School Board Policy will be enforced when students are found violating this policy. BP 5131.6, BP 5030, BP 5144, BP 5145.12

## **DANGEROUS ITEMS**

To further ensure student safety, dangerous items such as knives, explosive materials, etc. are prohibited in all school buildings, on school grounds, and at all school activities, including parties, dances, athletic events and school-sponsored trips of any kind. By law, students caught possessing a firearm must be expelled for no less than one calendar year. Students caught possessing a deadly weapon must be suspended for a minimum of 30 calendar days.

Knives/blades are coded under two different categories, one for blades 2 1/2 inches and longer (code 7) and one for knives/blades less than 2 1/2 inches (code 27). Any knife/blade coded as a 7 is considered a deadly weapon and must result in a mandatory 30-day suspension.

## **DISCIPLINE**

The school is responsible for students' safety and welfare in school and during school-sponsored functions; therefore, students are subject to school discipline during these times. It is expected that high school students will conduct themselves as responsible citizens and make an effort to achieve excellence in their studies.

Students may be disciplined for behavior, prohibited by student discipline rules, that occurs off campus if the behavior is either related to school or school activities or is likely to affect safety or welfare or disrupt the orderly educational process in the District.

### **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)/DETENTION**

In-school suspension or detention may be assigned by the principal or designee. Students must be making adequate progress on any detention time, as determined by the principal or his designee, before attending any school function, including practice for activities. Students receiving a disciplinary slip will receive a minimum half-hour detention.

## **DRESS AND GROOMING**

In accordance with the implementation of the District's goals and strategies, the dress code for all students shall meet school board requirements (BP 5132) and create an environment that contributes to the learning needs of students.

The dress and grooming of students shall contribute to the health and safety of the individual, promote a positive educational environment and good school spirit, and be non-disruptive of the educational activities and processes of the school.

1. Shoes shall be worn.
2. Clothing that exposes the entire shoulder, tube tops, spaghetti straps, or similar type clothing, may be worn only with a blouse or shirt. Clothing exposing the torso or the midriff, either front, back or sides, shall not be worn. Underwear/Undergarments shall not be visible.
3. Leggings and yoga pants, when worn, cannot allow more of the wearer's body to be seen than when wearing jean-like material, must be completely opaque, and of a material substantially thicker than tights.
4. Head coverings shall not be worn in the auditorium and/or assemblies, and may be worn at staff discretion in classrooms : Head coverings worn for religious reasons are allowed. Hoodies are not to be worn covering the head inside the school buildings.
5. Skirts, dresses, and shorts shall be no shorter than the individual's mid-thigh. Destruction jeans shall not reveal skin above the individual's mid-thigh.
6. Garments and/or jewelry which display or suggest sexual, vulgar, drug, gang, or alcohol-related wording or graphics, or which provoke or may tend to provoke violence or disruption in the school, shall not be worn.

In the event of a dress code infraction, clothing will be offered in order for the student to return to class. If the offered clothing is refused, the parent/guardian will be contacted to bring alternative clothing that meets the dress code.

(updated 5/2024)

## **DUE PROCESS**

Students and their parents have the opportunity to request a conference and/or hearing if they are dissatisfied with the imposition of a disciplinary action. Definition of the various disciplinary actions, and the authority and grounds for imposing discipline are specified in school board policy.

For the sanctions of ISS and/detention the student will have the opportunity to explain his/her conduct to the principal. A conference/hearing with the principal should occur as soon after the incident as possible. There is no appeal beyond the principal for ISS or detention.

For the sanctions of suspension from extra-curricular activities and/or short-term school suspension (less than 10 days), the student will normally have the opportunity to explain his/her conduct to the principal prior to imposition of the sanction. An informal hearing will be held within 24 hours, if possible.

An extra-curricular suspension shall not be postponed while awaiting an appeal hearing. Under certain circumstances, the principal may order a short-term suspension to begin before an appeal hearing. The appeal hearing will be held as soon as practical after short-term suspension begins.

**The only avenue of appeal for short-term suspensions of 10 (ten) days or less is to the building principal. (AR 5144.1)**

~~Students/parents dissatisfied with the imposition of discipline following a hearing with the principal may request a hearing before the superintendent by submitting a written request within two (2) school days of the imposition of discipline. Commencement of short-term suspension shall be deferred until after the superintendent hearing.~~

~~Students/parents dissatisfied with the imposition of discipline following a hearing with the Superintendent may request a hearing before the school board, by submitting a request within five (5) days of the Superintendent's decision. Commencement of short-term suspension shall be deferred until after the Board's hearing. The hearing shall be held no later than the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Board shall issue a written decision within seven (7) school days of the hearing date. Complete hearing rules and timelines are outlined in school board policy manual.~~

~~The sanctions of long-term suspension and/or expulsion may be ordered only by the school board after a formal hearing. Formal hearing procedures are specified in the school board policy. Re-admittance to school is contingent upon the Board's satisfaction that the cause for long-term suspension or expulsion has been remedied.~~

All procedures in the school board policy are the minimum standards for imposing discipline. More formal procedures may be invoked under special circumstances.

## ***ELECTRONICS--PERSONAL***

Students may not use personal laptops, ebooks, pads or any mobile device that sends or receives a signal without prior approval from the technology director or principal.

Student cell phone use is a privilege, not a right. Cell phones are not to be on the student's person during class. This means cell phones must be in the students backpack or locker, not in a pocket, in hand, or out in the classroom. Cell phone notifications/ringers are to be silenced. At no time may students create a hot spot or tether devices; the school network must be used at all times in accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act. Students must surrender personal electronic devices, including cell phones, to a PSD staff member when requested as they are a disruption to the learning environment. The return of personal devices will require a parent to pick up the device at the school office. This policy includes the use of AirPods, earbuds, and headphones of any kind. Exceptions to the head phone usage will only be made for medical necessities and must be documented with the office or special education department. Any devices that takes pictures should not be used in sensitive areas such as locker rooms, bathrooms, etc. Additionally, photographing or capturing videos of other students and/or staff without their prior approval is prohibited and may earn disciplinary actions.

## ***EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT***

A complete record of grades earned, activities, conduct, test results, and attendance is maintained in the high school office. Each student has a transcript and a cumulative folder. The transcript contains the courses taken, grades, number of credits earned, and awards earned. The cumulative personal folder contains test results, biographical data, medical records, citizenship information, and pertinent documents relating to your education.

Your school record is invaluable to you and is used for recommendations to future employers and for college, vocational, and technical school entrance. All information in these files is confidential and will be disclosed only to qualified persons, including the student, parents, and teachers.

## ***EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION***

Extra-curricular activities are very important to student growth. Student participation is a privilege, not a right. There are special school rules for participation in extracurricular activities, and students must meet all of these expectations in order to participate. These rules apply to students who participate in extracurricular activities and are not limited to the time or season of the extra-curricular activity only. The extra-curricular activities covered by the rules include, but are not limited to, all athletic units; Washington, D.C. Close-up; debate; the music program; pep band; and ASSG. Students are expected to meet the financial obligations of travel not covered by the school district. **A student who becomes nineteen (19) years of age, on or before August 1, shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition.** A student becomes ineligible for interscholastic competition, regardless of age or grades, at the beginning of his/her ninth semester in high school. Participation in Washington, D.C. Close-up is limited to one (1) year. Enrollment in band, jazz band or chorus is required for travel to Music Festival & be eligible for SE Honors Music. Enrollment in a minimum of one (1) Art course is required to be eligible for the Region 5 Art Festival and All-State Art. **NOTE: No participant may participate in the first competition or event until all fees and forms are submitted and has attended the ASAA TAD INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS.**

### ***GRADE REQUIREMENTS***

Any student participating in an interscholastic activity for which grade or credit requirements are established by the ASAA shall meet those requirements. ASAA requires that a student must maintain at least an overall 2.0 GPA during the current semester to remain eligible. Students who do not maintain an overall 2.0 GPA may regain eligibility during the current semester by achieving and maintaining an overall 2.0 GPA within the school's grading system. Students must be in regular attendance at school classes in which enrolled or for which credit is granted (or be enrolled in a district or member school correspondence program)

Petersburg School District additionally requires that students participating in an interscholastic athletic, extracurricular, or co-curricular activity must maintain grades of "C" or better in all courses as reported on the most recent athletic director grade check, mid-quarter or end of quarter grade report to be eligible for competition and/or travel.

A student determined ineligible at the end of the fourth quarter (last quarter of the school year) shall remain ineligible for competition and/or travel until the first official grade determination of the following school year. The student may attend practice during periods of academic ineligibility, including summer workouts. The athletic director or administration will perform activity eligibility grade checks on a regular basis, approximately every week utilizing current quarter grades, including mid-quarter and quarter grade reports. A student is deemed ineligible on their most recent and current quarter grade check if they possess a grade letter of an F, D, or I. The student is ineligible for all travel and/or competition until the student successfully passes the next grade check. Grade checks will take place every Tuesday throughout the school calendar year unless otherwise noted.

A student who receives an "I" (Incomplete) shall remain ineligible for competition and/or travel until the "I" is replaced by a passing grade ("C", "B", "A"). Converting an "I" (Incomplete) to a grade of "D" does not automatically qualify the student for competition and/or travel.

The academic eligibility policy for middle school students (grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) shall reflect similar standards that are applied to high school students (grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>). In order to participate in activities in the next quarter of school, students in the middle school grades will need to meet a minimum of passing grades in all core areas (Social Studies, Science, English/Language Arts, and Mathematics) and have a current grade point average of 2.0.

Students completing 8<sup>th</sup> grade and transitioning to high school will need to meet the above criteria in the final quarter of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year in order to establish eligibility as an incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade student.

### **ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Students must attend all classes on the day of travel or activity, up to departure time for the event. If students leave on a weekend or holiday, students must attend all classes on the last school day before departure. The principal, coach and athletic director may approve special circumstances requiring alternative student travel arrangements. Students must return to school within 1 hour of returning to Petersburg OR as determined by the coach/sponsor and/or athletic director, when returning to Petersburg from school-sponsored travel. Any absence following travel must be excused by the athletic director or principal. Failure to return by stated time will result in an unexcused absence and the student may be ineligible for the next school-sponsored activity.

### **BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS**

Students representing PHS are expected to behave in a mature manner, dress appropriately, and conduct themselves with grace and politeness. Our students have a fine reputation, and we are very proud of it. Participation in activities is a privilege, not a right. A coach or an administrator has the right to deny a student's participation. Students must be making adequate progress on any outstanding detention time, as determined by the principal or his designee, to be eligible to practice or compete.

Petersburg Schools maintains a zero tolerance for students using tobacco, illegal drugs, weapons, and alcoholic beverages. Students are expected to disassociate themselves from situations where alcohol and controlled substances are being illegally used.

If a student is not under school supervision and is issued either a citation, the police have made a report to the school the student and/or parent choose to self-report, or the school otherwise becomes aware of a possible violation, then the school shall investigate the matter and the student will be subject to discipline under these extra-curricular activities rules.

Students representing PHS are expected to obey all school rules and city, state and federal laws. Petersburg School District maintains high expectations of students involved in extracurricular activities, and has taken a firm position that those students should not be using alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances. Because of the tremendous responsibilities inherent in student activities, it is expected that students will abstain from use and that both students and their parents will honor this rule. Infractions that occur while the student is under school jurisdiction or control may result in more serious discipline.

Traveling students are not allowed to ride in automobiles except those driven by housing parents or school-authorized staff. Students must wear seat belts at all times. Students are not allowed to drive a car in another town while traveling for the school district.

Traveling students who violate laws or school rules may be sent home by the first available transportation, at the students' own expense.

Students may, at the reasonable discretion of the Superintendent, be disciplined for behavior prohibited by student discipline rules as mandated by ASAA, that occurs on or off campus any time of the year if the behavior is either related to school or school activities or is likely to affect student safety or welfare or disrupt the orderly educational process in the District. To the extent appropriate, the Superintendent shall follow the Discipline Chart for Extra-Curricular.

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR TRAVEL/PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

As a member of the Alaska School Activities Association, Petersburg High School upholds its by-laws.

In order for a student to be eligible to travel and/or participate in extracurricular activities, he/she must meet the following conditions:

- ✓ Have a current physical examination, student consent form and current signed High School Activities agreement on file in the office. All school fees must be paid before traveling.
- ✓ Be enrolled in at least 2.5 semester credits for 9-11 grade students and 2.0 semester credits for 12th grade students. All students must be on track to graduate according to total credits earned for their given grade level.
- ✓ Have received no D's or F's on the most recent midterm or quarter grade report.
- ✓ Be in compliance with absence limits.
- ✓ Be present in class for the entire school day on the day of an activity or school-sponsored trip. Any exceptions to this, such as a doctor's appointment that cannot be scheduled at another time, must have prior approval of the principal. A student violating this rule will be ineligible to practice, participate or travel on the day of the violation. Check out times will be established for each trip. Failure to check out through the office will result in disciplinary action. Only participating students will be housed.
- ✓ Students should bring sufficient funds for their own expenses. \$25 per day for food is recommended, plus additional money for transportation costs. An individual sleeping bag, plus towel, uniform, and warm clothes should be brought.
- ✓ State travel is the responsibility of the student. Payment for state travel will be scheduled with the office.
- ✓ All school fees must be paid prior to the first scheduled event, whether the student travels or not.
- ✓ Student and parent/guardian must sign ASAA's Student and Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement Form.

### **TRAVEL RULES**

While traveling to or engaged in an out-of-district school-sponsored activity, students are expected to follow all rules described herein, as well as those that are a part of the Activities Agreement and any that might be established by the advisor, coach or chaperone.

## **Housing with a Host Family**

1. Students must abide by all rules established by the host family.
2. Students must abide by all curfews established by the coach or sponsor if earlier than item "3" below or in addition to "3" below.
3. Generally, students must be in the house one hour after the event. In special cases, such as an extended school dance, students are permitted to stay out until 1:00 AM
4. **Coach/Sponsor is to contact host parents to provide contact information and any special rules students are expected to follow.**
5. Host parents are to contact the Coach/Sponsor, Activity Director, or Principal should issues or problems arise.
6. No student is allowed to partake of alcoholic beverages, drugs or tobacco. If a student violates this rule, please notify the coach immediately. The housed student is expected to remove himself/herself from any situation where

- alcoholic beverages or drugs are being used by contacting his/her coach and/or host family.
7. Host parents are expected to provide one or more meals per day for the students.
8. Housing changes are not generally made. If necessary, any housing changes by students must be approved by the coach, advisor and host high school housing coordinator. The host parent will be notified about any changes.
9. **No housed student may drive any vehicle while being housed with a host family.**
10. Host parents will have working smoke alarms installed in their homes.
11. Host parents are encouraged not to leave students unattended at their home. If the host parent is working during the day, the student can be dropped off with the coach/chaperone.
12. (PCSD Rule) **No student is to be housed alone with a host parent.**
13. (PCSD Rule) **Only students of the same gender may be housed in the same host residence.**

### **Group housing in a school, church, community facility, etc.**

1. **(PCSD Rule)** Coach/Sponsor/Chaperone is to "house" with the team or group when group housing is provided.
2. **(PCSD Rule)** Coaches and Sponsors may release students **only** to their parents on district sponsored activity travel.
3. ASAA regulations and PCSD policy prohibit coaches or chaperones from drinking alcohol on school trips.
4. **(PCSD Rule)** Students must be assigned a sleeping area, and an adult (coach/sponsor/chaperone) must be present in the area at all times.
5. When notifying the host school of your intention to group house, state the number of participants, male and female, and the number of chaperones that will be coming.
6. Honor the host schools request regarding when the student needs to vacate the facility.
7. No students are to be in any part of the host facility without a chaperone.
8. No use of any home phone without chaperone permission.
9. Please keep your area clean and policed daily.
10. Please clean the assigned area prior to departure. Leave the facility the same way you found it.
11. Host school will supply phone number contacts in case of problems or emergencies at the school.
12. Mixed groups will be kept in separate rooms, if possible.
13. Students should not leave the housing area without coaches/advisors permission and always with a buddy.
14. If the host school requires you to be group housed, the host school will provide one meal a day.
15. Adhere to host schools rules at all times.
16. Do not prop doors open to the school, the host school will provide keys to school.

### **Housing in a hotel or related facility**

1. **Coach/Sponsor shall establish curfew hours while traveling. The curfew time is not negotiable.**
2. Only students assigned to a room may be in that room after curfew.
3. Students are not allowed in rooms occupied by persons not affiliated with the team or the school they represent.
4. Students are not allowed in rooms assigned to persons of the opposite sex.
5. People not associated with the team or the school shall not be allowed in team rooms.
6. Students on trips may not leave the team unless accompanied by a parent or guardian, the coach or sponsor has given explicit agreement and a written request by the parent/guardian is provided to the coach/sponsor.
7. Students are expected to adhere to all school and team rules and attend all activity/team functions.
8. When in public on road trips, students shall be in groups of three (3) or more.
9. When in a hotel and outside their assigned room, students shall be in groups of two (2) or more.

### **Rule Infraction Consequences (Student)**

In the event a PCSD student should fail to abide by established rules, one or more of the following consequences may apply:

1. The student may be withdrawn from the competition
2. The student may be sent home immediately at his/her parent's expense
3. The student may be suspended from the program for a length of time to be determined by the coach and/or the administration depending on the severity of the infraction
4. The student may be dismissed from the program
5. The student may be subject to further consequences to be determined by the school administration or the Superintendent

## Travel “Rules of the Road” (Students)

Petersburg School District students are expected to conduct themselves with honor and integrity at all times while traveling within or outside of the school district. Students should consider themselves ambassadors for their families, school, and community. Travel rules are established for the benefit of participating students, coaches, and chaperones.

1. All school and school district policies are in effect for the duration of the trip as covered in the High School Student Activities Handbook.
2. Students cannot travel if they are not making adequate progress on unserved detention time.
3. Detention unserved at the end of one school year carries over to the beginning of the next school year.
4. Students must participate in at least one meet to be allowed to go to Regionals.
5. Students are expected to follow all directions given by coaches, sponsors, and chaperones.
6. Disrespectful, destructive, or any behavior considered being detrimental to the program or which brings disfavor upon the school or the school district shall not be tolerated. This behavior shall include but is not be limited to:
  - a) Alcohol or drug use
  - b) Public displays of affection or sexual contact of any kind
  - c) Vandalism or trashing of rooms or other property
  - e) Shoplifting or other illegal actions
7. **Coaches shall establish curfew hours while traveling for the benefit of the team. The curfew time is not negotiable.**
8. Students on trips may not leave the team unless accompanied by a parent or guardian, or host family, and written permission has been given to, and the coach or sponsor has given explicit agreement.
9. Students are expected to attend all team/group functions.
10. While on school-sponsored trips, students are expected to dress appropriately and to follow the school dress code.
11. Coaches will address the code of conduct to be followed on buses or public transportation.
12. Teams will clean up their areas prior to leaving any competition site.
13. Students shall demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
14. Additional rules may apply and shall be covered by the coach or sponsor prior to departure or before certain activities.

## ***TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, DRUGS (T.A.D.) – Extracurricular (PCSD BP 5131.6)***

An extracurricular student who receives an alcohol or drug citation shall promptly notify the activity director or principal. Any extracurricular student who fails to do so may forfeit their reduction option or be subject to further disciplinary action once the school learns of the offense. All student(s) and parent(s)/guardian(s) are required to attend the ASAA TAD Introduction Session once (1) per calendar year in order to participate in any practice for any activity.

## **Determination of Violations**

A student is determined to have violated the T.A.D. policy if they use, possess, sell or furnish tobacco, alcohol and/or illegal substances, receive a citation from a law enforcement officer for alcohol or illegal drug violations, or is observed by a Petersburg School District staff member using, possessing or selling tobacco, alcohol and/or illegal substances. Observation by a staff member via the internet, video, picture or other media will be considered.

A member school's determination that a violation has occurred and its imposition of penalty may not be appealed to ASAA. If a member school or member school district reverses a determination of violation, it shall promptly notify ASAA of such reversal. Violations and penalties are to be based upon noncompliance with the policy by the student participant, by the student's parents/legal guardians, or both, provided however, that where a violation is based solely upon action or inaction of the parent or legal guardian and not of the student participant, under circumstances completely beyond the control of the student and where it would be manifestly unfair to disqualify the student on this ground, the member school may, at its discretion, withhold imposition of a penalty against the student.

## **First Offense**

The student will be suspended from interscholastic competition for 30 calendar days (as defined in the discipline chart). The student and parent/guardian must complete ASAA's T.A.D. First Offense educational component before the student may return to practice. The suspension may be reduced to 15 days if the student additionally completes 15 hours of



community service.

### **First Offense – student self-report**

If the student self-reports a personal violation of the tobacco, alcohol or drug policy before the district otherwise learns of the student's actions, and the student did not receive disciplinary action from school officials or law enforcement officers, the district may reduce the first offense suspension to a minimum of 10 calendar days. To regain eligibility, the student must complete all requirements of a first offense violation as stated above and in the chart.

### **First Offense violation during travel on school-sponsored trip**

The student will be suspended from interscholastic competition for 90 calendar days (as defined in the discipline chart). The student and parent/guardian must complete ASAA's T.A.D. First Offense educational component before the student may return to practice. The suspension will be reduced to 45 days if the student additionally completes 15 hours of community service.

### **Second Offense violation during travel on school-sponsored trip**

The student will be suspended from interscholastic competition for 180 calendar days (as defined in discipline chart). The student and parent/guardian must complete ASAA's T.A.D. Second Offense educational components before the student may return to practice. To regain eligibility, the student must enroll and actively participate in Risk Reduction Counseling Assessment program through a certified provider at the student's expense and write an essay on what they learned about the experience. The suspension will be reduced to 90 days if the student additionally completes 20 hours of community service.

### **Third Offense**

The student will be suspended from interscholastic activities and practice for one (1) school year. Both the student and parent/guardian must complete the Third Offense educational component prior to the student's return to competition. While under the period of suspension, the student **may** return to practice after completion of the Third Offense educational component. The student must enroll and actively participate in Risk Reduction Counseling Assessment program through a certified provider at the student's expense. A student may need additional days of practice before returning to competition (See Article 7, Section 7 of the ASAA Policy Manual). A student's suspension may be reduced to 180 calendar days by completing 30 hours of community service as well as meeting the following criteria only on a 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: a) seek assessment and counseling/treatment from a local health care professional, b) successfully complete the recommendations of the care provider and submit a letter from the agency, c) demonstrate a commitment to remain substance free, d) make a presentation to the District School Board requesting reinstatement of interscholastic eligibility, e) notify ASAA through the school administration that all conditions have been successfully completed, and f) and request reinstatement from ASAA. \*There is no reduction for 4<sup>th</sup> and further offenses.

### **Fourth Offense**

The student's privilege to participate in interscholastic activities and practice is revoked for one (1) year. Both the student and parent/guardian must complete the 4<sup>th</sup> Offense educational component prior to the student's return to competition and there will be no forgiveness of calendar days of suspension.

In such case, penalties shall be imposed on the first calendar day following a determination on appeal that a violation has occurred. A student shall be considered ineligible during each calendar day in which a penalty is imposed.

## **TOBACCO VIOLATION CONSEQUENCES**

All violations of only the tobacco policy by an extracurricular student will be subject to the ASAA T.A.D. policy minimum suspensions.

### **First Offense**

The student will be suspended from interscholastic activities and practice for 10 (ten) calendar days (as defined in Section). Fifty (50) percent of the suspension will be forgiven if the student completes 15 hours of community service. The student may return to practice when the student and parent/guardian complete the First Offense educational component.

For tobacco use, if a student under the First Offense Penalty violates the Tobacco Rule within the 10 (ten) calendar day period of suspension, the student's period of suspension will start over again; the First Offense educational component will become mandatory, and no forgiveness will be granted. This process will continue until the student has demonstrated 10



(ten) calendar days without a subsequent tobacco violation.

A student who has not completed a suspension or re-suspension under the first Offense Penalty for violation of the Tobacco Rule does not become subject to imposition of penalties under a Second, Third or Fourth Offense for violation of the Tobacco Rule, until the student has completed all suspensions and re-suspensions under the First Offense Penalty for tobacco use. A student serving a First Offense Penalty under the Tobacco Rule is, however, subject to immediate imposition of a Second Offense Penalty to the extent this is based upon violation of the non-tobacco prohibitions under this Policy.

### **Second Offense**

The student will be suspended from interscholastic activities and practice for forty-five (45) calendar days. Both the student and parent/guardian must complete the Second Offense educational component prior to the student's return to competition and there will be no forgiveness of calendar days of suspension. While under the period of suspension, the student may return to practice after completion of the Second Offense educational component. A student may need additional days of practice before returning to competition (See Article 7, Section 7).

### **Third Offense**

The student will be suspended from interscholastic activities and practice for one (1) school year. Both the student and parent/guardian must complete the Third Offense educational component prior to the student's return to competition. While under the period of suspension, the student **may** return to practice after completion of the Third Offense educational component. The student must enroll and actively participate in Risk Reduction Counseling Assessment program through a certified provider at the student's expense. A student may need additional days of practice before returning to competition (See Article 7, Section 7 of the ASAA Policy Manual). A student's suspension may be reduced to 180 calendar days by completing 30 hours of community service as well as meeting the following criteria only on a 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: a) seek assessment and counseling/treatment from a local health care professional, b) successfully complete the recommendations of the care provider and submit a letter from the agency, c) demonstrate a commitment to remain substance free, d) make a presentation to the District School Board requesting reinstatement of interscholastic eligibility, e) notify ASAA through the school administration that all conditions have been successfully completed, and f) and request reinstatement from ASAA.

### **Fourth Offense**

The student's privilege to participate in interscholastic activities and practice is revoked for one (1) calendar year. Both the student and parent/guardian must complete the 4<sup>th</sup> Offense educational component prior to the student's return to competition and there will be no forgiveness of calendar days of suspension.

These are minimum penalties which may be increased by the member school or member school district, based upon (1) the nature of the violation, (2) the extent to which it occurs on school property or during school activities, and (3) the extent to which it arises in the context of the student's participation in interscholastic activities.

Penalties shall be imposed beginning on the first calendar day following a determination that a violation has occurred. An extra-curricular suspension shall not be postponed while awaiting an appeal hearing except to the extent a school's appeals policy permits a student to continue to participate pending final determination of any appeal filed by the student under such policy. In such a case, penalties shall be imposed on the first calendar day following a determination on appeal that a violation has occurred. A student shall be considered ineligible during each calendar day in which a penalty is imposed.

### ***PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS***

Students must have a physical exam on file before participation in any athletic activity. Students who participate in extracurricular activities are required to have some type of health insurance. Forms are available at the office for purchasing student accident insurance.

**NOTE: No participant may participate in the first competition or event until all fees and forms are submitted and has attended the ASAA TAD INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS.**

## FEES AND TEXTBOOKS

Student fees are collected each year. The basic fee includes a yearbook and admission to all the regular home sports events. Certain subjects within the curriculum also have a required student fee. These fees are collected at the school office.

Students are issued textbooks and all books are identified by the book number and the student's name. It is the responsibility of the student to return the book in good condition with allowance made for general book wear and depreciation. The student is responsible for paying established fees for book damage or loss. Grade cards and/or transcripts will not be released until all fines or fees are paid.

Students are issued laptop computers for their use 24/7 and will be required to pay the insurance fee annually. Students are expected to treat the laptop computers as if they were their own. Gross negligence on the part of students for damage to the laptop computers will result in additional fees. See the technology use policy.

A complete schedule of student fees can be found in the school office or be accessed on the school district website.

## FIRE DRILLS

Required fire drills are held monthly during the school year.

**SIGNAL:** A continual sounding of the fire alarm is the signal to exit immediately

**PROCEDURE:** Upon hearing the alarm, rise and leave the room briskly and in an orderly way. Form a line and file outside the building according to the instructions of the teacher. When outside, be alert to further instructions so that fire lanes may be kept clear. Return to class at a signal from the principal or teachers.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following program meets the requirements for graduation at PHS. Students are required to complete a minimum of eight semesters (or the equivalent) of high school work as well as the following:

English	4 credits	(1 credit each year for 4 years)
Science	*3 credits	(1 credit each year of 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Biology and Intro to Chemistry recommended; with one additional science elective)
Math	3 credits	(in grades 9, 10 and 11 recommended)
Social Studies	3 credits	(1 credit each for US History and World History, ½ credit for Alaska History and ½ credit for American Government.)
P.E.	1 credit	(½ credit allowed for participation in district-funded extracurricular sport or approved dance program, Viking Swim club or other school-approved activity program beginning in grade 10. Participation in two such activities will be required to earn ½ credit)**
Health	½ credit	
Electives	<u>9.5 credits</u>	
TOTAL CREDITS	24	

\*Note: the graduation requirement for 3 science credits will begin with the Class of 2027, all prior graduating classes will be grandfathered into the 2 science credit requirement.

**\*\*To be approved, the dance program must meet the following criteria:**

- established program for three (3) years
- taught by a qualified and recognized instructor
- holds a public performance
- willing to participate in granting credit option and to follow school requirements for participation
- willing to document minimum of 75 hours of physical activity

The Superintendent may recommend to the Board that the eight-semester attendance requirement be waived in the case of students who have completed all requirements for graduation. Early graduation requires approval of the School Board on an individual basis. The student requesting early graduation must have an education plan filed with the Board.

For existing high school students, the selection of Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian will be determined at the end of the 2nd semester of the graduating class's senior year. The student with the highest GPA, carried out to the ten thousandths decimal place, will be selected as Valedictorian and the student with the next highest GPA will be selected as the Salutatorian, and the student with the next highest GPA will be selected as the Historian. If there is a tie in GPA, more than one Valedictorian, Salutatorian or Historian will be selected. The selection for Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian will be determined based on a weighted grade point scale. (AR 5127)

Students need 24 credits to graduate. Students will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony unless they have successfully completed all requirements. Students graduating from a non-district sponsored homeschool program are not eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony. In order to participate in the graduation ceremony, a student must be enrolled as a student in Petersburg School District. (BP 5127)

Study Hall classes do not receive credit. Resource classes are on a Pass/Fail grading scale.

Recognizing that the graduation ceremony is a school-sponsored, community celebration, student attire must comply with current district policies. This includes language and images on the graduation hat, gown and visible clothes worn underneath the gown must be in compliance with school policies. Violations will result in district staff requiring removal of the hat/gown prior to the graduation ceremony and replacing it with non-decorated attire.

All transfer of credits to Petersburg High School must come from a school accredited by AdvancED, the only body to be recognized by the State Department of Education and Early Development (DEED). Credits from alternative educational programs must fit the adopted statutory definition, in AS 14.30.365 (c) (1), of "alternative education program" as a public secondary school that provides a nontraditional education program, including the Alaska Military Youth Academy; a public vocational, remedial or theme-based program; a home school program that is accredited, as defined in this section; a charter school authorized under AS 14.030.250-14.03.290; a statewide correspondence school that enrolls students that reside outside of the district in which the student resides and provides less than 3 hours a week of scheduled face-to-face student interactions in the same location with a teacher who is certified under AS 14.20.020

## ***GUIDANCE PROGRAM***

A counselor is available to assist all students with personal and school problems and to assist them with educational and vocational planning. However, he/she will not choose a program for you. The final choice must rest with the parent and student. Some examples of how the counselor can help you are as follows: class scheduling, job exploration, post-secondary training selection, information on financial aid, planning for careers and life work, and personal social issues.

PHS classes are designed for classroom participation, not individual study. The superintendent or designee may allow home study programs based on PHS classes, if warranted.

Students may elect any course, for which they are otherwise qualified, without regard to race, color, creed, sex or handicap. Questions regarding discrimination should be referred to the Title IX and section 504 coordinator/Director of SPED Services.

## ***GUN FREE SCHOOLS***

By state law, any student who is determined to have brought a gun or other firearm to a school in the district shall be expelled from the district for a period of not less than one year. The Board may, on its own initiative or on the

recommendation of the Superintendent, modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. The term "firearm" means a firearm as defined in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code and includes bombs and other incendiary devices. The term also includes parts from which a firearm may be assembled.

## ***HALLWAY BEHAVIOR***

Students are to be in the classroom or library when school is in session unless they have permission from the teacher. Those who receive such permission for a good reason are expected to be quiet while in the halls. The school is not an appropriate place to show intimate affection.

## ***HARASSMENT***

All students and staff have a right to a safe educational environment. Sexual harassment interferes with this right and will not be tolerated. Sexual harassment is specifically prohibited by state and federal law. Harassment includes unwanted sexual comments and behaviors, as well as racially or religiously oriented remarks and other behaviors that prevent a student from being comfortable in their school environment. Harassment may be directed toward persons of the same or opposite sex. Concerns about harassment should be brought to the attention of a teacher, counselor or principal so that appropriate action can be taken.

## ***HELP FROM TEACHERS***

Teachers will be glad to assist students who are having difficulty with their courses; however, it is the student's responsibility to ask for help and obtain make-up assignments. Teachers are available before and after school and by appointment. One may ask for additional help or tutoring from our special services teacher.

## ***HONOR ROLL***

An honor roll will be calculated at the close of each semester. A student must have an average of 3.3 or higher to be eligible. High honor roll is considered 3.5 and above and certificates will be issued for this achievement. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of six classes at PHS to be eligible for honor roll. A "D" in any class disqualifies a student for honor roll.

## ***IMMUNIZATIONS and HEALTH SCREENINGS***

State law requires that students complete their immunization program before being allowed to attend school.

All students may be screened for health statistics (such as height and weight) every school year, performed by a certified nurse, typically the school nurse, if applicable. All results are confidential and are only reported by student number to the state. Parents or students who wish to not have health screenings done at the school must notify the office staff.

## ***LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAY***

Petersburg High School begins at 8:05 A.M., and continues until 3:00 P.M. Monday through Thursday. Students will be released at 2:00 P.M. on Friday.

## ***LIBRARY***

Our library supports the curriculum of the middle school and the high school. It is part of the Alaska Library Network and is connected electronically to the Petersburg Public Library. A common library card serves both facilities. The library houses a collection of books, periodicals, non-print media and audio-visual equipment.

The librarian maintains a study atmosphere in the library and all students are encouraged to use the library any time during the school day. There are no fines. Library check-out privileges may be suspended until overdue books are returned. Students are responsible for material they check out and must pay replacement costs of lost or damaged materials.

## **LOCKERS**

Every student is issued a locker and combination on the first day of school. Personal valuables can be checked into the office to be kept secure. The high school accepts no responsibility for theft from lockers.

Your lockers are not your property. They may be inspected periodically.

## **MOTOR VEHICLES**

Angled parking on Charles W. Street is reserved for school employees.

**Students are not allowed to park in visitor parking in front of the school during the school day.**

All drivers must take great care when parking and driving near the school.

Weapons, including guns, are not allowed in parked vehicles.

Remember that very small children are walking in the area and they are especially difficult to see; please drive slowly and cautiously.

**Student-operated vehicles may not be used to travel to and from off-campus class activities without signed parent permission on file in the principal's office.** Cases of speeding or reckless driving and improper parking will be reported to the police department. When a student parks his/her vehicle, it should be locked. The school assumes no responsibility for vehicles or their contents. Moving violations in the school zone have the consequence of double the fines and points. Illegally parked vehicles may have a district parking boot placed on the vehicle's wheel. Students will receive one warning, then the fine to remove the district parking boot is \$85.00, to be paid at the district office.

## **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

Seniors, juniors and sophomores with a 3.6 grade point average are eligible for selection. Selection is also based upon leadership, service, and character. Members must maintain the high standards which warranted their election or they will be dropped from the society. National Honor Society members are expected to take challenging math, science, and English classes each year.  
(web site: [www.nhs.us](http://www.nhs.us))

## **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Petersburg School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnic group, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability or any other unlawful consideration. In providing educational services, activities, and programs, including vocational and career technology education programs. Petersburg School District complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and any other legally-protected classification or status protected by applicable law. Any questions or concerns about Petersburg School District's compliance with these federal programs should be brought to the attention of the following persons designated as being responsible for coordinating compliance with these requirements:

For more information regarding accommodations, civil rights or grievance procedures, contact: Superintendent Taylor at (877) 526-7656, Petersburg School District, 201 Charles W. St., PO Box 289, Petersburg, Alaska, 99833.

For more information regarding Title IX regulations or to file a grievance contact. Mara Lutomski, Title IX coordinator at 877-526-7656 x100 Petersburg School District, 201 Charles W. St. PO Box 289, Petersburg, Alaska, 99833.

Petersburg School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

## **PART-TIME ENROLLMENT**

Students who are enrolled in another school as their primary school may also enroll at Petersburg High School, if space is available in the desired classes. Part-time students will enroll after full time students have registered. Continued enrollment in classes by part-time students will be predicated on academic performance and attendance. Failure to

attend regularly and meet minimum academic requirements may result in students losing the opportunity to occupy seats in classes.

Students at PHS may register for dual enrollment with other accredited schools with the principal/counselor approval. Correspondence classes should be scheduled outside the regular school day. Student requests for correspondence study during the school day at Petersburg High School will be considered only if the student is a junior or senior, and has the principal's permission. Exceptions may be made with administrative approval. Distance delivery instruction as a way to expand and enrich PHS existing curriculum and/or to provide opportunities to make up credits needed for graduation, require principal/counselor approval. Students enrolled in distance delivery classes need to pay close attention to timelines and due dates in order to complete courses in a timely manner; a semester class must be completed within a semester.

Part-time students will need to request to attend school day activities outside of their scheduled enrollments. Additional criteria may apply to participate in these events.

Senior students on track for graduation may request to be released from a period of the scheduled day. A plan with parent/guardian approval will need to be approved by the principal. The maximum number of released periods is three.

## **PASS/FAIL CLASSES**

There are PHS classes that are offered as Pass/Fail meaning the recorded grade will be a P for Pass or an F for Fail. These courses may receive credit but are not calculated into the Grade Point Average.

Study Hall is a non-credit earning class.

AP Study Release is a non-credit earning class.

Resource is a credit based study hall class. Students with IEP can earn up to .5 credit per class for a maximum of 2 classes per semester depending on needs and prior discussion. Students on a 504 plan can earn up to .5 per semester. This is a Pass/Fail grade contingent upon time use during classes.

Students enrolling in Elementary Tutor will need to complete an application and return to the counselor prior to the start of the semester. A student's first year of Elementary Tutor is a credit-earning class with a Pass/Fail grade contingent on completion of assignments. In order to participate in successive years, students will need to enroll in and complete the Educator's Rising course, or other Child Development course. The student would then receive a letter grade and .5 credit for the additional course and a Pass/Fail grade and .5 credit per semester for the Elementary Tutor course.

Students enrolled as a Teacher's Aide may receive .25 credit per semester with a Pass/Fail grade.

Students interested in Business Co-op will need to complete an application with their employer and parent/guardian and return it to the principal and counselor prior to the start of the semester. Students may be enrolled in no more than 2 periods per semester in this credit earning course.

## **PBIS**

PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) is a school-wide, proactive approach, which emphasizes the instruction of social skills, data-based decision making, and the prevention of problematic behavior. While fostering positive behaviors and interactions, PBIS also improves academic performance.

The most important part of PBIS is teaching expected behaviors. This is accomplished by utilizing a school-wide matrix of behaviors, which encompasses the three main expectations of Petersburg School District -- Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS HEALTH RESTRICTION**

A student who has been removed from participation in physical education class, an athletic practice or game for serious physical injury or medical condition by a supervising adult (i.e. coach, parent, athletic director, etc.) may not return to play until the student has been evaluated, diagnosed and cleared for participation by a licensed practitioner, which may be:

1) A health care provider licensed in Alaska, or exempt from licensure under Alaska law (AS 08.64.370(1), (2), or (4),

OR

2) a person acting at the direction and under the supervision of a physician licensed in Alaska, or exempt from licensure.

If your child has a diagnosis that may restrict or limit his/her activities in physical education, then your child's doctor must fill out a Release From School form and have it submitted to the school office at the beginning of the school year or prior to the beginning of the next school day. The doctor must specify the amount of time this form is valid. Note that a student who is unable to participate in physical education is not able to participate in interscholastic sports and may be excluded from certain field trips.

The following health conditions may require a completed Release From School form:

- Asthma
- Heart Conditions, including murmurs
- Orthopedic problems
- Cerebral Palsy
- Seizure Disorder
- History of head injury, dizziness and/or fainting
- Any other disease/illness that may restrict physical activity.

During the school year, your son/daughter may sustain an illness or injury that will require your child to be excluded or restricted from participating in physical education and interscholastic activities. All notes from a medical professional or parent must be brought to the school office for your child to be excused from gym. Petersburg School District limits parent excuses to 3 days for each quarter in the MS and 3 days per semester in the HS. Students requiring more than the above exclusion/restriction must bring in a doctor's note to be excused (see above). Additional excused days of physical education may be required to be made up with the PE teacher.

Parents who are a licensed practitioner cannot excuse their own child, as legal documentation must come from a third party medical professional.

## **POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION**

Information about colleges, technical and vocational schools is available in the school counselor's office. Together with your parents and the school counselor, you should begin planning for your future. For those who plan to continue their studies after high school graduation, there are a number of scholarships and student loans available to help you financially. These financial aids are announced in the early spring, and it is the student's responsibility to apply for this assistance. Parents and students should begin this process at least during the student's junior year in high school.

## **POWERSCHOOL**

Petersburg High School can provide parents and students access to current grades and attendance through the Internet. The following website will allow you access to your information: <http://pcsd.powerschool.com/public/home.html>  
For security purposes, parents and students are assigned unique usernames and passwords for each individual student at PHS. To receive your ID and password, contact the high school office.

## **PROGRESS REPORTS IMPROVEMENT NOTICES**

A progress report is sent home every mid-quarter (four to five weeks) to the parents of those students whose work is failing or near failing. The purpose of this notice is to notify the student and parent that the course work is below par and that additional work will be necessary on the part of the student in order to prevent failing. Limited tutorial help is also available to students. All students involved in extracurricular activities will have their grades checked regularly by the coaching staff, in addition to every mid-quarter as well. Student's grades and course progress may be checked anytime via Powerschool student information system at [www.pcsd.powerschool.com](http://www.pcsd.powerschool.com)

Improved work notices may also be sent to the parent of students whose work has improved. Through this notice a teacher can express his/her congratulations and encouragement to the student in hopes that the student will continue in this manner.

## **REPORT CARDS AND GRADING SYSTEM**

Report cards are issued every nine weeks. These cards should be shared and discussed with your parents. It is not necessary to return these cards to the school because you will receive a new card at the end of each nine-week period. Our grading system is as follows:

### Standard 4.0 Scale

A	Outstanding Achievement	4.0 grade points
A-		3.7
B+		3.4
B	Above Average Achievement	3.0
B-		2.7
C+		2.4
C	Average Achievement	2.0
C-		1.7
D+		1.4
D	Below Average Achievement	1.0
D-		0.7
F	Failing	0
I	Incomplete	0
NG	No Grade	0
M	Insufficient data/credit by another institution	

### Advanced Placement 5.0 Scale

A	Outstanding Achievement	5.0 grade points
A-		4.7
B+		4.4
B	Above Avg. Achievement	4.0
B-		3.7
C+		3.4
C	Average Achievement	3.0
C-		2.7

Grade Point Averages (GPA) will be calculated using a 4.0 scale. For purposes of GPA, Advanced Placement (AP) courses will be calculated on a 5.0 scale if students complete the course in good standing (70% or higher) and take the AP exam associated with the course. GPA will include plus and minus grading on a student's transcript. Student transcripts include both a weighted and unweighted GPA.

A student may take one elective course on a pass/fail basis each semester (does not include courses required for graduation, such as American Government, English I, etc.) The pass/fail grade will not be used in the computation of your grade point average. Such an election must be made and the teacher and the counselor notified within the first two weeks of the course. An Incomplete grade must be made up within two weeks. If not made up within two weeks after the end of the term, an incomplete will be assigned the grade that indicates the student's earned progress during that term. Classes taken for credit recovery can only receive a maximum grade of 70%.

## **RE-TAKING A CLASS**

### **Secondary Credit Recovery Programs**

The recovery of credit for secondary students is essential to fulfill graduation requirements and meet prerequisites for moving into more advanced classes. We would like to propose the following, multi-option program to allow as many acceptable options for students to progress successfully in their educational journey.

#### **Option One: Class Repetition**

Students may repeat a complete course to raise an existing grade.

This requires:

- Adding the course to their regular class schedule
- Completing all course work as designed by the course instructor
- Receiving a higher grade than previously attained

As a result of using this option, students will receive credit and GPA adjustments according to the performance achieved in the second attempt. For example, the student scores a "C" letter grade in the second attempt at the course. This would replace the existing "F" on their transcript and would add the corresponding grade points into their cumulative GPA.

This option is available only once.

#### **Option Two: Pass/Fail**

Students complete the failed portions of the class.



This requires:

- Students to attend after school credit recovery sessions until all work is completed within a predetermined time frame.
- Students who complete the areas of the class that they fail will receive a “Pass” grade on their transcripts
- The Pass, or P, grade on the transcript would grant credit towards graduation or advancement but would not add points to the GPA
- The previous class would remain on the transcript as an “F” and would impact GPA.

As a result of using this option, students will receive credit according to the performance achieved in the second attempt. There would be no effect on GPA or GPA related eligibility.

### **Option Three: Approved Correspondence Courses**

Students complete an entire replacement course from a district approved correspondence program.

This requires:

- Purchasing the course using personal funds
- Completing the course within a predetermined time frame.
- Completing all course work as designed by the vendor
- Receiving a higher grade than previously attained

As a result of using this option, students will receive credit and GPA adjustments according to the performance achieved in the second attempt. For example, the student scores a “C” letter grade in the second attempt at the course. This would replace the existing “F” on their transcript and would add the corresponding grade points into their cumulative GPA.

However, in cases of a tie in class ranking, the student who retook a class will receive the lower ranking.

It should also be noted that students are given credit and a grade each time they take repeatable classes (i.e., band, physical education, chorus, etc).

## ***SAFE SCHOOLS AND CRISIS RESPONSE***

Students need to feel safe within their school. The District has a crisis response plan. Procedures are in place for a response to threats of attack, shooting in the school and hostage situations as well as other dangerous situations, including a death. The response team consists of staff, parents, students, police, clergy, and social service professionals.

Students who are aware of plans that would endanger any member of the school community or school property should contact the principal or Superintendent immediately to let them know about the situation. A student should never hesitate to contact school officials or Crime Stoppers (772-7463) with knowledge concerning threats towards another student, staff member or the school buildings. What one student may believe to be an insignificant threat could, in actuality, be the only information known to prevent a tragedy. Students sharing information with school officials can know that their efforts will be respected and valued even if the threat proves to be uneventful.

### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES and Emergency Commands:**

A.L.I.C.E. is a school safety program created in the year 2000 to offer additional options to students and staff in dealing with an armed intruder situation. Two of the individuals who founded and developed the program are long-term law enforcement professionals. A 30-year educational professional is a member of the team and works to ensure that A.L.I.C.E. teaching/training materials are age-appropriate, psychologically sound, and address the issues of individuals with special needs.

#### **A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym that stands for:**

**ALERT:** Get the word out that a threat exists.

**LOCKDOWN:** Secure a place to stay as much as possible as a starting point to buy time.

**INFORM:** Give constant, real-time information throughout the building using all available technology.

**COUNTER:** This is a last resort. Individuals are unable to escape. Countering may be as simple as creating a distraction to allow opportunities to escape.

**EVACUATE:** The goal is to move students out of the danger zone. It's important to be prepared to

escape.

Traditionally, schools have used a procedure known as “lockdown” which essentially means locking the school building and classrooms and having students and teachers take shelter in their classroom. We believe that offering additional age-appropriate options will allow our students and teachers to be better prepared if a crisis situation occurs. Providing a constant flow of information to everyone in the building can allow opportunities to safely evacuate the building. An important goal of the A.L.I.C.E. program is to evacuate as many people as possible to a safe place.

**SIGNAL:** A repeating two-toned sounding of the alarm is the signal for students to quickly enter the nearest classroom.

**PROCEDURE:** Once within the classroom, students should follow the teacher’s directions for lock down procedures

## **SCHEDULING OF CLASSES**

All students must enroll in seven (7) classes each semester of the school year, unless approved by the principal.

A student who drops a course during the first two weeks of the semester may do so without any entry on his/her permanent record card. A student who drops a course after the first two weeks of the semester shall receive an W/F grade on his/her permanent record, unless otherwise decided by the principal or designee because of extenuating circumstances.

Most classes earn one credit for a year’s work. Teacher aide earns  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit for a full year’s time, and can only be taken twice during a student’s school career, unless approved by the principal. Only Juniors and Seniors are eligible to request a teacher aide position with approval by school administration. Students who desire to be a teacher aide must have C’s or better in all classes on their last semester grades.

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

All approved student activities must be placed on the school calendar in the office a minimum of one week in advance of the scheduled date. Activity Request forms are available in the office. Forms must be completed and signed by an advisor and the principal and returned to the office one week prior to the event.

## **SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

BP 5145.12

All lockers and other containers provided to students by the District are owned, supervised and controlled by the District. Lockers and other District-provided containers are subject to search by the Superintendent, or designee, who may authorize a District employee to search them at any time. Authorization to search is specified in school board policy. No decorations allowed on the outside or inside of the locker unless approved by the office.

Any District administrator may conduct searches when there are reasonable grounds or suspicion that the search will uncover evidence that the student is violating the law or the rules of the district or the school. The use of drug-detection dogs and metal detectors, or similar detection devices, may be used upon express authorization of the Board/Superintendent.

The Superintendent or designee may request a drug test from a student, if they have reasonable cause to suspect that the student is under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance not prescribed as required by law. A student’s failure to comply upon request pursuant to this policy will be used as evidence against the student in a disciplinary proceeding and will subject the student to other sanctions by board policies and school rules.

Items discovered in the course of a search that are illegal or violate school or district rules shall be seized. If the seized item is not illegal to possess, but is prohibited on school grounds, the item may be returned to the student’s parent(s) or guardian at the end of the school day. If the item is illegal to possess, the Superintendent or designee may direct that the item be surrendered to police.

A reasonable attempt will be made to notify the student’s parent(s) or guardian before a search has taken place, if practical. If prior notification is not practical, a reasonable attempt will be made to notify the student’s parent(s) or

guardian after a search has taken place. The notification shall include the reason for the search and the nature of any contraband discovered.

## ***SEXUAL HARASSMENT***

The Board shall not tolerate the sexual harassment of any student by any other student or any district employee. Any student or employee who is found guilty of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Students or staff should immediately report incidences of sexual harassment to the principal or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly investigate each complaint of sexual harassment in a way that ensures the privacy of all parties concerned. In no case shall the student be required to resolve the complaint directly with the offending person. BP 5145.7(a). Sexual Harassment complaints shall be reported to the Title IX Coordinator Mara Lutomski at [titleix@pcsd.us](mailto:titleix@pcsd.us)

## ***STUDENT COUNCIL***

The student council is a learning opportunity for PHS students to develop and promote commitments to citizenship, scholarship, leadership, human relations and cultural values. The student council teaches and provides the means through representative government to develop decision-making skills. Classes report their activities and concerns through their elected representative to the council. Council activities and decisions are in turn reported back to classes, organizations and faculty. Decisions and requests of the student council are communicated to the administration, faculty, and school board through the student council school board representative.

The student council is made up of elected Associated Student Body Officers (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, sergeant-of-arms (ASB Executive Board), city council representative, school board representative, curriculum steering committee representative, library board representative, parks and rec representative, public safety representative), the president and class representative for each class. Student council meetings are scheduled monthly or more regularly.

An agenda will be prepared by the president prior to meetings and Robert's Rules of Order are followed during meetings.

## ***STUDENT INFORMATION RELEASE***

### ***Release of Information to military recruiters***

The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act requires all local education agencies to provide to military recruiters, upon their request, the name, address and telephone number (including unlisted number) of secondary school students. Although military recruiters focus their efforts on high school juniors and seniors, the law allows for the gathering of this information from the broad category of "secondary" students, defined as students in grades 7 through 12. If any secondary student or the parent/guardian of a secondary student does not want the District to provide the requested information to military recruiters, the secondary student or the parent/guardian must "opt out" of providing such information by submitting a signed, written request to this effect.

### ***Institutions of Higher Learning information release***

The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) requires all local education agencies to provide to institutions of higher education, upon their request, the name, address, and telephone number of secondary school students. Although post-secondary institutions/ schools focus their efforts on high school juniors and seniors, the law allows for the gathering of this information from secondary students. If any eligible student (18 years of age) or the parent/guardian of a secondary student does not want the District to provide the requested information to institutions of higher education, the secondary student or the parent/guardian must "opt out" of providing such information by submitting a signed, written request to this effect.

## ***STUDENTS' RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES and GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES***

PHS students have the right to learn in school without interruption. Any school attempting to serve the needs of hundreds of individuals must, in order to protect the rights of all, establish guidelines so that all will know how to pattern their behavior. Many rules are unnecessary if members of the organization keep in mind their purpose for being here and are considerate toward the rights of others. Honesty, fairness, ambition and understanding are character traits that we should continually work to develop.

Students are guaranteed the right to appropriately express themselves, conduct meetings and carry out actions in accordance with the democratic process, and through the student council organization which has been established for the purpose of learning and practicing this process.

Care and respect for the physical condition of the buildings and grounds are the responsibility of us all.

School rules have been made to protect every student's right to learn. If a student breaks a school rule, it means they are interfering with the right of others to learn. Remember that a lot of thought has gone into making school rules. They have not been made to upset students or to make adults happy. They are there for student protection!

All school rules are related to law that guarantees a free, public school education to all people ages seven through sixteen. No one can take that right away from students without a good reason. Such "good reasons" are related to behavior. If students behave in a way that endangers other people, their right to a free education can be taken away. Also, if students interfere with the education of others, their rights can be taken away.

Principals and teachers have the responsibility to keep the school safe and secure. Students have the responsibility to always behave in a safe and secure manner. When student behavior is not responsible, consequences result.

If there are any questions relating to student rights, contact the principal. Petersburg Schools are committed to providing an effective means for parents and the community to voice concerns and complaints. In general, the complaint should be received and addressed at the level closest to which the complaint originated. For example, if it involves a teacher, first talk to that individual. If you are still concerned, talk with the principal. Then if you are still concerned, make an appointment to talk with the Superintendent.

A grievance as defined herein is a written complaint, registered by identifiable individuals, involving an alleged violation of the Federal laws or regulations governing Title IX, Section 504, and Title II by the local educational agency. A grievance is a formal complaint regarding specific decisions made by school personnel. A grievance may be submitted in specific circumstances such as when a student or parent believes that board policy or law has been misapplied, misinterpreted, or violated. Any claims of discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, religion, age, or disability also may be submitted as a grievance.

The Petersburg School District recognizes that in accordance with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a procedure is required whereby parents, employees and students can be assured of a prompt and fair disposition of their grievances.

A grievance must be filed as soon as possible but no longer than 30 days after disclosure or discovery of the facts giving rise to the grievance. A student who has a grievance must provide the following information in writing to the principal:

- The name of the school district employee or other individual whose decision or action is at issue;
- The specific decision(s) or actions at issue;
- Any board policy or law that the parent or student believes has been misapplied, misinterpreted, or violated; and
- The specific resolution desired

The right to file a complaint shall be afforded to any parent, employee, and/or student, and the general public and shall begin with a written statement by said parent, employee, and/or student alleging a violation of the Federal law or include, as a minimum, the following information:

- a. the name and address of the party or parties alleging the violation, and
- b. a description of the alleged violation of the Federal law or regulation by the local educational agency.

Persons who desire to register complaints relative to Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 should direct these complaints or other inquiries to the Title IX Coordinator at:

Petersburg School District  
Title IX Coordinator  
P.O. Box 289

Petersburg, Alaska 99833  
Tel: (877)-526-7656 x100  
Email: [titleix@pcsd.us](mailto:titleix@pcsd.us)

Persons who register complaints relative to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 should direct these inquiries to the Section 504 Coordinator of the ADA Coordinator at:

Petersburg School District  
Superintendent's Office  
P.O. Box 289  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833  
Tel: 877-526-7656 X100  
Email: [exec@pcsd.us](mailto:exec@pcsd.us)

Upon receipt of a complaint the, Petersburg School District shall adhere to the following procedures:

1. The principal shall investigate, except in situations related to Title IX incidents, the alleged violation and shall render a written resolution of the complaint in a prompt and thorough manner. Title IX incidents will be investigated by the Title IX investigator.
2. The principal shall provide an opportunity for the complainant or the complainant's representative, or both, to present evidence, including an opportunity to question the parties involved.
3. Upon receipt of the principal's resolution to the complaint, the party alleging the violation has the right to appeal this decision to the Superintendent within thirty (30) days. The superintendent will render a final decision within thirty (30) days from the date the appeal is received.

## ***VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL (VHS)***

Virtual High School is a non-profit consortium of schools that offer full-semester online courses to the participating schools' students. PHS is a participant in this consortium and therefore will be integrating the VHS program and its course offering into our existing curriculum. There are 25 VHS student seats available for PHS students each semester.

Selection of VHS students will be based on rubric graded scores of an application packet. The application process will include, but is not limited to, evaluation of a Pre-Student Survey, Personal Questionnaire, two teacher evaluations and consideration of student activities, resources, academic standing, and transcripts. A baseline will be established for admittance to the VHS program and a minimum score will be necessary for acceptance. No student can be guaranteed admittance.

Each VHS class is one semester in length and worth  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a PHS credit. PHS VHS students will be expected to commit to one full year (2 semesters) of VHS classes and can take one VHS course per semester. This will translate into one full PHS credit. If a course is offered at both PHS and VHS it is expected that students will enroll in the PHS offering. Challenges to such an expectation are reviewed by an evaluation board consisting of the SC (Site coordinator), Counselor, Principal, Teacher of the subject being challenged, Student, and an Advocate of the student's choice (i.e. parent/guardian/teacher).

Students enrolling in VHS are scheduled with one class period to devote to VHS work. The SC will be the teacher responsible for VHS students. Workspace and place are authorized by the SC. AP Courses taken through VHS are subject to an additional fee payable to the school by the student prior to the first day of instruction. Students enrolling in Advanced Placement courses may be eligible, depending on course load, to obtain a Release Period for the purpose of completing VHS AP coursework.

The VHS calendar schedule is not the same as that of PHS; consequently VHS classes will be in session days that PHS is not. PHS VHS students will be accountable for work on all VHS scheduled class days, regardless of the Petersburg High School calendar schedule.

All VHS grades are final. Grades cannot be replaced or adjusted. Quarterly grade checks for VHS will be determined by the VHS calendar and the most recent VHS grade check prior to the Petersburg High School grade check date. For example, if the VHS grade check is March 15 and the PHS grade check is March 20<sup>th</sup>, grades from VHS on the 15<sup>th</sup> will be used to determine eligibility on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Some VHS courses have additional fees associated with enrollment, such as Advanced Placement (AP) VHS classes. Students are responsible for all VHS fees associated with each class in which their child is enrolled. Families will receive communication from PHS before being charged VHS fees. Withdrawing from a VHS course follows the same guidelines as PHS classes, and the student may be responsible for VHS fees resulting from withdrawing.

Petersburg School District will sometimes offer courses through vendors similar to VHS that incur charges to the school and/or student. For these courses that the school district sponsors, the student may be responsible for fees if they fail to complete the course in good standing. Families will be notified in advance when their child has enrolled in such a course.

Behavior consequences for VHS courses will follow the district's cheating/plagiarism policy for assignments, tests, and writing. Academic consequences will be applied at the discretion of the VHS instructor.

## ***VISITORS***

Visitors to the school must check into the office. They must have the principal's and teacher's permission before attending class.

## ***WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL***

A student wishing to withdraw from PHS must inform the principal and circulate a withdrawal form, signed by the parent/guardian, to each teacher for signatures from whom the student is currently taking a course. The teacher will verify that books have been turned in and indicate the grade earned at the time of withdrawal. The librarian must also initial the withdrawal form to indicate that all books have been turned in to the library. All fines must be paid prior to withdrawal. Before a student withdraws, an exit interview with the school counselor and principal must be completed.

Transcripts will not be sent to other schools until the student has met all obligations to PHS. Students who plan to transfer to another school should notify the office so transcripts can be sent without delay.

## GLOSSARY

**Aggressive behavior:** physical behaviors directed toward another person including, but not limited to, kicking, hitting, biting, shoving, tripping or slapping.

**Assault, physical:** to intentionally, knowingly and recklessly cause or act in an attempt to cause physical injury to another, assault includes, but is not limited to, aggressive behavior.

**Assault, verbal:** to place another person in fear of imminent physical injury by words and/or conduct.

**Bullying:** a form of aggression and occurs when a person(s) who perceives a power imbalance, willfully subjects another person (victim), whoever he or she may be, to an intentional, unwanted and unprovoked hurtful verbal and/or physical action(s) which result(s) in the victim feeling oppressed (stress, injury, discomfort) at any school site or school-sponsored activity or event. Bullying may also occur as various forms of hazing, including initiation rites perpetrated against a new student or a new member of a team. The behavior is repeated.

**Cheating:** submitting someone else's work as your own or providing your work to another, giving another student answers on an exam, and providing answers electronically. Using any resources not from your own brain, which includes any screen shot of tests; any other tab open/swiping screens; using vocab hover tool; leaving test open for other students to study from for retake.

**Detention:** assignment to a designated area before, during or after school.

**Drug:** an illicit substance.

**Drug/Alcohol Free School Zone:** Federal and State statutes provide for penalties for the distribution of drugs within 500 feet of a school, the "Drug Free School Zone", subject to the following conditions:

- Does not require knowledge of the proximity of a school.

- Does not require evidence that children are currently or likely to congregate

- Does not require proof that the sale of drugs had a detrimental effect on children

**Drug paraphernalia:** includes, but is not limited to, any item or device used to conceal, process, prepare, inject, ingest, inhale or otherwise introduce a substance into the human body.

**Expulsion:** removal of a student from the physical and academic school premises, including school activities, for at least the remainder of the current semester but not to exceed one (1) year.

**Fighting:** mutual use of physical force by two or more students in circumstances in which it is not possible to determine the aggressor.

**Firearm:** includes any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive. Firearms also include any type of weapon by whatever name which will or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant and which has any barrel or bore of more than one-half inch in diameter; or as defined in section 921 of Title 18, United States Code.

**Harass:** to persistently act in a manner (verbal or physical) which serves to distress, annoy or torment another person or to act in such an extreme manner in a single incident to severely distress, annoy or torment another.

**Hazing:** initiation rites perpetrated against a new student, new member, or lower classmen.

**In-school suspension:** removal of a student from the classroom and school activities by an administrator or designee and assignment to a designated room or area within the school building. Lunch may be eaten in the ISS room or a lunch time other than the regular time may be assigned. The student in ISS is counted present on the attendance roles. The work collected may be turned in for credit.

**Plagiarism:** plagiarism is using someone's words that are not your own, such as the words of peers or copying from resources online or in other formats.

**Pornography:** material that depicts erotic behavior and is intended to cause sexual excitement. Pornographic material may be protected expression unless it is determined to be obscene. Child pornography is illegal under state and federal laws prohibiting the depiction of minors in sexual acts.

**Reasonable:** using or showing reason or sound judgment, sensible.

**Restitution:** reimbursement for actual loss or damage by court order or by the Superintendent's office. (At the discretion of the principal or his/her designee, restitution may be accompanied by community work service.)

**Sexual harassment:** any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors, sexual statement or physical contact, including sexist remarks or behavior, which results in a tense and/or unproductive learning or work environment. Conduct of an unwelcome sexual nature which (a) is indicated to be term or condition of an individual's academic or employment experience, (b) is used as a basis for academic or employment decisions, (c) interferes with an individual's academic or employment performance, or (d) created an intimidating, hostile or offensive academic or employment environment is included in this definition. "Sexual harassment" is defined in more detail in the District's administrative regulations dealing with sexual harassment.

**Suspension:** temporary removal of a student from the school building and property and/or from participating in school activities.

**Trespass:** unauthorized presence on school property.

**Truancy:** willful and unjustified failure to attend school by one who is required to attend; skipping. This includes leaving the building without prior approval and/or checking out through the office.

**Weapon:** any item (ex: gun, knife, club, etc.) used to injure, defeat, or destroy; or as defined in Board Policy Administrative Regulation 5131.7 (Weapons and dangerous instruments).



## PETERSBURG DISCIPLINE GRID

(This chart has been prepared to provide assistance; it should not be interpreted as absolute)

Our philosophy is to involve parents as much as possible in student discipline. Parents will be notified when infractions are either recurring and/or serious. Discipline measures will be cumulative. Prior behavioral misconduct will affect subsequent disciplinary measures.

OFFENSE	OCCUR	CONSEQUENCE
<b>ALCOHOL</b> Using, possessing, taking action to possess, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of alcohol (or substances promoted as alcohol). *1, *Additional consequences apply for students enrolled in activities.	First Second Third	Parent notification, police notification, 3-5 days suspension, Prime for Life (12 week) Reduction, or similar counseling Parent notification, police notification, 5-7 days suspension, counseling Parent notification, police notification, 10 days suspension, Expulsion hearing
<b>AUTOMOBILE MISUSE</b> Not following rules and regulations concerning vehicles on school premises.	First Second Third	Parent contact, student conference, possible detention, possible police notification Parent conference, police notification, detention, possible ISS, loss of driving privileges Student contract with principal, parent and police
<b>*BUS MISCONDUCT</b> Not following the posted instructions governing riding school buses.	First Second	Parent contact, detention, some loss of bus privileges Parent conference, possible ISS/OSS, progressive loss of bus privileges
<b>USE OR POSSESSION OF DRUGS</b> Using, possessing, taking action to possess, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of drugs or other intoxicants (or substances promoted as dangerous drugs). Possessing any drug paraphernalia. *1 *Additional consequences apply for students enrolled in activities.	First Second Third	Parent & Police notification, 3-5 days OSS, Prime for Life counseling Parent & Police notification, 5-7 days OSS, additional counseling Parent & Police notification, 10 days OSS, expulsion hearing
<b>*DEFIANCE OF AUTHORITY/Disrespect/Insubordination</b> Refusal to follow the reasonable requests of District personnel.	First Second Third	Parent conference, apology, detention, possible suspension Parent conference, student contract, possible suspension Parent conference, Progressive suspensions (ISS/OSS), repeated may = possible expulsion
<b>*DISORDERLY OR DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT</b> Language or behavior that disrupts and/or interferes with the educational environment or process. Includes sustained loud talk, horseplay	First Second Third	Parent contact, apology, detention, possible suspension Parent conference, possible suspension Parent conference, Progressive suspensions (ISS/OSS), repeated may = possible expulsion
<b>*DISRUPTIVE APPEARANCE / STUDENT DRESS</b> Dress or grooming that interferes with the learning process or school climate, is unclean, or threatens the health/safety of the student or others. (Clothing, jewelry, or working/graphics on clothing that is sexually suggestive, drug related, vulgar, that depicts violence, insulting, gang membership related, or ridicules a particular person or group.)	First Second Third	Teacher directed, change in dress Office referral, parent contact, change in student dress Principal referral
<b>SKIPPING CLASS</b> Student leaves or misses class without permission	First Second	Detention, parent notification Parent contact, possible suspension
<b>FIGHTING</b> A hostile physical encounter between two or more individuals.	First Second Third	Parent and police notification, 1-3 day suspension Parent conference, police notification, 3-5 days OSS, community service, recom. Counseling Parent conference, police notification, 5+ days OSS, Expulsion hearing
<b>FIRE SETTING / ATTEMPTED FIRE SETTING / FIRE PLAY</b> Using fire to destroy or attempt to destroy property.	First	Parent and police notification, suspension, possible Expulsion hearing
<b>FORGERY/THEFT</b> Student is in possession of, having passed on, or being responsible for removing someone else's property or has signed a person's name without that person's permission	First Second Third	Parent and police notification (discretion),detention or possible suspension, restitution Parent and police notification, restitution, suspension, possible Expulsion hearing Parent and police notification, suspension, Expulsion hearing

<b>LEWD CONDUCT / PROFANITY</b>  Indcent exposure and/or the use of obscenity, profanity (oral, written, or gestured). Includes possession, selling and distribution of lewd materials.	First	0-5 days OSS
	Second	5-10 days OSS, Continued violation may result in expulsion
<b>HARASSMENT/BULLYING</b>  Student delivers disrespectful messages* (verbal, written or gestural) to another person that includes threats and intimidation, obscene gestures, pictures, or written notes. This includes harassment via electronic means. <i>*disrespectful messages include negative comments based on race, religion, gender, age and/or origin; sustained or intense verbal attacks based on ethnic origin, disabilities or personal matters.</i>	First	Parent conference, detention, possible suspension (ISS)
	Second	Parent/principal conference, suspension (OSS)
	Third	Possible 3-5 day OSS, recommendation for expulsion hearing
<b>INAPPROPRIATE LOCATION/OUT OF BOUNDS AREA</b> Student is in an area that is out of school boundaries	First	Detention, parent notification
	Second	Parent/principal conference, detention, student contract, possible ISS
<b>CHEATING/COPYING</b> Submitting someone else's work as your own or providing your work to another	First	Zero on assignment, parent notification, possible detention
	Second	Zero on assignment(s), parent conference, detention/ISS, possible reflective assignment
<b>LYING</b>	First	Test: zero on exam, no retake option, 2x detention, parent meeting with admin and teacher, next activity suspension within 30 days  Plagiarism: Zero on assignment/exam, no retake option, 2x detention, parent meeting w/admin and teacher, next activity suspension within 30 days
<b>PLAGIARISM</b> Using someone else's words and/or ideas	Second	
<b>GANG AFFILIATION DISPLAY</b> Organization composed of students that has an element of purpose which is concealed from the public and shared only confidentially among members. Participation in gang-related activities at school or school functions (possession or display of gang-related clothing, symbols, or paraphernalia, distribution of gang literature or materials, display of gang-related posters or graffiti, signs, or signals, harassment or intimidation of others or recruitment for gang membership).	First	Parent conference, detention, student contract
	Second	Parent/Principal conference, suspension (OSS), contract dependent
<b>PHYSICAL AGGRESSION/ASSAULT</b> Student engages in actions involving serious physical contact where injury may occur (e.g., hitting, punching, hitting with an object, kicking, hair pulling, scratching, etc.).	First	Parent conference, police notification, 3-5 day OSS
	Second	Parent conference, police notification, 5-10 day OSS
	Third	10 days OSS, expulsion hearing
<b>TARDINESS</b> Arriving late to school and/or class. Aggravated Tardy > 10 min late to a class	First	Office referral, detention, parent notification
	Repeat	Excessive tardies will result in a parent/principal discipline plan Aggravated tardy=45 min detention w/ teacher of the affected class
<b>TECHNOLOGY MISUSE</b> Failure to comply with the District's "Electronic Use Agreement."	First	Refer to PCSD Technology Plan for Discipline Procedures
<b>USE OR POSSESSION OF TOBACCO</b> Using, possessing, and/or distributing of tobacco in any form.	First	Parent and police notification (discretionary), detention, possible ISS, addiction counseling
	Repeat	Parent and police notification, detention, progressive suspensions, contract, further addiction counseling
<b>TRESPASSING</b> Being present in unauthorized places or refusing to leave when asked to do so by District personnel.	First	Admin
	Second	OSS
<b>UNEXCUSED ABSENCE/TRUANCY</b> Any absence that has not been excused by parent or legal guardian and/or appropriate school official.	First	Parent notification, detention
	Second	Parent notification, detention, repeated = truancy notification, possible police, ISS/OSS
<b>PROPERTY DAMAGE/VANDALISM</b> Intentionally damaging, defacing, (including tagging/graffiti), or destroying public or private property.	First	Parent and police notification (discretionary), restitution, detention, possible ISS
	Second	Parent and police notification, restitution, OSS, possible expulsion
	Third	Parent and police notification, restitution, OSS, expulsion hearing

<b>WEAPONS: EXPLOSIVE DEVICES</b> Using, possessing, or selling an explosive device or material.	First	Parent notification, police notification, 10 days suspension, Expulsion hearing
<b>WEAPONS: FIREARMS OR KNIVES</b> Using, possessing, or selling a firearm (any weapon, including a starter gun, that will or is designed to or readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive. Or using, threatening to use, possessing, or selling knives of any form/length	First	Parent and Police notification, 10 days OSS plus Expulsion hearing
<b>USE/POSSESSION OF COMBUSTIBLES WITH INTENT TO HARM</b> Student is in possession of substances/objects readily capable of causing bodily harm and/or property damage with intent to harm (matches, lighters, firecrackers, gasoline, lighter fluid)	First	Confiscation, parent & police notification, possible suspension, possible expulsion hearing

\* = "occurrence" resets every year

\*1 = If a student is suspected of drug or alcohol use, the administration has the right to test and the student is required to submit to the testing. If the student refuses, he/she will be given the same discipline action as if guilty.

## DISCIPLINE CHART -- EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

This chart has been prepared to provide assistance; it should not be interpreted as absolute.

	next activity suspension (minimum)	suspension	suspension	1 year for each additional offense
A. Skipping class (missing whole class or leaving class w/o permission)	X			
B. Disrespectful & inappropriate behavior (including swearing)	X			
C. Harassment/bullying	X	X(*)	X(**)	
D. Sexual harassment	X	X (*)	X(**)	
E. Cheating	X			
F. Stealing		X(*)	X(**)	X
G. Vandalism	X	X(*)		
H. Fighting	X	X(*)		
I. Use, sale, purchase, possession of smoking tobacco	see Extracurricular Activities above (pgs. 11-13)			
J. Use, sale, purchase, possession of smokeless tobacco	see Extracurricular Activities above (pgs. 11-13)			
K. Use and/or possession of inhalants, alcohol or illegal drugs including controlled substance transactions while not under school jurisdiction or control	see Extracurricular Activities above (pgs. 11-13)			
L. Use, sale, purchase, possession of inhalants, alcohol or illegal drugs, including controlled substance transactions while on school property, school trips, or otherwise under school jurisdiction or control	see Extracurricular Activities above (pgs. 11-13)			
M. Verbal, physical assault, or bullying other students		X	X	X
N. Verbal, physical assault, or bullying school personnel		X	X	X
O. Possession or use of weapons, other than firearms				X
P. Possession or use of firearms, including explosives				X
Q. Trespassing	X	X(*)		
R. Inappropriate use of school equipment.	X	X(*)		
S. Tattoos or body piercing on school sponsored trip.		X(*)		

### Key:

A. A student classified as skipping a class is someone who attended classes previous to or after an unaccountable absence. An unaccountable absence is where the student is marked absent from a class, but has not notified the office that he/she is checking out of school, or is missing from class for more than 15 minutes.

\* Fifty percent (50%) of the suspension will be forgiven if the student completes fifteen (15) hours of community service. The student will be allowed to practice during his/her suspension.

\*\* Thirty percent (30%) of the suspension will be forgiven if the student completes twenty (20) hours of community service. The student will be allowed to practice during his/her suspension.

## SCHOOL GROUNDS MAP AND SCHOOL ZONE

