



PHSS CODE OF CONDUCT ... WHAT IS *EXPECTED* AT PHSS

PHSS expectations, consequences, and the Code of Conduct were developed pursuant to the School Act (Sections 6, 10, 85, and 91), School Act Regulations, and the SD#46 Sunshine Coast's District's Policy# 1080 on Learner Conduct. Learners at PHSS are expected to meet the standards set out in the BC Human Rights Code, sections 7 and 8 that prohibit behaviours that discriminate against a person or class of person by publishing or displaying a statement, publication, notice, sign, symbol, emblem, or other representation that indicates discrimination based on the race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or age of that person of that group or class of persons.

The PHSS Code of Conduct applies to learners while at school, going to and from school, attending any school related curricular or extra-curricular functions, and in the community (if impacting the school environment). Learners should be acting in a manner that brings credit to the school. The Code of Conduct also extends to learner behaviours (on or off school property and outside of regular school times) that may negatively impact the learning environment of the learner(s), and/or the school.

Following the PHSS Code of Conduct will ensure that all learners, regardless of their sex, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, enjoy a safe, inclusive and welcoming learning environment.

To ensure a safe and positive learning environment, learners are expected to:

1. Behave appropriately and respectfully with all staff and learners.
2. Work respectfully, responsibly, and co-operatively with all staff and learners.
3. Attend all their scheduled classes, be on time, and be prepared to focus on their learning.
4. Be drug and alcohol free.
5. Respect our dress code.
6. Follow the Personal Digital Device Expectations for Pender Harbour Secondary.

CONDE OF CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

To ensure a safe and positive learning environment, PHSS learners are expected to:

1. Behave appropriately and respectfully with all staff and learners.

A positive working relationship is based upon the principle of mutual respect. The concept of respect also includes respect for school property, the surrounding neighborhood, and areas visited on school trips.

Learners are expected to:

- demonstrate respectful behaviors toward one another
- follow staff directions and negotiated behavioral and learning expectations
- use appropriate, non-confrontational language
- respect personal property
- prevent damage to the school and its contents.

2. Work respectfully, responsibly, and co-operatively with all staff and learners

The safety and security of staff and learners is necessary for meaningful teaching and learning opportunities for all. Administrators and staff will take every effort to ensure that property, buildings, buses and other learning settings meet the highest safety standards. Learners must work towards establishing a safe, positive, non-threatening, inclusive and harassment and bullying-free environment within the school and during any school related activity.

Learners are expected to:

- be accepting or tolerant of the diverse culture of our school community in keeping with the prohibited grounds of discrimination set out in the BC Human Rights Code in accordance with School District #46
- use language free of profanity, hatred, and discrimination: e.g. homophobia, racism, sexism
- eliminate aggressive, confrontational, threatening behaviors
- eliminate physically intimidating and violent interactions.
- report threats, intimidation, harassment, bullying and forms of indirect pressure to a staff member
- ensure that individuals are not in possession of weapons, real or simulated
- follow the personal digital device policy
- follow directions of staff at all times to ensure a safe and productive learning environment for all

3. Attend all scheduled classes, be on time, and be prepared to focus on their learning.

Learning programs and activities are designed to meet individually determined outcomes in knowledge, skills and attitudes. The learning programs and activities are determined following a period of assessment and a process of consultation and negotiation between administration, staff and learners. Attendance and full participation at PHSS are keys to learners' success, in order to enable gains in behavioral and cognitive development.

Learners are expected to:

- attend all classes and sign in at the office when late
- sign out at the office and check in with office admin and/or staff
- follow the SD#46 / PHSS use of Personal Digital Devices policy
- participate in required assessments
- actively participate in their specific learning programs
- arrive to class on time and remain for the duration of the period
- participate in hikes, field trips, out-days, fundraising, academic and non-academic classes
- provide a medical note for extended absences from school or Physical Education
- meet on a regular basis with staff to review academic, behavioral and social/emotional progress

4. Be drug and alcohol free.

Learners are expected to:

- Attend classes free from the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Not be in possession of drugs, alcohol, or drug or alcohol related paraphernalia
- Refrain from language that glamorizes the use of drugs or alcohol

5. Respect our dress code

The learner dress code at PHSS supports equitable educational access and is written in a manner that does not reinforce stereotypes. To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of

this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently and in a manner that does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body type/size.

Our values are:

- All learners should be able to dress comfortably for school and engage in the educational environment without fear of unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- All learners and staff should understand that they are responsible for managing their own personal “distractions” without regulating individual learners’ clothing/self-expression.
- Learner dress code enforcement should not result in unnecessary barriers to school attendance.
- School staff use learner/body-positive language to explain the code and to address code violations.

Our learner dress code is designed to accomplish several goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment in classes where protective or supportive clothing is needed (e.g. athletic attire/shoes for PE activities).
- Allow learners to wear clothing of their choice that is comfortable.
- Allow learners to wear clothing that expresses their self-identified gender.
- Allow learners to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- Prevent learners from wearing clothing or accessories with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, and pornography.
- Prevent learners from wearing clothing or accessories that denote, suggest, display or reference alcohol, drugs or related paraphernalia or other illegal conduct or activities.
- Prevent learners from wearing clothing or accessories that reasonably can be construed as being or including content that is racist, lewd, vulgar or obscene, or that reasonably can be construed as containing fighting words, speech that incites others to imminent lawless action, defamatory speech, or threats to others.
- Ensure that all learners are treated equitably regardless of race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body type/size.

5. Follow the Personal Digital Device Expectations for PHSS

At PHSS: The use of personal digital devices is a privilege. Personal devices are not permitted during instructional time which includes class time, spare blocks, transition time between classes, assemblies, guest speakers and field trips. Personal digital devices include: cell phones,

tablets, headphones / ear buds and smart watches. Personal digital devices can be accessed during non-instructional time before and after school, nutrition breaks and the lunch break.

· The exception to these restrictions will apply to some learners, under specific circumstances, who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP), Learning Support Plan (LSP), or health issues that specially outlines the need for a personal digital device.

· Learners must not use cell phones, video or audio recording devices, or other personal digital devices in settings such as change rooms, washrooms, or private counselling rooms at any time that have the potential to violate a person's reasonable expectations of privacy.

· Security & Storage – It is important to note that security and storage of personal digital devices is the sole responsibility of the owner/user. School District #46 assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair, or replacement of such devices. If PHSS learners bring a device to school, they should lock their devices in their locker or an identified secure location as directed by school staff.

The following procedure will be used in response to violation of these expectations.

- First issue the learner will be directed by a staff member return their digital device to their secure and locked locker.
- Second issue the learner will hand in their device to the front office where it will be held for the remainder of the day. Learners will meet with school staff or school administration before retrieving their personal digital device.
- Third issue the learner will hand in their device to the front office. Administration will contact the parent/guardian/caregiver who will have to pick up the device from the school. A return plan will be discussed with learner/parent/caregiver.

CONSEQUENCES

The consequences for breaches of conduct will depend on the severity of the incident and frequency with which these incidents have occurred. Disciplinary action, whenever possible, is preventative and restorative, rather than punitive. Learners are expected to participate, whenever possible, in the development of meaningful consequences. Consequences may include one or more of the following:

- removal from class
- consultation with parents and guardians
- attendance, performance and/or behavioral contracts
- counseling, mediation or restorative justice
- referral to SD#20 District School-Based Team
- cleaning, restoration, replacement and/or repair of damaged property at learner's expense
- involvement of the police and/or legal action
- suspension and/or further administrative action under the School Act
- compliance with a detailed re-entry plan to gain admission to the school again

RISING EXPECTATIONS

The expectation at PHSS is that learners show increased personal responsibility and self-discipline during their time at the school.

There are increased consequences for inappropriate behaviour as learners progress through the grade placements. Learners who regularly contravene the Code of Conduct will be subject to increasing consequences for their behaviour. For example:

- tiered attendance contracts will be used for serious lack of attendance
- tiered suspensions will be given for repeated infringements of school rules.
- Referral to the Director of Learning Services and/or Superintendent of Schools

NOTIFICATION

School officials may have a responsibility to advise other parties, such as parents, school district officials (as required by school district policy), police and/or other agencies (as required by law) of serious breaches of the MSS Code of Conduct

GUIDELINES FOR SUSPENSION

All secondary schools on the Sunshine Coast follow the *Guidelines for Suspension*. The following behaviours may lead to a suspension:

Willful Disobedience: [OBJ]

Any learner not adhering to a reasonable request by any staff member will be sent home immediately and not permitted re-entry until they have explained the refusal to act to the staff member involved, in the presence of a parent, caregiver and administrator.

Drug or alcohol or smoking or vaping involvement is defined as possessing, using, smelling of, or being with someone while they were using drugs or alcohol or smoking or vaping.

Assault is defined as threatening or intimidating behaviour in addition to physical acts of violence towards a learner, teacher, or other staff member.

Weapons are defined (as per District Policy 6950) as:

- a) anything used or intended for use in causing death or injury to persons whether designed for that purpose or not;
- b) anything used or intended for use in threatening or intimidating any persons;
- c) anything else that, in the opinion of an administrative officer, is potentially dangerous in the hands of a particular learner or in a specific situation.

District Policy requires that all incidents involving drugs, alcohol, assault or weapons be reported to the RCMP.