
203 Students AP – Student Code of Conduct

Purpose

To establish and maintain a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment for all students, staff, and guests of the Prairie Rose School Division.

Statement Regarding the Alberta Human Rights Act

WHEREAS it is recognized in Alberta as a fundamental principle and as a matter of public policy that all persons are equal in: dignity, rights and responsibilities without regard to race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical disability, mental disability, age, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status or sexual orientation;

WHEREAS multiculturalism describes the diverse racial and cultural composition of Alberta society and its importance is recognized in Alberta as a fundamental principle and a matter of public policy;

WHEREAS it is recognized in Alberta as a fundamental principle and as a matter of public policy that all Albertans should share in an awareness and appreciation of the diverse racial and cultural composition of society and that the richness of life in Alberta is enhanced by sharing that diversity;

THEREFORE, discrimination on any of the prohibited grounds in Section 4 of the Alberta Human Rights Act is unacceptable behaviour.

Examples of Acceptable Behaviour:

- Respect yourself and the rights of others in the learning environment.
- Make sure your conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects the diversity and fosters a sense of belonging of others in your learning environment.
- Refrain from, refuse to tolerate, and report bullying or bullying behaviour, even if it happens outside of the school or school hours or electronically.
- Inform an adult you trust in a timely manner of incidents of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, intimidation, or other safety concerns in the learning environment.
- Act in ways that honours and appropriately represents you and your school.
- Attend school regularly and punctually.
- Be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue your education.
- Know and comply with the rules of your school.
- Cooperate with all school staff.
- Be accountable for your behaviour to your teachers and other school staff.
- Contribute positively to your school and your community.

Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour:

- Behaviours that interfere with the learning of others and/or the school environment or that create unsafe conditions.
- Non-compliance to school staff instruction and direction.
- Acts of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or intimidation.

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- Inappropriate use of personal technology devices.
- Physical violence.
- Retribution against any person in the school who has intervened to prevent or report bullying or any other incident or safety concern.
- Illegal activity such as:
 - Possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances,
 - Possession or use of weapons, or
 - Theft or damage to property.

Note: “Students, whether of legal age or not, are not permitted to bring, consume, or use alcohol, cannabis, or any other drugs on any school property or building and at or during any school-related activity off of school property. Tobacco-related items (cigarettes, vaporizers, chew, etc.) are also prohibited as stated in the previous sentence... unless otherwise indicated at a particular school location. Students are also prohibited from attending school, school property, and any school related activity off of school property while under the influence of any impairing drug, alcohol, or other substance, with the exception of medically approved and prescribed medication properly taken according to a physician’s instructions, and in cases where impairment could result with a preceding discussion with the Division on appropriate accommodation of such medical condition and medication.”

Location and time of unacceptable behavior includes:

- On school property at any time.
- During school hours.
- When using personal technology devices.
- At any time and at any place during activities associated with the school (e.g. during field trips or extracurricular activities).
- During transportation arranged by the school division.
- At any time or place, provided school administration deems the behaviour or incident to be detrimental to the school or its students and staff.

Consequences of Unacceptable Behaviour:

- Consequences will range from in-class consequences administered by a school staff member to suspension administered by the school principal. Consequences might include expulsion recommended by the school principal and authorized by the Board of Trustees.
- Consequences will take into account the nature of the unacceptable behaviour, the student’s age, maturity, and individual circumstances.
- Any special needs that the student has will be considered when applying consequences.
- Supports will be provided to students impacted by inappropriate behaviour and to those students who engage in inappropriate behaviour.
- Consequences will be guided by best practice and monitored by the school principal.
- All suspensions and expulsions will adhere to parameters outlined in the Education Act.

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School-Based Student Conduct Expectations:

- All schools will develop and communicate a Student Code of Conduct that operates within the PRPS Student Code of Conduct principles.
- All school-level and classroom-level expectations of behaviour and consequences will correlate with the PRPS Student Code of Conduct principles and will be age/grade appropriate.
- All schools will develop guidelines within their staff handbook that explain student management procedures within the school.
- All schools will incorporate strategies for teaching, supporting and reinforcing positive behaviour. Supporting Positive Behaviour in Alberta Schools is a recommended resource.

Procedures of Communication:

- The PRPS Student Code of Conduct will be published on the PRPS website, school-based websites, and placed in staff handbooks.
- Each school's Student Code of Conduct will be published on the school's website and published in student and staff handbooks.
- Staff handbooks will outline the roles and responsibilities of the school leadership and staff as it pertains to procedures and operations around student management.
- The PRPS Student Code of Conduct will be reviewed annually by the PRPS executive and school leaders.

Legal Reference: Education Act - Section 33

Revised: January 17, 2020
December 2025