

ARKANSAS ACT 80-1656

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ORDERLY OPERATION OF SCHOOLS

Nothing in ACT 80-1656 shall limit a local school district's power to adopt reasonable rules, regulations, and policies, not inconsistent with the ACT, to insure continued orderly operation of schools, including adult education and area vocational-technical high schools, and such powers are deemed to include the right of expulsion for student(s) participation in any activity which tend, in the opinion of the board, to disrupt, obstruct, or interfere with orderly education processes.

ACT 888 requires principals to report acts of students on school property, which constitute a felony and to report assaults or other violent act by students against a teacher on school property to law officials.

ACT 397 and 539 allow a provision for a period of silence.

ACT 930 OF 2017

STUDENT SUCCESS PLAN

A personalized education plan intended to assist students with achieving readiness for college, career, and community engagement. Each eighth grade student shall have a Student Success Plan in place that is developed by school personnel in collaboration with parent and student. The plan must be updated annually thereafter.

CYBER BULLYING

ACT 115

Students using any electronic devices including telephone, cell phone, wireless communication devices, computer, or pager as a means to harass another student member.

ACT 115 applies to electronic act whether or not it originated on school property or with school equipment if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel.

This punishment will take the form of suspension, a recommendation for expulsion, and notification of the police if necessary.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

The Piggott School District has an obligation and a commitment to provide a safe learning environment for each of its students. Student achievement is best attained in an atmosphere that is free from the fear of emotional and physical intimidations and threats. Bullying is a destructive behavior that will erode the foundational principles on which a school is built. This school will not tolerate any behavior that is classified under the definition of bullying and will take steps needed to eliminate such behavior.

Believing that prevention is the strongest means available in eliminating bullying, this school will offer programs and/or educational materials regarding the nature of bullying and its consequences should a child choose to engage in this type of behavior. The programs and/or materials will emphasize that this district will not tolerate bullying, and that school employees, volunteers, and students are encouraged to report any instance of bullying without fear of consequences. Any report will take into account the age of the offending student, the level of seriousness of the behavior, and whether or not the offending student has developed a habit of engaging in bullying.

After completing an investigation of the reported incident, a student who has been found guilty of participating in bullying behavior will be subject to disciplinary action that is appropriate to the degree of seriousness of the bullying behavior.

For the purposes of this policy, bullying is defined as any expression (written or verbal), physical act (gesture, contact, staring, etc.) or a pattern there of, that is intended to cause distress or fear upon one or more students. A student will be found violating this policy if his conduct has been found to have the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or other detrimental results on a fellow student, and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it limits the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity.

Students who believe they have been victimized by a bully or parents who believe their child has been victimized by a bully, are encouraged to file a complaint by contacting a school counselor, teacher, or administrator who will assist them in getting help for the child and take appropriate steps to ensure that such behavior is stopped. To the extent possible, complaints will be treated in a confidential manner. Limited disclosure may be necessary in order to complete a thorough investigation. Students, parents, or teachers who file a complaint against a student who is guilty of being a

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bully, will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Students or adults, who knowingly fabricate allegations and falsely accuse a student of being a bully, will be subject to disciplinary action. Individuals who withhold information, purposely provide inaccurate facts, or otherwise hinder an investigation of a student for the purposes of bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

The school will make every reasonable effort to contact, as soon as possible, the parents of any student who is reported to have been the subject of bullying.

Legal References: ACT 681 (2003 – 84th General Assembly)

For minimum and maximum punishments regarding bullying, please see Piggott Elementary School and Piggott High School sections of this handbook.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Any student at Piggott School District is entitled to the same protection against sexual harassment as an employee in the workplace as stated in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Peer Sexual Harassment by the Arkansas School Board Association. (Copies may be found in the superintendent’s office.)

Sexual harassment is deliberate or repeated sexual behavior, or a sex-based nature, that is unwelcome, not asked for, not returned, and that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. The behavior can be verbal nonverbal, or physical. It is deliberate, not happening by accident, but by someone’s intent and/or it is repeatedly happening more than once. The victim, as well as the harasser, may be a female or a male. The victim does not have to be of the opposite sex.

Type of Conduct	Sexual Conduct Associated with Sexual Harassment
Physical	Touching
	Patting
	Pinching
	Hugging
	Grabbing
Verbal	Propositions
	Sexual jokes
	Obscene language that is gender-specific or sexual in

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	nature
	Sexual remarks
Other	Pictures, drawings, and cartoons that are offensive in a sexual nature
	Jokes, verse, etc. that may be offensive in a sexual nature
	Staring, ogling, leering

Any student who believes that he or she has been sexually harassed shall:

1. tell the offender that his or her conduct is offensive and unwelcome
2. report the conduct to the appropriate school personnel

The school personnel shall:

1. take the appropriate action as the situation warrants
2. report the harassment in the form of written documentation to the principal

Repeated offenses and severe harassment shall be reported to and taken care of by the principal.

Consequences shall include corporal punishment, suspension and/or recommendation of expulsion.

TERRORISTIC THREATENING (5-13-301, 1-17-97)

1. A person commits the offense of terroristic threatening in the first degree if:
 - a. With the purpose of terrorizing another person, he threatens to cause death or serious physical injury or substantial property damage to another person; or
 - b. With the purpose of terrorizing another person, he threatens to cause physical injury or property damage to a teacher or other school employee acting in the line of duty.
 - c. Terroristic threatening in the first degree is a Class D felony.
2. A person commits the offense of terroristic threatening in the second degree if, with the purpose of terrorizing another person, he threatens to cause physical injury or property damage to another person.
 - a. Terroristic threatening in the second degree is a Class A misdemeanor.

3. A judicial officer, upon pretrial release of defendant, shall enter a no contact order in writing consistent with Rules 9.3 and 9.4 of the Arkansas Rules of Criminal Procedure and shall give notice to the defendant of penalties contained in Rule 9.5 of the Arkansas Rules of Criminal Procedure.
 - a. This no contact order shall remain in effect during the pendency of any appeal of a conviction under this section.
 - b. The judicial officer or prosecuting attorney shall provide a copy of this no contact order to the victim and arresting agency without unnecessary delay.
 - c. If the judicial officer has reason to believe that mental disease or defect of the defendant will or has become an issue in the cause, the judicial officer shall enter such orders as are consistent with 5-2-305.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Corporal punishment will always be administered according to the following procedures:

- a. It will be used only after other alternatives, including but not limited to counseling, have failed. Unusual circumstances will necessitate the use of corporal punishment prior to a counseling session.
- b. It will be administered in the presence of at least one certified employee in addition to the person dispensing the punishment.
- c. It will not be administered in the presence of other students; it will not be administered with malice, anger, or in excess.
- d. Previous to administration of corporal punishment, the student will have been advised of the reasons the punishment is being given and a full discussion of the options open to both the administrator/teacher and student will have been explored. In the presence of the witness, the reason(s) for the punishment will be given, and the student will be allowed to make a statement. School officials are not required to conduct formal hearings prior to administering corporal punishment.
- e. This punishment will be administered only on the student's buttocks; when the student is resisting, moving