

ANNUAL NOTICES

Introduction

Parents/guardians should take time to review the district's annual notices. These annual notices include information about regular education, special education, and gifted education services. These notices also provide details of the district's public outreach and awareness system as well as screening procedures. Pine-Richland School District (PRSD) provides a free and appropriate public education for all students including students requiring special education services. This includes provision of education and related aids, services, or accommodations, which are needed to afford each qualified student with a disability equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits from educational programs and extracurricular activities without discrimination, to the same extent as each student without a disability, consistent with federal and state laws and regulations.

Each year the district publishes these notices along with other pertinent information families need to know about school district operations and expectations at www.pinerichland.org. Families without internet access should contact PR Communications Director Rachel Hathhorn at 724-625-7773, ext. 6202.

Annual Notices

You can visit www.pinerichland.org/annualnotices for more about student services and more details on the following:

- > Armed Forces Recruiting
- > Attendance
- > Bullying/Cyberbullying
- > Child Abuse
- > Concussion Management
- > Diabetes Management
- > Education for Homeless Youth
- > Electronic Devices
- > Enrollment of Students
- > Federal Programs Title I
- > Food Allergy Management
- > Free and Reduced Lunch
(Visit www.compass.state.pa.us for info & application)
- > Gifted Education Services & Screening & Evaluation
- > Hazing
- > Health Examinations/Screenings
- > Homebound Instruction
- > Independent Educational Evaluations
- > Immunizations and Communicable Diseases
- > Interscholastic Athletics
- > Language Instruction Educational Program for English Learners
- > McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- > Medication
- > Meetings
- > Migrant Students
- > Notice of Recommended Assignment (NORA)
- > Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP)
- > Notice of Rights Regarding Education Records
- > Possession/Administration of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-Injectors
- > Protected Handicapped Students: Chapter 15
- > Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/Guardians and Students
- > Right to Know Act
- > School Wellness
- > Screening, Evaluation & Placement Procedures
- > Searches
- > Services for Preschool-Age Children with Disabilities
- > Services for School-Age Exceptional Children

- > Services for Students in Nonpublic Schools
- > Special Education
- > Special Notice Regarding Directory Information
- > Standards for Victims of Violent Crimes
- > Student Recruitment
- > Student Rights & Responsibilities
- > Student Services
- > Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- > Tobacco & Vaping Products
- > Video and Photographs*
- > Weapons

**Any parent/guardian wishing his or her student not to be photographed or videotaped for use on the website, social media or outside media outlets, should contact the PR Director of Communications no later than Sept. 15 via rhathhorn@pinerichland.org.*

Attendance

The board requires that school age students enrolled in district schools attend school regularly, in accordance with state laws. The educational program offered by the district is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation in order for students to achieve academic standards and consistent educational progress. You can visit www.pinerichland.org/Page/1842 for more about **Policy 204**. The district revised this policy in 2021.

Discipline Code

The purpose of the PRSD Discipline Code is to present standard behavioral expectations based on school board policy for all students in the district. Parents are encouraged to become familiar with the PRSD Discipline Code and to review these documents with their children. Parents, guardians, and students are also referred to Board Policy No. 218 of the board policy manual for additional information regarding the discipline code, student conduct, and consequences of inappropriate or proscribed behaviors and conduct. In the event of any conflict between the terms of the discipline code and any board policy, the applicable board policy will control and take precedence. To review this document, which contains everything from attendance, unlawful harassment, bullying to bus expectations, visit www.pinerichland.org/disciplinecode.

Public Outreach & Awareness System (Child Find)

PRSD uses a public outreach awareness system to locate and identify children thought to be eligible for special education within the school district's jurisdiction. The district provides details of where to find out more information about the district's special education and early intervention programs through announcements on PR-TV (broadcasted throughout the community), in the annual report (distributed to residents, township buildings, and libraries) and via electronic communications (e-notices and website).

Discrimination and Harassment

The board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs and activities offered in the schools without discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability.

The district shall provide to all students, without discrimination, course offerings, counseling, assistance, employment, athletics, and extracurricular activities. The equitable distribution of district

resources is one means the district shall use to ensure all students receive a quality education. The district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute handicaps and disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.

Discrimination is inconsistent with the rights of students and the educational and programmatic goals of the district and is prohibited at or, in the course of, district-sponsored programs or activities, including transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities.

The board also declares it to be the policy of this district to comply with federal law and regulations under Title IX prohibiting sexual harassment, which is a form of unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex. Such discrimination shall be referred to throughout this policy as Title IX sexual harassment. Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX to the district may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, or both.

Annual notices are required for the PRSD website and related publications. Violations of this policy, including acts of retaliation as described in this policy, or knowingly providing false information, may result in disciplinary consequences under applicable Board policy and procedures.

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations, the filing of a report, and the investigation related to any form of discrimination or retaliation, including Title IX sexual harassment, shall be handled in accordance with applicable law, regulations, this policy, the attachments, and the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Complaint Process

The school board encourages students and parents/guardians who believe they have been subjected to discrimination or harassment to promptly report such incidents to designated employees in accordance with PR School Board Policy Nos. 103: Nondiscrimination/ Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students and 103.1: Nondiscrimination - Qualified Students with Disabilities, which can be found on the PR Policy Manual, which is linked to the district's website. Complaints of discrimination or harassment shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action will be taken for substantiated allegations. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district's legal and investigative obligations.

Students and third parties who believe they or others have been subject to discrimination, Title IX sexual harassment, and or retaliation for reporting of such to promptly report such incidents to the building principal, even if some elements of the related incident took place or originated away from school grounds, school activities or school conveyances. A person who is not an intended victim or target of discrimination but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may also file a report of discrimination

The building principal shall promptly notify the Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator of all reports of discrimination, Title IX sexual harassment or retaliation. The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary and to discuss the availability of supportive measures. The Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.

Compliance Officer

Mr. Brian Glickman
Director of Human Resources
702 Warrendale Road
Gibsonia, PA 15044
724-625-7773 x6301

Section 504 Coordinator

Dr. Maura Paczan
Lead School Psychologist
Richland Elementary
3811 Bakerstown Road
Gibsonia, PA 15044
724-443-7230 x6503

Related policies include:

Policy 103

Nondiscrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students

Policy 103.1

Nondiscrimination: Qualified Students with Disabilities

Policy 104

Nondiscrimination in Employment Practices

Policy 247

Hazing

Policy 249

Bullying/Cyberbullying

Policy 824

Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries

AR 103.1

Nondiscrimination Qualified Students w/Disabilities Grievance Process

AR 103A

Nondiscrimination in School & Classroom Practice Complaint Procedures

AR 103B

Nondiscrimination in School & Classroom Practice - Gender & Gender Identity

AR 103C

Title IX Sexual Harassment Procedures & Grievance Process

Visit www.pinerichland.org/nondiscrimination for more details on the above procedures and policies.

Surveillance Cameras & Audio Recordings

Under School Board **Policy #816 (Use of Video Surveillance Cameras)**, the district is permitted to use video surveillance in any school building, on school district property, or on any transportation vehicle being used by the district. The district does monitor district buildings, property, and transportation vehicles with surveillance cameras and individuals using any such facilities should expect that such surveillance may occur. In addition, the use of audio recordings is permitted on school district transportation vehicles (Policy #810.2). The district began recording audio on all equipped buses beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

Food Service & Student Wellness

For more information on the free and reduced meal program and online application go to, www.compass.state.pa.us

In 2018, the school board approved a revised **Policy #808 Food Services** as well as an administrative regulations, which addresses student meal balances and unpaid meal charge procedures.

Pine-Richland School District recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well being, growth, development, and readiness to learn. The board is committed to

providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education and promotion, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement. In November of 2017, the board approved a revised **Policy #246 Student Wellness**.

Child Abuse (Policy 806)

The board requires district employees, independent contractors, and volunteers to comply with identification and reporting requirements for suspected child abuse, as well as the training requirement for recognition and reporting of child abuse to comply with the Child Protective Services Law and the School Code. To read the entire policy visit www.pinerichland.org/healthwellness and click on Child Abuse Policy.

Complaint Process (Policy 906)

The board welcomes inquiries, suggestions, and constructive criticism from parents/guardians, district residents, or community groups regarding the district's programs, personnel, operations, and facilities. The Board adopts this policy to establish procedures for seeking an appropriate resolution to complaints. To review more details about the complaint process, visit www.pinerichland.org/complaintprocess.

Confidentiality

In **Confidential Communications of Students Policy 207**, the board directs school personnel to comply with all federal and state laws, regulations, and Board policy concerning confidential communications of students. To review the guidelines of the policy, please visit www.pinerichland.org/confidential.

Public Attendance at Events (Policy 904)

The board welcomes the public at all activities and school-sponsored events, but, the Board also acknowledges its duty to maintain order and preserve school facilities during such events. To view Policy 904 visit www.pinerichland.org/community and click on Public Attendance at Events. The overview will contain more information about tobacco use, free admittance, and service animals.

Student Insurance

The board recognizes the need for insurance coverage for unforeseen accidents that may occur to students in the course of attendance at school or participation in the athletic and extracurricular programs of the schools. The board shall provide parents/guardians the opportunity to purchase insurance coverage, at no cost to the board, for injury resulting from accidents sustained by students in school programs, school activities, and while traveling between home and school other than on a school bus. The premium will be paid by the parents/guardians. The board shall maintain insurance coverage by a qualified insurer over and above the first responsibility of family coverage at no cost to the student for injury resulting from accidents sustained while participating in an interscholastic sports program, the cheerleader program, and band program. You can visit www.pinerichland.org/insurance for more information on the student insurance carrier.

Parents/guardians looking for help for health insurance can review more information about the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). CHIP

is there for your kids with quality, comprehensive health insurance coverage for routine doctor visits, prescriptions, dental, eye care, and much more. Visit www.pinerichland.org/insurance for more information.

Student Fundraising

Fundraising activities must comply with **School Board Policy #229 (Student Fundraising)** and must be requested in writing to the building principal or director of athletics on a district-approved form. The form must be reviewed and approved at the building/athletic office before any such fundraising can take place. No student instructional time may be used for fundraising. Visit www.pinerichland.org/booster for policy information and forms.

Student Survey

Policy 235.1 sets forth guidelines regarding the conduct of surveys and the collection and use of information for marketing purposes, consistent with law and regulations. To read the entire policy, please visit www.pinerichland.org/surveys.

Student Assistance Program (Policy 236)

The district reinforces the connection between emotional well-being and student success through a continuum of the school and community mental health supports. The Student Assistant Programs and School-Based Mental Health Services are available in all of PR schools, K-12. Specifically, all staff members (administrators, teachers, counselors, nurses, coaches, bus drivers, custodial staff, food service personnel) are trained annually on risk factors and warning signs of suicide and appropriate responsible reporting procedures (Observe, Listen, Refer). The district and school suicide prevention coordinators continue to provide age-appropriate curriculum for students K-12 in the development of resiliency, understanding good emotional and physical health, protective factors, healthy coping and problem-solving skills, responsible reporting, and identifying trusted adults at school and in the home environments. Anyone can refer a student to SAP when they are concerned about someone's behavior. Students can go directly to the SAP team to ask for help. The SAP team contacts the parent for permission to proceed with the SAP process. Visit www.pinerichland.org/sap for more information.

Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Response (Policy 819)

The board is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its students and the school community. Policy 819 supports the provision of a comprehensive district program designed to promote behavioral health and prevent suicide. The Board directs the district to provide education on youth suicide awareness and prevention; to establish methods of prevention, intervention, and response to a suicide attempt or suicide death; and to promote access to suicide awareness and prevention resources. You can view the Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Response site via www.pinerichland.org/suicidepolicy.

Board Policies & Discipline Code

All school policies can be accessed at any time by visiting www.pinerichland.org/policies. Policies are updated in a cyclical manner. Families should review the policy manual and discipline code annually. You can find the discipline code by visiting www.pinerichland.org/disciplinecode.