Piikani Nation Secondary School

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Piikani Nation is part of the Treaty 7 and Blackfoot Confederacy. Peigan Board of Education has been in operation from– 1986 to 2025. We are a band operated school with non-profit incorporated status which means we are arm's length from Piikani Chief and Council. Piikani Nation Secondary School is a high school, consisting of grades 7-12.

PEIGAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Piikani Nation Secondary School (PNSS)

Piikani Nation Secondary School Information

Address:

1250 13th Ave, Brocket, AB, T0K 0H0

Contact Information:

PNSS Phone Number: 403-965-2121

Email Address - Principal: PNSSPrincipal@Piikani.ca

Email Address - Assistant Principal of Senior High School: ADevine@Piikani.ca

Email Address - Assistant Principal of Junior High School: BWeighill@Piikani.ca

2025-26 Staff

Administrative team

- Principal – Leo West
- Assistant Principal of Senior High & Language and Culture Coordinator - Aaron Devine
- Assistant Principal of Junior High & Learning Support Teacher - Brett Weighill
- Administrative Assistant – Reba One Owl

Teachers

- Junior High Math – Oshana Christiansen
- Junior High Science – Rob West
- Junior High Social Studies – Bryson Quilliams

- Junior High English – Cheryl Peters
- Junior High/Senior High Blackfoot – Celestine Twigg
- Senior High Math/Science – Bamidele Fasunwon
- Senior High English/Social Studies – Teresa Donahue
- Senior High CTS Shop and Physical Education – Cord Delinte
- Senior High CTS Foods and Humanities – Donald Dennis

Educational Assistants

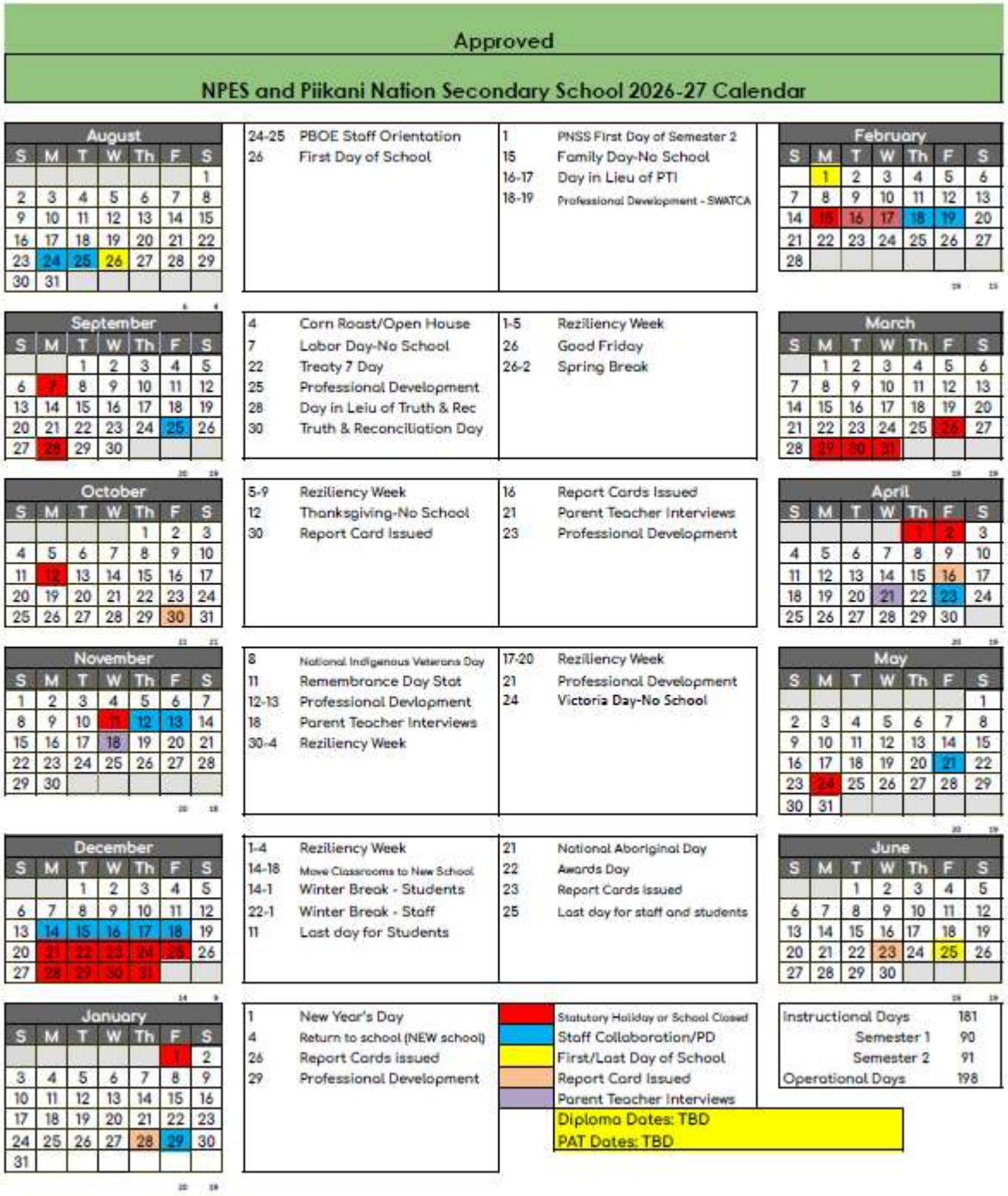
- Brady Davis
- Brayden Smith
- Jamie Lee English
- Jesse Plain Eagle
- Harwinder Kaur
- Leason Smith
- Sarbjot Singh
- Sherrisse Prairie Chicken
- Trent Morning Bull
- Trish Crow Eagle

Wellness Team

- Family Support Liaison – Barb Smith
- Counsellor – Aaron Fox
- Counsellor – Shianne Neumann
- Wellness Worker –
- Wellness Worker – Jerry Morrison
- Success Coach – Slade No Runner
- Success Coach – Caleb Jackson



2026-27 Calendar





Bell Times

	Mon to Thurs		Friday		Friday	
Block	Time	Event	All JH teachers		All SH teachers	
	8:45-8:55	Mentor	8:45-8:55	Mentor	8:45-8:55	Mentor
	8:55 - 9:00	Announce	8:55 - 9:00	Announce	8:55 - 9:00	Announce
1	9:00 – 9:45	Period 1	9:00 – 9:45	Period 1	9:00 – 9:23	Block 1, Day 1
					9:23- 9:45	Block 1, Day 2
	9:45 - 10:30	Period 2	9:45 - 10:30	Period 2	9:45-10:08	Bloick 2, Day 1
					10:08-10:30	Block 2, Day 2
	10:30 -10:35	Break				
2	10:35 - 11:20	Period 3	10:35 - 11:20	Period 5	10:35-10:58	Bloick 3, Day 1
					10:58-11:20	Block 3, Day 2
	11:20 12:05	Period 4	11:20 12:05	Period 6	11:20-11:43	Block 4, Day 1
					11:43-12:05	Block 4, Day 2
	12:05 - 12:35	Lunch Break	12:25-12:50	Lunch	12:05-12:35	Lunch
3	12:35 - 1:20	Period 5	12:50-1:10	Health	12:35-1:10	Health
	1:20 – 2:05	Period 6				
	2:05 - 2:10	Break				
4	2:10– 2:55	Period 7				
	2:55– 3:35	Period 8				
	3:35	Dismiss				



Program Description

The Peigan Board of Education Society (PBOES) has established four overarching goals to measure progress and success:

1. PBOES will inspire and promote all Piikani students to maximize their potential to be successful Lifelong Learners.
2. PBOES will increase attendance and retention rates for all Piikani students in support of academic consistency, success, and sustainability.
3. PBOES will ensure all Piikani Students, Educators, Staff, and Trustees will have the opportunity to learn Piikanissini through

Blackfoot culture, history, language and governance structure of Piikani.

4. PBOES will maintain a sustainable infrastructure within an effective and efficient operational capacity.

Mission Statement:

Through Education, Community Partnerships, and Diligence from our Staff and Students, we will move into the Future with the Skills needed for Success with a Foundation of Piikani Values, Culture and Language.

Vision Statement:

The Peigan Board of Education Society works together with the Community to provide an Education for All Students that instills Pride in their Accomplishments and Niitsitapiisini.

Traditional Values

Piikanissini (see below)– is a document that guides our organizations on the Piikani Nation. The leadership in our community created the document to help us stay focused on the Blackfoot Way of Life. Teachers in the classroom use the document to help them infuse Piikani teachings. Some examples of Piikani infusion include sacred site tours, Blackfoot language programs, and Blackfoot Culture & Language Committee. The intent of this is to create school-wide initiatives and enhance the teaching methods of the language delivery in the classroom.

Piikanissini

Piikanissini, the way of life of the Piikani, sets out the inherent values and principles of the Akaa Piikani, the ancient Piikani people.

The Akaa Piikani were a member of the Siksikatsiitapiwa, the Blackfoot People, comprised of Kainaiwa, Siksikawa, and Piikaniwa. The Siksikatsiitapiwa marked their Blackfoot territory since time

immemorial with significant Blackfoot landmarks – in the north by the North Saskatchewan River, on the east beyond the Great Sand Hills, on the south by the Yellow Stone River, on the West by the Continental Divide. This was the territory given to the Siksikatsiitapiwa by Istipatahyopi, the Source of Life, to coexist with all his creation. The Siksikatsiitapiwa integrated with this land through stories, songs and ceremonies, and as a people we collaborated to maintain a distinct language, spirituality and culture, as well as, familial, economic, social and governmental relationships.

The Piikani were originally located in the Siksikatsiitapiwa territory in one geographic area, nevertheless, since the imposition of the international boundary, the Piikani have been geographically divided into two groups. The Aapatohsipiikani (North Piikani), located in Canada, and the Amsskapipiikani (South Piikani), located in the United States.

The Aapatohsipiikani, (referred to as the Piikani for the purposes of this document), wish to maintain their unique language, spirituality and culture as a people, while sustaining their family and social relationships, and traditional governmental systems.

The Aapatohsipiikani further strive to enhance our lives as a people by advancing the political interests of the Piikani, which includes protecting our treaty and aboriginal rights. The Piikani will further strive to ensure that the values, principles and integrity of the Piikani are preserved in the process.

The Aapatohsipiikani or Piikani, in respect of the foregoing, make the following declaration:

WHEREAS the Piikani, descendants of the Akaa Piikani, are a member of the Siksikatsiitapiwa;

AND WHEREAS the Piikani originally utilized specific areas within the territory of the Siksikatsiitapiwa, namely, those areas marked on the north by the North High River, on the west by the Great Divide;

AND WHEREAS the Piikani currently occupy lands on the Peigan Indian Reserve, in particular, those lands identified by Sits Behind the Eagle Tail at Treaty No. 7 as significant areas of the Piikani as marked by Crowlodge Creek, the Old Man River and the Porcupine Tails (Hills);

AND WHEREAS Piikani, although faced with many challenges as a people, have continually strived to maintain their language, spirituality and culture distinct to Piikani, including their family and social relationships, and traditional governmental systems, while promoting political interests, economic interests and education programs that will enhance the lives of the Piikani people;

AND WHEREAS Piikani, in pursuit of all their endeavours, aspire to always uphold and incorporate the values, principles and integrity of the Piikani;

AND WHEREAS Piikani also continue to endeavour to maintain economic, social and governmental relationships with the members of the Siksikatsiitapiwa;

AND WHEREAS Piikani, recognizing that first Nation governments are one of the three orders of government within Canada, will strive to maintain a stable relationship with the other orders of government that is based on principles of mutual respect, coexistence, and information sharing, and where applicable, one that is based on principles of collaboration and cooperation.

Programs Offered

At PNSS we offer two pathways to high school completion: Diploma and Certificate.

> The **diploma** route requires 100 credits and academic (dash 1 or dash 2) core classes: Math, English, Science and Social Studies.
>
> The **certificate** route requires 80 credits and non-academic (dash 4) core classes.

Both routes require a variety of Career and Technology Studies (CTS) courses and Physical Education (PE) and Career and Life Management (CALM).

At PNSS, all students are required to take Blackfoot Language 10, 20 and 30

Youth Empowerment Strategies (YES) Program

The YES Program will be offered to students in the summer semester following completion of grade 9. The program is an active, self-discovery journey through cultural knowledge, career explorations and leadership development. Students will receive course credits based on a variety of CTS offerings, including CALM.

High School Re-Design (HSRD)

PNSS has been given HSRD status and we have developed a variety of techniques to foster flexible learning environments, including personalized schedules and credit recovery. However, these techniques are used cautiously so as to not interfere with the academic rigour and standards of the programs of study and curricular outcomes.

Blackfoot Language

In addition to all other cultural offerings, there is a strong emphasis on Blackfoot language. All students from 7 to 12 will have Blackfoot language classes, taught by fluent language instructors, including a requirement of Blackfoot 30 for graduates. Blackfoot language is implemented in the announcements (including morning prayer), and anywhere possible in the school.

Registered Apprentice Program (RAP)

The RAP is an apprenticeship program for high school students where students have the opportunity to earn CTS credits for trades programs and at the same time can also work towards a registered apprenticeship. For this program the students are paid.

Work Experience

Work Experience 15–25–35 are separate courses for credit that provide hands-on learning activities in a work setting. These courses are treated as a practicum in cooperation with an on or off campus employer.

Green Certificate - Farm to Table

The Green Certificate Program provides students with opportunities to enter a variety of agriculture-related, learning pathways as a part of their senior high school program. Students earn credits and a certificate that could lead to a career in agriculture or agri-business. Students manage the PNSS Greenhouse, under the direction of experienced farm personnel and the supervision of the high school science teacher. In addition, they utilize the food produced in the CTS Foods courses.

Leadership Programs

The elementary school, Napi's Playground Elementary School, and PNSS partner up to provide an afterschool mentorship program using the Indigenous Youth Mentorship Program (IYMP) model. They meet regularly throughout the year to provide collaborative activities under the guidance of staff from both schools. In addition, there are many other opportunities through the year, where students are offered trips to attend camps and conferences.

Wellness Supports

Learning Support Team

The Learning Support Team works collaboratively with school administration, classroom teachers, educational assistants to identify students who need learning supports and interventions. They create Individual Program Plans (IPP's) and develop schedules to deliver evidence-based instructional strategies to assist neuro-diverse students.

Counsellor

Through the lens of education and school, our Clinical Counsellor works with students, focusing on improving their emotional, psychological, and behavioral well-being. Their goal is to foster coping mechanisms, personal development, and behavioral changes through diverse therapeutic techniques.

Wellness Worker

Each Wellness Worker, within the scope of practice of their credentials, provide mental and physical health programming. They provide advocacy, education, programming for individual or groups of students.

Success Coach

Success coaches support students to boost their resilience and develop healthy strategies to cope with challenges and overcome barriers to be success in school and life. Success coaches foster a positive school experience and build confidence and skills for academic success. With the support of a success coach, children and youth attend school more regularly, are more engaged in learning, avoid high-risk behaviours, learn life skills to make effective decisions and goals, and see a positive future for themselves.



Pedagogical Approaches

Collaborative Response Model

The Collaborative Response Model allows teachers to gain support from the Admin Team, EA's, OT, SLP, & Youth Therapists. Teachers meet once a month in collaborative meetings to review individual student needs. These RTI meetings acknowledge IPP work provide a working group to continuously assess student needs.

Trauma-informed

Our school employs the tenants of a trauma informed school, where all teachers, school administrators, staff, students, families, and community members recognize and respond to the behavioral, emotional, relational, and academic impact of traumatic stress on those within the school system. Addressing the impact of trauma exposure on students and school personnel directly, resisting punitive responses, and providing practical skills and supports to manage traumatic stress reactions are essential for building a positive school climate for students and teachers.

Extracurricular Programming

The school has emphasized offering a variety of sports: cross country, volleyball, basketball, badminton and track and field. We provide bussing and have brought in local mentors and coaches to promote participation. We will continue to add to extracurricular offerings by assembling a drum group, a dancing group and afterschool art/drama.



Land Based Learning

The school has organized 4 weeks per school year of hands-on, land-based learning. These weeks are called Reziliency Weeks and the 4, reoccurring themes are: Health, Art and Drama, Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Outdoor Education. For each of these themed weeks, the focus remains Blackfoot language and culture and all of the activities are viewed through this lens.

Student Expectations

SECTION 31 of THE EDUCATION ACT

Current as of December 4, 2025

Student responsibilities

31 A student, as a partner in education, has the responsibility to

(a) attend school regularly and punctually,

(b) be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue the student's education,

(c) ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging,

(d) respect the rights of others in the school,

(e) refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means,

(f) comply with the rules of the school and the policies of the board,

(g) cooperate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services,

(h) be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct, and

(i) positively contribute to the student's school and community.

STUDENT CONDUCT

All students are responsible for their own behaviour at all times. All school discipline will reflect the belief that we show respect for ourselves and respect the rights and dignity of others. Those students who make poor or inappropriate choices will be placed in the Discipline Cycle. This may include detentions, in school suspensions, out of school suspensions, restorative circles, meeting with Elders and/or Counsellors. Finally, other actions may be taken as the situation warrants, such as a Violent Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA).

Learning Environment

PNSS is committed to providing a welcoming, caring, respectful, safe and healthy learning and working environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging. It recognizes the importance of students' emotional, social, intellectual and physical wellness to their success in school and expects students to adhere to the following codes of conduct.

Respect for Self

All members of our community are expected to come to school free from the influence of tobacco, alcohol, cannabis and illegal drugs. The possession, use and/or distribution of tobacco, alcohol, cannabis or illegal drugs, on or off school property are prohibited under the Criminal Code. All school functions on and off school property will be free of tobacco, alcohol, cannabis and illegal drugs.

Respect for Others

Students are to comply with school rules and staff expectations while on school premises, school buses and during school-approved activities. Students are to treat everyone with the same respect they deserve. Consequently, anything that interferes with the rights of others is not acceptable. Swearing directed at staff will result in student discipline.



Respect for Property

School property is made available to students to enhance their self-development and learning. Textbooks, library books and other school equipment are all expensive to purchase and maintain. Everyone is expected to care for these tools of our education and to help keep them available for all students. In keeping with this, school and private property must be respected, therefore theft, vandalism and wilful damage will result in school consequences and require monetary compensation to repair.

Human Rights

We have all been created equal. As such, we affirm the rights of all individuals, regardless of race, colour, place of origin, ethnic origin, citizenship or creed, to be free from verbal or physical harassment and

abuse. Such abuse demeans us all, not just its victims. With this in mind, we are all encouraged to resolve our differences in a manner that preserves the safety and dignity of all.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

All members of the school community have the right to learn and work in an environment free of discrimination, prejudice, and harassment. All students, regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity have the right to be treated fairly, equitably, and with dignity and respect.

Race Relations and Sexual Harassment

It is the goal of the staff and students of PNSS to create a non-threatening environment in which value judgments are not placed on differences in race, ancestry, colour, language or culture. In addition, we are a community in which women and men stand in equal dignity.

The achievement of equity within our school is a responsibility that requires the ongoing commitment of everyone.

What is a racial incident?

A racial incident is any expression of physical, psychological or verbal abuse that impinges on the human rights of another person. This includes racial, religious or ethnic slurs, name-calling, insults, ethnic jokes, teasing, physical abuse or violence.

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is defined as any unwelcome sexual comment or contact that intimidates, demeans or offends an individual.

Should an incident of discrimination, bias, racism, or sexual harassment occur to you at PNSS School, please contact a staff member who will intervene, take action and try to correct the problem. The staff member will report the incident to the administrators and action *will be taken.*

Bullying

It is recognized that all students have a right to attend school without the fear of Physical, Verbal or Psychological Bullying. Students engaged in any type of bullying shall be disciplined, legal guardians will be phoned, and if deemed necessary, the police will be contacted.

Bullying behaviour is defined as repeated physical aggression, social alienation, verbal aggression and intimidation. An imbalance in power that shows intent to harm and causes distress in another.

Cheating and Plagiarism

We consider cheating and plagiarism (copying other work) as a serious breach of moral and ethical school conduct. We expect every student to complete his or her own assignments and that the work completed is original in nature.

If you are ever in doubt about attributing others' words or ideas, document your source.

Plagiarism usually occurs in two forms: 1) copying and 2) receiving outside writing help. The first form of plagiarism (copying) may consist of the following:

- Copying or gaining any other advantage from another student during a quiz, test, or examination situation;
- Exact copying of an author's or Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated text without the use of quotation marks;
- Using an author's or AI-generated words, sentences, or passages—even with omissions or changes in wording—without proper acknowledgment;
- Rearranging the words or sentences of one or more authors or AIs;

Students reported to administration for cheating or plagiarism will be dealt with according to the severity of the incident and their previous disciplinary history.

Dress Code

Students demonstrate integrity by dressing appropriately for school as they would for work in an informal service business. Clothing should be suitable for modesty and function, and must not be decorated with images or lettering that would be offensive to students, staff or the public.

The Piikani Nation Dress Code is as follows:

- All private body parts must remain private and be covered at all times
    - Tops and bottoms must overlap
    - No inappropriate message (e.g. beer promotions, sexual innuendo or comments, references to drugs,) on articles of clothing
    - See-through clothing or clothing cut-outs are not appropriate
    - Backless outfits, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts and tank tops are not acceptable
    - Shorts and skirts must meet the “finger tip” (e.g. with arms strait down at the sides, bottom of garment touches below the fingertips)
    - Hoods of sweatshirts should no be worn indoors
    - Gang related affiliated materials may not be worn throughout PBOES campus that display (but are not limited to) bandanas, patches, colors perceived as gang affiliation
    - Face coverings may not be worn at all indoors (unless medical)

All students require indoor shoes at all times, and those participating in PE or CTS classes may be subject to additional dress requirements as is mandated by safety regulations.

Some classes are scheduled to be outside on occasion and students need to be dressed appropriately for the weather.

Washroom and Hall Passes

Whenever students are out of the classrooms, they must have the teacher's permission. It is each student's responsibility to obtain a pass or permission from the teacher before leaving the classroom.

Electronic Devices

PNSS recognizes that technology plays an important role in our society, and that students must be taught how to use technology devices in a responsible manner. However, despite their benefits, cell phones can be disruptive to the learning process as well as the learning environment. Students are not permitted to have their prohibited digital devices inside the school, during school hours.

What Is a Prohibited Device?

Any digital device that has internet access, texting, music, gaming, or streaming capabilities. For example, but not limited to: Cell Phones, iPad, Tablet, Gaming Systems, Meta Glasses, and smart watches.

Students are to turn in all electronic devices when the arrive at the school and can collect them when they leave or at 3:35pm (dismissal time).

If a guardian needs to contact their child or vise versa, they may use the school phone in the main office.

Digital Citizenship

PNSS laptops are to be used for school related activities only and are monitored for inappropriate behaviour. The equipment must be used in a responsible matter and a fee will be charged for damages.



PROHIBITED ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES

Weapons

Weapons of any shape or kind, whether real or imitation, are prohibited.

Tobacco, Cannabis, Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

Tobacco, cannabis, alcohol and illegal drugs products are prohibited at all times on school property or during a school function.

Students caught in violation will be suspended, referred to addiction counselling services and mandated a case conference with legal guardian and school.

Fighting and Physical Aggression

The Board and administration view fighting and physical aggression as serious breaches of conduct. All students involved in a fight or other variations of physical aggression will automatically be suspended, out-of-school. Students encouraging others to fight and/or filming will also be subject to discipline and immediate suspension. Assault charges may be pursued in partnership with the RCMP, as a consequence of aggressive behaviour, fighting, or threatening expressions.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

All students receiving an incident report due to poor behaviour may receive a variety of consequences in line with the severity of the incident. This can include detentions, in-school suspensions, or out-of-school suspensions (which could be up to five full days). A prolonged pattern of refusal to follow school policy and procedure may lead to an out-of-school home learning program, where students are forbidden to come onto campus.

Incidents that warrant an immediate suspension from school includes but are not limited to: verbal abuse of staff, fighting, and use of tobacco, cannabis (including vaping or smoking) or alcohol on school property or during a school function.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Homework

Students may be given homework assignments and it is expected that these assignments will be completed on the date set by the teacher. Homework that is not a continuation of work done in class, will not be graded for marks. However, unfinished in class notes, questions, projects can/will be marked for grades. Teachers will communicate with

legal guardians should a student's academic progress show that assignments are not being turned in regularly or that they are incomplete.

Physical Education

Students are expected to arrive with all the necessary materials to take an active part in the lesson. This may include proper clothing for PE; a change of shorts, t-shirt and gym shoes. Without the proper materials, a student cannot fully participate in the PE program.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Attendance and Student Recruitment Initiative

At PNSS we are committed to fostering a positive and motivating learning environment for all students. As part of our ongoing efforts to encourage strong attendance, we provide a monetary incentive:

The Attendance Improvement Initiative

- All grade 7 to 12 students will receive the following amounts per month, according to their attendance rate:
    - Over 80%: $250.00
    - Over 50%: $150.00

If a student is absent, at PNSS we ask the legal guardian to verify the student absence by providing a note, phone call, or meeting.

Parental Engagement

- Regular communication with legal guardian on students regarding their attendance and success in school
- We will provide workshops and events to encourage the importance of attendance and its correlation to success.
- Every March, PBOES puts a Family Symposium conference for a whole day with an emphasis on encouraging parental engagement in the school.

Phone Calls and Home Visits

- If two or more days are missed consecutively, a student will be contacted by their teacher.
- If the absenteeism continues, a member from the FSL, Success or Wellness team will give a phone call home and offer assistance or suggestions to get students to re-engage with school.
- For students with chronic absenteeism, PNSS staff will conduct supportive, home visits.

Regular attendance is one of the most important contributing factors in the educational success of a student. We highly encourage legal guardians to communicate with the school prior to being absent.

Lateness and Skipping

It is expected that all students will arrive at school on time and be punctual to each of their classes. Excessive, inexcusable late arrival to

school and classes will be noted. Teachers will contact legal guardians if a trend is identified. If a student skips a class, the consequence will be in-school suspension.

Illness or Appointments

If a student becomes ill during the day, they will be required to contact a legal guardian or guardian through the office. The same will apply for any appointments; a legal guardian or guardian must sign the student out. Once permission has been received, the student will be permitted to leave after they have signed out.



SAFETY PROCEDURES

The PNSS community affirms the rights of all staff and students to work and learn in a safe, orderly and stimulating environment, and that everyone will assist in creating and maintaining this environment. Our guidelines are designed to help us to do this in all parts of our school: hallways, classrooms and playing fields.

Accidents

Any accident that occurs in the school must be reported to the main office. First aid equipment as well as qualified first aiders are available. Legal guardians will be contacted of all injuries. If a hospital visit is necessary, school staff will accompany the student and wait for a legal guardian/guardian to arrive at the hospital. In the case of a serious accident, an ambulance service will be contacted. Every effort will be made to contact the legal guardian/guardian or emergency contact person.

It is vital that the school has current legal guardian contact phone numbers and an emergency contact number on record.

Allergies

Students who have severe allergies must identify themselves to the main office and if they have been prescribed an EpiPen they must provide one to the main office.

PNSS is welcoming to students with allergies; therefore, pets, perfumes and all nut products are not allowed.

Medications

Any student who takes medication prescribed by a physician should report this to the school office (Principal or Assistant Principal) so that there is understanding of prescription medication taken during the school day. Medication may be held in the office and a form must be

completed by the legal guardian/guardian, allowing school to dispense medication as required.

Students with allergies must provide a list of known allergens and carry an Epi-Pen if necessary. Epi-Pens may also be kept in the office and will be carried by staff, in the event of off-site activity. Students with asthma, should carry inhalers with them at all times.

Students with medical issues (diabetes, asthma, severe allergies, etc.) MUST have their legal guardians complete a medical support plan.

The school does not provide any over-the-counter medication, such as Tylenol or Aspirin.

Fire Evacuation

Please use the following regulations:

- Observe the sign in every room indicating the main and alternate exits to be used.
- Immediately leave the building when the fire alarm sounds.
- Assemble with your teacher and class in your designated muster area.
- Remain outside for a signal to return.

There will be several, scheduled and unscheduled drills throughout the school year.



Lockdown/Hold and Secure

Students are required to practice Lockdown, and Hold and Secure drills each year. These drills are used to practice situations where there is an emergency that requires students to be out of the hallways and in their classrooms. A lockdown requires a stricter set of rules, where students are to remain quiet and unseen, and a hold and secure only requires students to remain in their classrooms, but may continue their regular instruction.

In both events, students are to take direction from their teacher.

In a Lockdown,

students and staff will go to the closest interior lockable room and remain on the floor away from windows or doors, lights and all the electronics are turned off. Students and staff are to remain as quiet as possible. Everyone waits for further instructions from administration/ emergency personnel.

In a Hold and Secure,

students remain in the classroom, with the door locked and continue instruction. No one will be allowed to enter or leave, until an all clear signal is given.

Visitors

Visitors to PNSS are always welcome, but only the legal guardians can request information regarding their child. In order to maintain an orderly and safe environment, all visitors must report to the office as requested on the posted signs. No visitor may pass the office area without the consent of the School Administrator or Teacher.

Sign-in and Sign-Out

Students are expected to sign in and sign out of the school upon late arrival or early departure. If a student needs to leave the school early, they need permission (via phone call) from their legal guardian. Only Senior High students have the privilege of leaving the school at lunch time, Junior High students may not.

School Closures

School cancellations will be announced by 7:00 a.m., placed on local media and Facebook. Please listen for details and use your own good judgement.

STUDENT SERVICES

Snacks and Drinks

Snacks will be provided in the office during school breaks, at 10:35am and 2:05pm. It is to be consumed before class or during the first break.

Snacks bought during classes may be confiscated. Eating during class time is not permitted. Students may only have water during class time.

Students who waste food or cause excessive messes will be subject to the Discipline Policy.

Lockers

Students are to use the locker assigned to them and are responsible for reporting any damage to the office. Locks placed on lockers not assigned to them will be removed without notice. Deliberate damage will be repaired at your expense and may result in removal of locker privileges.

> *The Supreme Court of Canada has stated that a Principal, who has reasonable grounds to do so, may conduct a search of a student or their possessions in carrying out his or her duties to maintain order and discipline in the school. Be advised that desks and lockers are school property and a search of such property is permissible by the school administration, acting as agents of the Board and not as agents of the police*.

Valuables

Students should not bring valuables or large sums of money to school. Valuables should never be left in your locker, the change rooms or unattended anywhere in the school. The school takes no responsibility for lost or stolen items. We will take reasonable effort to help find missing items.

Lost and Found

All items found on school premises should be handed in to the office. If you have lost something, retrace your steps during the day, and then if not found, check with the office. There is a lost and found bin located in the front entry.

Morning and Noon hour activities

The gym is open for student recreation in the morning and at lunchtime. All students are welcome to participate at a recreational level only and aggressive behaviour is not allowed. Students will be removed from the gym should they refuse to follow this policy.

Reporting Home

Students will be given report cards to take home to their legal guardians in November, January, April and June. Marks, work habits, attendance and general comments will be recorded on these report cards. In addition, twice a school year there will be Parent/Teacher Interview sessions held to allow for academic meetings with both the legal guardians and teachers. At PNSS we encourage legal guardians to initiate communication with teachers, counsellors and/or administrators by calling ahead to set up an appointment.

Extra-curricular Activities

Participation in extracurricular activities is considered a privilege. All students are expected to comply with PNSS School Policies as outlined in this handbook. Students may participate in extra-curricular activities provided they meet the following expectations:

- If a student is suspended out of school or in school, he/she will not be allowed to practice or play on the day of suspension without the Principal /administration's approval.
- A student who is suspended from the regular school program will not be eligible to practice or play any sport for the duration of the suspension.

School field trips and extra-curricular events require the same level of behaviour expectations as laid out in this handbook.

Dance Policy

Guests invited by the students and approved by the Principal or Vice-Principal will be admitted to the dance. Dances are considered an extracurricular activity. Therefore, all school rules apply at dances.

Awards

At PNSS students are recognized for their hard work and good behavior. Throughout the year, there are assemblies to provide awards for perfect attendance, athletic performance, Blackfoot Language, effort and respect. At the end of each school year there is an Extracurricular Awards banquet, an Academic Awards assembly and a Graduation ceremony.

