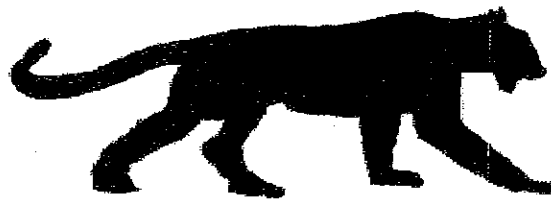




**2010-2011
Student / Parent / Guardian
Handbook**



Panther Valley Elementary School

1 N. Mermon Avenue, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

570-669-9411 Phone

570-669-6043 Fax

www.panthervalley.org

*“Working together as a community to inspire
each individual to achieve success through lifelong
learning”*



Board of Education

Membership 2010-11

President – Jeff Markovich
Vice-President – William Hunsicker
Secretary – Donna Trimmel
Treasurer – Anthony DeMarco
Member – R. Mickey Angst
Member – Irene Genter
Member – David Hiles
Member – Koreen Nalesnik
Member – Anthony Pondish

Meeting Dates

Panther Valley School District board meetings are every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Board room in the Panther Valley Administration Building, Route 209, Lansford. Remaining meeting dates for 2010: September 9, 23; October 14; November 11; December 9, 21, 2010.

Building Contact Information

Administration Office

Rosemary Poremba, Superintendent
Ken Marx, Business Manager
1 Panther Way
Lansford, PA 18232
(570)645-4248

High School

Joseph Gunnels, Principal
912 Coal Region Way
Lansford, PA 18232
(570)645-2171

Middle School

Lisa Mace, Principal
678 Panther Pride Drive
Lansford, PA 18232
(570)645-2175

Elementary School

William Lombardo, Principal
1 N Mermion Avenue
Nesquehoning, PA 18240
(570)669-9411

FACULTY & STAFF

- William Lombardo, Principal
- Mary Ann Hunsicker, Secretary
- Marianne Matyascik, Secretary

Kindergarten

- Mrs. Cerimele
- Mrs. Dickman
- Mrs. Niehoff

First Grade

- Mrs. Buchman
- Mrs. Hoffner
- Ms. Krajnak
- Ms. McArdle
- Ms. O'Connor
- Mrs. Williams
- Mrs. Wozniak

Second Grade

- Mrs. Andrews
- Mrs. Clark
- Mrs. Damian
- Mrs. McConnon
- Mrs. Mussoline
- Mrs. Szczecina
- Ms. Teno

Third Grade

- Ms. Barna
- Mrs. Duke
- Ms. Forster
- Mrs. Scarcella
- Ms. Wagner
- Mrs. Wickersham
- Ms. Yurko

Fourth Grade

- Ms. Enama
- Mrs. Morgans
- Mrs. Romanchik
- Ms. Shoher
- Mrs. Walker
- Ms. Whitehead

Fifth Grade

- Mrs. Collevchio
- Mrs. Conville
- Mr. Dillon
- Mrs. Gates
- Mrs. Houser
- Mrs. Yuricheck

Title I

- Mrs. Blazosky
- Mrs. Hadnagy
- Mrs. Koch
- Ms. Stone
- Mr. Sweeney

Music

- Mrs. Hoffer
- Mrs. Grebousky

Nurse

- Mrs. Selinko

Physical Education

- Mr. Gilbert

Special Education

- Mr. Borden, Supervisor
- Ms. Arnold, Coordinator
- Mrs. Dixon, Learning Support (K-1)
- Mrs. Maury, Learning Support (2nd)
- New, Learning Support (3rd)
- Ms. Penberth, Learning Support (4th)
- Mrs. Hajcak, Learning Support (5th)
- Ms. McGeehan, Learning Support (5th)
- Ms. Saxon, Resource Room
- Ms. Forbes, Life Skills (K-1-2)
- Mrs. Peters, Life Skills (3-4-5)
- Mrs. Getz, Multi-disabilities (IU)

Aides

- Ms. Collevechio, Learning Support (K-1)
- Mrs. Romankow, Learning Support (2nd)
- Mrs. Nevenglosky, Learning Support (3rd)
- Mrs. Kocha, Learning Support (3rd)
- Mrs. DiBonifazio, Learning Support (4th)
- Mrs. Sebelin, Resource Room (4th)
- Ms. Beers, Learning Support (5th)
- Mrs. Taras, Resource Room
- Mrs. Krajnak, 1:1 Life Skills
- Mrs. Miller, Life Skills
- Ms. Rehrig, Life Skills
- Mrs. Stuckley, Life Skills
- Mrs. Altemose, Kindergarten
- Ms. Kokinda, Kindergarten
- Mrs. O'Brien, Kindergarten
- Mrs. Cullen (1:1)
- Mrs. Drum (1:1)
- Mrs. Bonner (1:1)

Itinerant I.U.

- Ms. Bynon (Occ. Therapy)
- Ms. Grant (Phys. Therapy)
- Ms. Blazosky (Phys. Therapy)
- Mrs. Evelyn (Hearing)
- Ms. Trotter (Adapted Phys. Ed.)
- Ms. Kerestus (Speech)
- Ms. Price (Social Worker)

I.U. Room Aides

- Mrs. Haldeman
- Mrs. Maloney
- Mrs. Miller

School Psychologist

- TBA

Library

- Ms. Drum

Technology

- Mrs. Hahn

Art

- Mrs. Sharpe

Speech

- Mrs. Thomas

Guidance

- Mrs. Greco

Principal's Message

Dear Parents / Guardians,

This student-parent handbook has been developed so you will have a better understanding of the philosophy, policies, and procedures at Panther Valley Elementary School. The information will allow us to be better able to work **together** to provide the **best education** possible for your child.

Parents, as you are well aware, you play an important role in your child's educational development. Traditionally, our Panther Valley students have benefited from exceptionally strong parent support.

During the coming year, I strongly encourage you to stay closely involved in your child's activities and studies, both at school and at home. Literacy will be the first and most essential academic goal. To help us accomplish this goal we will be expanding our RtII, Response to Intervention and Instruction, initiative to include our second graders. RtII is designed to help students who struggle with learning concepts in areas like reading skills, get the assistance they need in the form of research-based instructional interventions applied at increasing levels of intensity. The RtII process has the potential to limit the incidence of academic failure that any student may experience. Parents, you can help by encouraging your child to read every night at home, using our 100 Book Challenge program, having high academic expectations for your child, checking your child's homework each night, and by staying in touch with your child's teacher.

This year we will continue to be working hard to improve student PSSA test scores in all academic areas. Setting high standards for all is critical to a world-class education.

I am looking forward to an exciting and productive school year. Your interest and support of our curriculum and programs are greatly appreciated. I believe that an open line of communication between home and school is vital to the success of your child.

If at any time you have questions, concerns, or if you wish to visit, please feel free to contact **me** or your child's teacher. Your concern and presence are **always** welcome.

Sincerely,



William Lombardo
Elementary Principal

PANTHER VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GOAL

The goal of the Panther Valley Elementary School is to create a climate for learning which stimulates and prepares students to be constructive citizens in our diverse society. The learning style of each student is the top priority of our staff. The focus of our educational program is to develop each student to his/her maximum potential with the intent to raise curiosity and creativity. It is our District responsibility to assist our students to gain fundamental knowledge that will be the base for further development to become independent thinkers. Our goal is to empower all students to be lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

Superintendent's Message

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

Greetings! On behalf of the Board of School Directors and the Administrative Team I would like to introduce you to the Panther Valley School District Student-Parent Handbook. We strive to create a positive and purposeful environment for the students of Panther Valley. This handbook is a guide to the policies and procedures that our Administrative Team utilizes throughout the District. Our goal is to address all issues and concerns fairly and consistently based on the policies and procedures established by the Board of School Directors.

Education and discipline are a shared responsibility between the students, parents, teachers, and administrators. Please read the handbook and maintain it for your future reference. It is not all inclusive, but covers a majority of the concerns students and parents routinely have. We look forward to a successful school year and exciting opportunities that a fresh start always brings.

Yours in Education,

Rosemary Poremba
Superintendent

ALMA MATER

**Alma Mater, listen Mother,
As we sing thy praises grand!
O noble queen of Panther Valley
Fairest high school in the land.
Thy sons and daughters stand together
Pledging all our love forever
Loyal we will always be.
O dearest Panther Valley High School
Mother
Hail, all hail to thee!**

**Thy black and white and golden banner
Proudly waves on high thy name
As we thy children fondly gather
E're to tell the world thy fame
To all bring honor to thy glory
Dedicated we will be
O dearest Panther Valley High School
Mother
Hail, all Hail to thee!**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ALERTNOW Letter & Form	4-4A
Anti-Bullying Charter	31-32
Arrival in School	25
Asbestos Notice	80
Attendance and Absence (Includes District Policy)	13-24
Bus Policy & Regulations	63-65
Cafeteria Information	67-69
Chaperones	10
Charter/Cyber School	14
Daily Time Schedule	8
Discipline Policy (Includes applicable District Policies)	29-62
Distribution of Literature	10
Dress and Grooming	39-44
Drop Off and Pick Up	25
Early Dismissal Dates – Tentative	3
Electronic Devices, Cell Phones, etc.	26
Emergency/Unscheduled Early Dismissals	3
English as a Second Language	9
Field Trip Permission Slip	81
Fire, Tornado & Emergency Drills	28
General Regulations on Discipline	26
Grades & Academic Standards (District Policy)	5-5C
Handbook Sign-Off Form	79
Homework	10
Internet Use & Form (District Policy)	74-79
Lunch with the Principal	28
Medical Emergency & Form	12-12A
Modified Kindergarten	3
Non-Immunized Children	25
PA Academic Standards / Standardized Assessment	9
Parent Access to Power Grade Account	6-7
Parent Custody Guidelines	66
Photo/Video Permission Slip	82
Report Card Information	5
School Calendar	1-2
School Visitors Policy (District)	73
Special Education Programs	70-72
Spirit Days	3
Statement of Nondiscrimination	80
Student of the Month	28
Student Records	26
Student Rights and Responsibilities	27-28
Tardiness	16
Title I Program	11
Unauthorized Tape Recording	26

PANTHER VALLEY 2010-2011 SCHOOL CALENDAR

19 – New Teacher Meetings
23, 24 – In-Service
25 – Student's First Day

Student Days – 5
Teacher Days – 7

AUGUST '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February '11						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

18, 21 – President's Holiday
(2/18 – Snow make up day for any snow day used by 2/4/11)
(Tentative)
Student Days – 18
Teacher Days – 18

6 – Labor Day Holiday

22 – Act 80 Day

Student Days – 21
Teacher Days – 21

September '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

March '11						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

11 – Act 80 Day

Student Days – 23
Teacher Days – 23

11 – Teacher In-Service
(County-Wide)

Student Days – 20
Teacher Days – 21

October '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April '11						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

20 – ½ Day
21, 22, 25 – Spring Holiday
(4/21 – Snow make up day for any snow day used by 4/1)
(Tentative)
Student Days – 18
Teacher Days – 18

10, 11, 12 – Parent Teacher Conference – ½ Days
24 – ½ Day
25, 26, 29 – Thanksgiving Holiday

Student Days – 19
Teacher Days – 19

November '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May '11						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

6 – Act 80 Day
30 – Memorial Day

Student Days – 21
Teacher Days – 21

23 – ½ Day
24-31 – Winter Holiday

Student Days – 17
Teacher Days – 17

December '10						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June '11						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

1 – Last Day Teachers & Students
Student Days – 1
Teacher Days – 1

17 – Martin Luther King Holiday

Student Days – 20
Teacher Days – 20

January '11						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

	Teacher	Student
August	7	5
Sept.	21	21
Oct.	21	20
Nov.	19	19
Dec.	17	17
Jan.	20	20
Feb.	18	18
March	23	23
April	18	18
May	21	21
June	1	1
Total	186	183

Notes:

- 1) Student Days = 183
Teacher Days = 186
- 2) Act 80 Days September 22, 2010, March 11, 2011 & May 6, 2011.
- 3) The district reserves the right to use school holidays on February 18, 2011 and April 21, 2011 for snow make-up days. Any additional days off for inclement weather/emergencies will be added to the end of the school calendar.
- 4) Early dismissal times according to type of scheduled day:

Day before holiday (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter) –
H.S. 12:00 Noon, M.S. 12:30 p.m., E.S. 1:00 p.m.

Parent/Teacher Conferences	-	November 10, 11, 12
Last day of School for Students	-	H.S. 11:00 a.m., M.S. 11:30 a.m., E.S. 12:00 Noon

BREAKDOWN OF 2010 – 2011 CALENDAR

August 19	Thursday	New Teacher Meetings
August 23	Monday	First Day for Teachers (In-Service Day)
August 24	Tuesday	Teacher In-Service Day
August 25	Wednesday	First Day for Students
September 6	Monday	Labor Day Holiday (School closed)
September 22	Wednesday	Act 80 Day
October 11	Monday	In-Service Day (County-wide program)
October 28	Thursday	End of 1 st Marking period – 45 th day
<u>Parent/Teacher Conferences</u>		
November 10	Wednesday	
November 11	Thursday	
November 12	Friday	
November 25, 26, 29	Thursday, Friday & Monday	Thanksgiving Holiday (School closed)
December 24 – December 31	Friday – Friday	Winter Holiday (School closed)
January 12	Wednesday	End of 2 nd Marking period – 90 th day
January 17	Monday	Martin Luther King Day (School closed)
February 18, 21	Friday, Monday	Presidents Holiday (School closed)
March 11	Friday	Act 80 Day
March 21	Monday	End of 3 rd Marking period – 135 th day
April 21, 22, 25	Thursday, Friday, Monday	Spring Holiday (School closed)
May 6	Friday	Act 80 Day
May 30	Monday	Memorial Day (School closed)
June 1	Wednesday	Last Day for Teachers, Students

Note: Marking Period #4 has 48 days to reflect 183 student school days.

TENTATIVE DATES FOR EARLY DISMISSAL

FOR HOLIDAYS

Students dismiss:

High School 12:00 / Middle School 12:30 / Elementary School 1:00. Lunch Served /
No Breakfast.

November 24, 2010

December 23, 2010

April 20, 2011

FOR PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

High School 12:00 / Middle School 12:30 / Elementary School 1:00. Lunch Served /
No Breakfast.

November 10, 11, & 12, 2010

EMERGENCY / UNSCHEDULED EARLY DISMISSALS

Please plan ahead and make arrangements so your child will know exactly what to do if school must dismiss early unexpectedly. "Unexpectedly" refers not only to weather situations which may be noticeable and therefore alert you to turn to the media but also for any health reason - water shut off, etc. - prompting immediate reaction by the school to handle the situation. **HAVE A PLAN & MAKE CERTAIN YOUR CHILD IS AWARE OF WHAT TO DO & WHERE TO GO WHICH MAY DIFFER FROM THEIR REGULAR SCHEDULE IF AN EMERGENCY SITUATION ARISES.**

Emergency dismissals are announced on the following radio and television stations: WLSH, WMGH, WKRZ, WNEP Channel 16, WYOU-22, WBRE-28, WFMZ-69, and BRCTV-13. The district "Alert Now" system is also in effect. Please be sure the office has your current telephone number to be included in the program.

MODIFIED KINDERGARTEN

When the district is on an unexpected late start, the kindergarten students will follow a "MODIFIED KINDERGARTEN" schedule. AM Kindergarten will run from 10:50 - 12:30 and PM Kindergarten will run from 1:45 - 3:25. You will be notified by the district. Please be sure we have a current telephone number in the system in order for you to be notified. Bus schedules will be handed out to all kindergarten students.

SPIRIT DAYS

Throughout the school year, we will hold spirit days where students will be allowed to wear jeans and Panther Valley themed shirts/sweatshirts. Be advised that all other aspects of the dress code are to be followed in regards to footwear, hair, piercings, etc. Shirts and jeans must follow the same guidelines outlined in the current dress code policy. If you choose not to participate in Spirit Day, the expectation is that you will report to school in uniform. The fall spirit days are September 3, October 8, 22, and 29, 2010. Spirit days for winter and spring sports will be designated at a later date.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety of the students, faculty and staff here at Panther Valley is one of our top priorities. For that reason, we have adopted the Saf-T-Net ALERTNOW Rapid Notification Service. This service will allow us to send a message to ALL of our student's parents on multiple contact numbers within minutes after an emergency or incident has occurred at the school. Giving you, the parent, peace of mind knowing that if an emergency should happen you will be informed immediately.

The message that you will receive may be used to alert parents and other emergency contacts of the situation occurring at the school. It may be used to give emergency instructions to parents on what they need to do to respond to their child and/or we may also use ALERTNOW to send important non-emergency messages out to parents like early closings due to weather conditions.

The delivery success of the message is only as successful as the contact information we have for our students so please make certain that we have the most current and up to date contact information. If this information changes throughout the year please let us know immediately.

Important Information:

1. **Your caller ID will display 411 anytime a call is coming through from the school that is considered a true emergency.** Caller ID will not display a name associated with the number.
2. **Your caller ID will display the schools phone number anytime a call is coming through from the school that is considered a "general notification" call.** These calls will contain information for your knowledge such as PTA meetings, report card reminders, or early dismissals due to inclement weather.
3. **Be sure to say "Hello" when you answer the phone. There is a slight three second pause once the phone has been answered.** Please stay on the line. The system needs to detect a couple seconds of silence to determine whether a live person has picked up the phone or an answering machine. Do not keep saying hello.
4. The system will leave a message on your voicemail or answering machine. However, the system is set to ring each line six (6) times. If your answering machine is set to pick up after the sixth ring a message will not be delivered to your machine. We encourage you to set it at five (5) rings.
5. If you have such things as Telemarketer Zapper or Privacy Director on your telephone lines you may not receive the call. For example, with Privacy Director all incoming calls are rerouted and the callers must identify themselves for the call to go through. Because our system is automated it will not identify itself thus the call will not get through to your number.

Our success in delivering the message is only as successful as the contact information we have for your student so please make certain that we have the most current and up to date contact information at all times. **If this information changes throughout the year please let us know immediately.** We are asking that all of our parents fill in the form below with all of their current contact information. Important: The ALERTNOW system can only accept direct dial numbers. If you have a direct dial number at work please use that number.

**ONLY COMPLETE THIS FORM IF YOUR NUMBER CHANGED
FROM LAST YEAR OR YOU ARE NEW TO THE DISTRICT**

Student Name: (please list all students who will be contacted at the below number(s))	
Emergency Phone Number:	Description (Home, Mom Cell, Dad Work, etc.)

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

We are very excited to bring this great service to our school for a third year and appreciate all of your support.

Yours in Education,
Rosemary Poremba
Superintendent

REPORT CARD INFORMATION

The school year is divided into four marking periods.

POTENTIAL FAILURE NOTIFICATION

First Period -	September 20, 2010
Second Period -	December 7, 2010
Third Period -	February 17, 2011
Fourth Period -	May 1, 2011

A teacher may still place a failure or incomplete grade on a student's report card without the potential failure notification if the student suddenly changed his/her classroom study behavior.

GRADES

Kindergarten students will receive report cards in January and June.

The Panther Valley School District will use a computer system called Powerschool to produce report cards, schedules, and attendance records.

Students in the elementary school in grades 1st through 5th may be administered a combination of numerical or letter grades.

93 - 100	Superior
83 - 92	Above Average
73 - 82	Average
65 - 72	Below Average
50 - 64	Unsatisfactory/Failing

or

A	(93-100)	Superior	E (93-100)	Excellent
B	(83-92)	Above Average	S (73-92)	Satisfactory
C	(73-82)	Average	N (65-72)	Needs Improvement
D	(65-72)	Below Average	U (0-64)	Unsatisfactory
F	(64 & below)	Unsatisfactory/Failing	I	Incomplete
			W	Withdrew

The subjects of art, music, handwriting, physical education, health, instrumental music, remedial reading in grades 1 and 2, language (grade 1), science (grades 1, 2 & 3), and social studies (grades 1, 2 & 3) will receive letter grades of E, S, N, U, I, or W.

The subjects of reading in grades 1 & 2 will receive letter grades of A, B, C, D & F. In grades 1, 2, and 3 a checklist for reading will be administered with the report card. For the first marking period only, the lowest numerical grade that will be given is a '50'.

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: ACADEMIC STANDARDS

ADOPTED: April 8, 2010

REVISED:

102. ACADEMIC STANDARDS	
<p>1. Purpose Title 22 Sec. 4.4, 4.12, 4.13 Pol. 100</p>	<p>The Board recognizes that education is a vital function of the state and community. The school community, through the strategic planning process, shall be encouraged to participate in the development of the educational goals and academic standards established for this school district.</p>
<p>2. Definition Title 22 Sec. 4.3, 4.11</p>	<p>Academic standards - shall be defined as what a student should know and be able to do at a specified grade level; they shall describe the knowledge and skills students will be expected to demonstrate in order to graduate. Academic standards shall be clearly defined, approved by the Board, conveyed to professional staff, and communicated to families and the community. Academic standards shall be both skills-based and knowledge-based.</p>
<p>3. Authority Title 22 Sec. 4.12, 4.13 Pol. 100</p>	<p>The Board shall establish academic standards for district students to attain, in accordance with those adopted by the State Board of Education. The Board may develop, expand, or improve existing academic standards in the following content areas to be attained by students as a requirement for graduation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. 2. Mathematics. 3. Science and Technology. 4. Environment and Ecology. 5. Social Studies - to include history, geography, civics and government, and economics. 6. Arts and Humanities. 7. Career Education and Work.

<p>Title 22 Sec. 4.11</p>	<p>8. Health, Safety and Physical Education.</p> <p>9. Family and Consumer Science.</p> <p>In addition to the achievement of academic standards, the Board acknowledges its responsibility to provide opportunities for students to become self-directed, be lifelong learners and act as responsible and involved citizens. These opportunities shall foster the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acquire knowledge and skills. 2. Develop integrity. 3. Process information. 4. Think critically. 5. Work independently. 6. Collaborate with others. 7. Adapt to changes.
<p>4. Guidelines Title 22 Sec. 4.12, 4.13 Pol. 105, 106, 107, 111, 127, 333</p>	<p>Academic standards shall form the basis of the district's curriculum, instruction, and assessment. The district's program of instruction and assessments will be aligned with the district's academic standards and its standards-based curriculum. District staff will use the standards-based curriculum to write units of study and lesson plans to guide instruction. The district's standards-based educational system will promote equity and student learning by applying rigorous and challenging standards to all students. The district's professional education plan shall address the staff development of teachers and administrators to foster successful implementation of academic standards.</p> <p>Implementation of a standards-based system of education shall involve a continuous process of:</p>
<p>Pol. 105, 107</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revising curriculum and programs of instruction to align them with the district's adopted academic standards and to provide students with the educational experiences needed to achieve these standards. 2. Delivering curriculum aligned to the standards.



PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT



Superintendent's Office
 1 Panther Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-4248
 Fax: (570) 645-6232

Business Office
 1 Panther Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-3176
 Fax: (570) 645-3036

High School
 912 Coal Region Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-2171
 Fax: (570) 645-2507

Middle School
 678 Panther Pride Drive
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-2175
 Fax: (570) 645-9723

Elementary School
 1 North Mermon Ave.
 Nesquehoning, PA 18240
 (570) 669-9411
 Fax: (570) 669-6043

Dear Parent/Guardian (s):

The Panther Valley School District will be offering public access for PowerSchool. This means you will be able to see your child's grades and attendance on a bi-weekly basis. If you are interested in having access to your child's grades and attendance, please read page seven to understand how PowerSchool will work. All you need to do to sign up for public access is fill out and return the bottom of this form. If you have any questions regarding PowerSchool please call Janet Fisher, Technology Coordinator, at 570-645-4248, ext 9. If you forget your password please email fisherj@cliu.org.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Poremba
 Superintendent

 **PowerSchool Registration for Parent Access**

<u>Child's Name</u>	<u>User Name</u> (last name, first initial, all lower case)	<u>Password</u> *Same password can be used for more than one child	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
Ex) Joe Morgan	Ex) morganj *If you have more than one child you must put a number after your initial		
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

PowerSchool Summary:

1. The internet address is <http://powerschool.panthervalley.org/public/> or go to www.panthervalley.org and click on the link *PowerSchool Parent Link*.
2. A login window will appear which you will type in your username and password. Username is parent's last name and first initial all in lowercase type with no space. If you have more than one child in the *district* you will have to put a number behind your initial to retrieve another child's grades. The password is one you chose and sent in on the registration form.

Example: Child One:

Username: morgana

Password: school

Child 2:

Username: morgana1

Password: school

3. If your login is successful the next screen that appears will be Grades and Attendance. This screen allows you to see your child's daily attendance and grades for every subject.
 - a. To understand the daily attendance there is a legend at the bottom of the screen. For attendance questions please contact the office.
 - b. Grades are organized by marking period. To see a detailed list of your child's assignments click on the M and class you would like to see.
4. At the top of the screen is a list of icons to navigate through PowerSchool. This is how the icons will appear on your screen:
 - a. Grades and Attendance: Described above.
 - b. Grades History: Shows MP Grades
 - c. Attendance History: Shows day to day and period by period attendance. A legend at the bottom of the page explains the codes.
 - d. Email Notification: Allows you to receive an update of grades daily, weekly, biweekly, or monthly. Grades will be updated every Friday. This feature also allows you to enter multiple email addresses to receive your updates.
 - e. Teacher Comments: Teachers can assign comments.
 - f. School Bulletin: Important school dates will be posted here.
 - g. Class Registration, Balance, and My Calendar will not be used at this time.

THIS FORM NEEDS ONLY TO BE HANDED IN ONCE.
IF YOU ARE ALREADY IN THE SYSTEM YOU DO
NOT HAVE TO RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM.

ELEMENTARY DAILY TIME SCHEDULE

8:35	Busses/Students Arrive
8:35 - 9:00	Grade Team Meeting
8:45	Breakfast
8:50 - 9:10	"Specialist" teachers (non-homeroom) should be in the hall to help monitor all students
8:58	A.M. Kindergarten Begins
8:50 - 9:15	Teachers are to be in their homeroom: attendance, lunch count, etc. Exception: Team Meeting Days 9:00-9:15
8:50 - 9:15	etc. Exception: Team Meeting Days 9:00-9:15
9:15	Classes Begin (Gr. 1-5)
10:55 - 11:30	LUNCH - All 1st Grades
11:30 - 12:00	LUNCH - All 2nd Grades
11:35	A.M. Kindergarten Dismisses
12:00 -12:30	LUNCH - All 3rd Grades
12:30 - 1:00	LUNCH - All 4th Grades
12:45	P.M. Kindergarten Begins
1:00 - 1:30	LUNCH - All 5th Grades
3:20	Homeroom/Dismissal Preparation
3:22	P.M. Kindergarten Dismisses
3:27	Dismissal (Gr.1-5) - Walkers/Busses
3:35	Teacher's End of Day

1:00 Dismissal

LUNCH SCHEDULE

Emergency Dismissal (12:30)

10:25 - 10:55	Grade 1	10:20 - 10:45
10:55 - 11:25	Grade 2	10:45 - 11:10
11:25 - 11:55	Grade 3	11:10- 11:35
11:55 - 12:25	Grade 4	11:35 - 12:00
12:25 - 12:55	Grade 5	12:00 - 12:25

On 2 hour delayed start days, breakfast will not be served and Lunches will begin 15 minutes after regularly scheduled time.

PA Academic Standards / Standards-Based Instruction

The state of Pennsylvania adopted academic standards for Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education and the Arts and Humanities. These standards identify what a student should know and be able to do at each grade level. The Panther Valley School District designed its local curriculum and instruction to ensure that students meet or exceed the state's expectations. The elementary teachers continuously develop professionally in the area of academic standards. Each teacher is required to develop his/her daily lesson plans to reflect a Standard Aligned System.

Standardized Student Assessment

The PSSA test for grades 3, 4 & 5 will be administered March 14-25, 2011. Students in grade 5 will take the writing exam March 28 - April 1, 2011. Students in grade 4 will take a science test March 4-8, 2011. These tests help us determine how well your child is learning at a certain grade level. All results are sent home with a letter from the principal.

The PSSA scoring indicators are Advanced, Proficient, Basic and Below Basic. Advanced denotes superior academic performance, proficient reflects satisfactory academic performance, basic reflects marginal academic performance and below basic reflects inadequate academic performance.

In the times of high stake testing, it is the responsibility of the parent to play an active role in your child's education. A few daily activities to do with your child would be: discuss your child's academic performance with him/her, encourage your child to ask questions and participate in class, show interest in your child's homework and communicate with your child's teacher. If you value education then your child will value it also.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Chapter 4 ESOL (effective January 16, 1999)

Every school district shall provide a program for each student whose dominant language is not English for the purpose of facilitating the student's achievement of English proficiency and the academic standards under School Code 4.12.

ESL students will participate in the regular content classes to the level of their English proficiency. Adaptations and modifications will be made by the mainstream teacher with consultation or direction by the ESL teacher. The ESL teacher will provide pull out services as warranted by time and building constraints.

You, Your Child and Homework

If a child takes karate, horseback riding or guitar lessons, it is expected that the child will practice those skills at some daily interval between lessons. Without that practice, progress will be slow. Lessons become supervised practice sessions with little time available for new learning resulting in poor return on investment (the dollars spent on the instructor).

The above sounds alarmingly like homework! Among families that value education and require their children to accomplish their school assignments, you will find higher levels of achievement. The better readers come from families that model that activity of reading and require it from the children. Parental attitude is everything.

Over the last several years, families appear to be under increasing stress when it comes to time management. Parents' demanding work schedules and the heavy load of activities that children are involved in are straining many families' time resources. The Board of Education, administration and teachers of Panther Valley recommend that homework not be viewed as an intrusion but as an investment in your child's future success. The same energy and pride that is invested in sinking a basket, crossing a goal-line or vanquishing an opponent must be expended to insure your child's academic success.

The Board of Education has adopted a policy that requires that homework assignments complement school instruction; develop student responsibility, good study habits and organizational skills. In addition, the Board wants homework to provide practice to reinforce skills taught by the teacher, broaden a child's scope of interest; provide parent and child interaction and allow parents to see the results of a child's day at school.

DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

No pamphlets, posters, flyers or literature of any kind may be distributed or posted on the Panther Valley School District campus without the direct approval of the administration.

CHAPERONES

All volunteers, chaperones, and anyone entering the school to help with any PTO function must have both an Act 34 Criminal History Clearance and an Act 151 Child Abuse Clearance on file with the district. Forms are available from the office but you must complete and send to Harrisburg with appropriate fees. When you receive the clearances, they must be submitted to the school office for School Board approval. This is done to protect our children and to keep them safe while attending Panther Valley.

Title I Program

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Title I program in the Panther Valley Elementary is school-wide, which allows us to offer students who are experiencing difficulty at various times throughout the year additional instruction in reading or math. All the students in kindergarten through fifth grade are given a Developmental Reading Assessment at the end of each marking period. This assessment aids us in determining if your child is making adequate yearly progress. If throughout the year your child does exhibit difficulty in reading, the regular classroom teacher can refer your child to receive additional help in a smaller group setting with a highly qualified teacher. The movement from large group to small group depends on your child's ability to master the concept that was determined to be insufficient. Likewise all students in first through fifth grade are assessed in math in the spring to determine adequate yearly progress.

All teachers in the elementary school meet the state and federal requirements, which means they have completed all coursework and state testing to hold a certificate to teach in an elementary school.

The Dibels Assessments will be administered in grades kindergarten, first and second during the months of September, January, March, and May.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Title I program please call 570-669-9411. You may leave your name and number and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours truly,
Title I Staff

MEDICAL EMERGENCY OR ILLNESS IN SCHOOL

The welfare of your child is the first consideration of school authorities. When in the case of serious medical emergency or illness and the school is unable to contact a parent, guardian or authorized physician immediately, the school may call an ambulance or make whatever arrangements seem necessary without involving the school in any financial obligation. In case of a less serious emergency, the school will contact the parents at home or at work at once.

It is your responsibility to make arrangements for proper care in case your child should meet with an accident or become too ill to remain in school at a time when you are away from home. Please assist us by:

- 1) Providing transportation home or to the doctor's office if necessary.
- 2) Designating a neighbor or relative to care for your child in their home until you can be reached.
- 3) Arranging for a person to care for your child when parents or guardians work or are routinely away from home when it is necessary for the school to send the child home due to illness.
- 4) Filling out ALL ITEMS on the emergency card and returning it promptly to your child's teacher.

RULES FOR TAKING REQUIRED MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

The State Board of Nurse Examiners has ruled that it is not within the permissible scope of nursing practice for a school nurse to administer medications, including patent medicines, to school children without specific orders from a licensed physician or dentist.

In accordance with this ruling, the school nurse in the Panther Valley School District will administer medications to students during school hours under the following conditions:

1. A district form completed by the physician or dentist specifying name of medication, dosage, and time it is to be given **MUST** accompany the medication. These forms are available from the school nurse. A copy of this form is also included in this handbook.
2. The medication should be in properly labeled container with student's name, name of medication and time to be given during school hours.
3. A written consent form **MUST BE** signed by the parent/guardian. The medication is to be brought to the nurse's office.

All of the above requirements must be met or the medication will not be administered.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICATION DURING SCHOOL HOURS

To be completed by the physician or dentist:

_____ must receive the following prescribed medication during school hours in order to maintain sufficient health to participate in the school program:

Medication: _____

Prescribed Dosage: _____

Time to be Given: _____

Physician's Signature: _____

Date: _____

To be completed by parent or guardian:

I do hereby release, discharge and hold harmless the Panther Valley School District, its agents, and employees, from any and all liability and claim whatsoever for the administration of the above medication to my child, should there develop an allergic reaction or other reaction from the medication. I understand that I am responsible for any mishandling of medication while transported by my child.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE

Regular attendance is essential to success in school. Attendance records are a very important part of a student's permanent record which is kept in the office files. Business and industry examine carefully the school records of applicants for employment. Those with records of excessive absences are considered undependable and poor prospects for employment.

The elementary office will attempt to telephone the home of students on the first day of any absences not previously excused. This call is to verify that the child is safe-at-home. **The student is still obligated to submit an absentee note upon return to school.**

EXCUSED ABSENCES

The compulsory attendance law requires a child of compulsory school age to be in attendance at school, unless absent for an approved reason, and charges the parent of the child with the responsibility for such attendance. Compulsory school age refers to the period of a child's life from the time the child enters school as a beginner, which shall be no later than at the age of eight years, until the age of seventeen, or until graduation from a regularly accredited senior high school, whichever occurs first.

The following reasons as found in the Chapter 11, Pupil Attendance of the Regulations of the State Board of Education of Pennsylvania, are the only reasons for an approved temporary absence from school:

1. RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS AND RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

- a) Upon written parental request, and in accordance with the policies of the district's Board of School Directors, pupil may be excused from school for religious holidays observed by bona fide religious groups.
- b) Upon written parental request, a pupil shall be excused from school in order to attend classes for religious instruction under Section 1546 of the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P.S. S15-1546). The excuse shall be limited to a total of not more than thirty-six (36) hours per school year.
- c) A pupil's absence from school for religious holidays or for religious instruction shall be recorded as an excused absence. There shall be no penalty attached to an absence for religious holidays or instruction. No student who has been excused from school because of a major religious holiday will be deprived of any awards.

2. HEALTH CARE (Also see Excusal for Appointments)

A pupil may be excused during school hours for the purposes of obtaining non-school professional health care under the following circumstances:

- a) The health services are rendered by state licensed practitioners.
- b) There has been established reasonable cooperation between the school authorities and the practitioners in providing services to school children outside school hours.
- c) The time of necessary absence from school involves a minimum of interference with schoolwork.

3. ILLNESS OR URGENT REASONS

Every principal may, upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of mental, physical or other urgent reasons, excuse a child for non-attendance during a temporary period, but the term “urgent reasons” shall be strictly construed and shall not permit irregular attendance. Failure to submit a note will result in a student being given an illegal day (absence will be marked unexcused/unlawful).

The following may be construed as being among “urgent reasons”:

- a) Death in the family
- b) Impassable road
- c) Quarantine when verified by a public health service or a licensed physician
- d) Unusual emergency affecting a given student
Note: When a student, for disciplinary reasons, has been denied bus privileges, lack of transportation is not a legal excuse.
- e) Educational travel must be approved in advance by the Superintendent. **Such travel may not exceed more than five consecutive school days, nor occur during the first two and last two weeks of the school year and/or during the PSSA testing periods.**

Students are to bring a written excuse signed by their parent/guardian immediately following any and all absences.

4. CHARTER/CYBER SCHOOL

Any student applying to enter charter/cyber schools MUST attend school daily until their date of acceptance. Failure to abide by this rule will result in being cited for truancy.

5. EXCUSAL FOR APPOINTMENTS OR ILLNESS

1. Excusal for Appointments:

- a) **If for some reason you must remove your child from school during the day, please indicate your intent by sending a notice to the classroom teacher. The child will be dismissed through the office and not from the classroom. Please adhere to this practice for the safety and welfare of your child. Parents/Guardians are required to sign the appropriate ledger in the elementary building.**
- b) No teacher may grant a pupil permission to leave the building before regular dismissal unless it is cleared by the principal.
- c) Doctor and dentist appointments properly verified will be acceptable reasons for granting permission to leave the building.
- d) Each appointment slip must be signed by the doctor, dentist or proper authority and returned to the office as soon as possible after the appointment.

2. Excusal for Illness

- a) Pupils who become ill during the school day should see the nurse. If the nurse is unavailable, go directly to the elementary office. Parents/guardians must be contacted by phone before a student can be excused.
- b) All parents must submit an emergency telephone number to the school in the event that the parents cannot be reached.

- c) Following ten absences, parents will be informed that absence is excessive and a doctor's note – the original -will be required for future absences. (Letter #1).
 - 1) 2nd Notice – Absences without doctor's notes can be accumulated to 3 illegal days. (Letter #2).
 - 2) Then any additional absence is a citation.
 - d) Absences without receipt of a satisfactory excuse signed by a parent/guardian or doctor immediately following any and all absences will be illegal (Official Notice of Absence to Parents). If the child is illegal after three days or more without lawful excuse the parent/guardian will be charged before the magistrate.
 - e) Excessive absence is a valid reason for a student to fail a marking period.
 - f) A student with excessive absence may be denied participation in school-related functions including, but not limited to, assemblies, field trips and/or special programs. A parent-counselor-principal conference will be scheduled to discuss retention due to excessive absence.
 - g) When absence is excessive, the following measures may be taken:
 - Illegal absence notification, including levying of fines
 - Conference with parents, principal, guidance counselor and/or school nurse or truant officer
 - After school counseling/tutoring
 - Referral to appropriate Child Advocacy Agency
 - h) If a student has excessive absences and it is determined that no extenuating circumstances exist then the student may be retained in the same grade for the following school year.
3. Regulations Concerning Communicable Diseases
- a) The period of time a child should remain out of school is at the discretion of the physician. It is suggested the child remain home until the danger of a secondary infection (ear infection, respiratory complications, etc.) is past.
 - b) The following communicable diseases are those which warrant remaining out of school for a prescribed period of time: Measles, German Measles (Rubella), chicken pox, mumps, whooping cough, scarlet fever and aids.
4. Presence of Lice/Nits
- a) Should the school nurse determine that a student has lice and/or nits, parents will be contacted and the student will be sent home. Upon returning to school, the student must report to the nurse to be checked and to show proof of treatment. If the condition still exists, the student will be sent home.
 - b) Should this condition continue to occur, the parent/guardian will be obliged to personally return the child to school to have the nurse check the condition of the student. If the condition has not cleared, the student will be sent home with the parent.
 - c) EXCESSIVE ABSENCE for this reason will be considered illegal.

TARDINESS

Parents are expected to ensure that their children arrive on time. Unexcused tardiness is disruptive to the instructional process and forces the teacher into unnecessary repetition. Being on time for school teaches the importance of being prompt. We feel this is an important life skill. To avoid tardies, students must be in their homeroom or seated at breakfast by 9:00 a.m. Perfect attendance awards will be impacted by tardies.

Tardies are excused for the following reasons:

1. Illness or injury
2. Medical or dental appointments - Doctor/dentist excuse is required
3. Attendance at funeral service for a family member
4. Participation in religious instructions or observations

If you arrive to school, report to the office for a late pass and admittance to class.

Arrival Time	9:00 AM – 11:09 AM	Tardy
Arrival Time	11:10 AM – 12:35 PM	½ Day AM Absent
Departure Time	11:10 AM – 12:35 PM	½ Day PM Absent
Arrival Time	12:36 PM - 2:00 PM	½ Day AM Absent
Departure Time	12:36 PM – 2:00 PM	½ Day PM Absent
Arrival Time	2:01 PM – 3:20 PM	Absent Full Day

Students who have three unexcused tardies in a semester (Aug-Dec and Jan-June) will receive a warning.

Fourth offense will result in a one hour detention.

Fifth offense will result in a one hour detention.

Sixth offense will result in a two hour detention

SAMPLE ABSENCE / TARDY EXCUSE FORM

_____ was absent / tardy
from school on the following dates:

The State Law requires an explanation from
the parent in each case of absence or tardiness.
The reason for absence was _____

_____ Date Signature of parent

GR _____ HR _____

NOTICE TO PARENTS

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Please be notified that Act 29 of 1995, which was signed by Governor Ridge, revises the penalties for the school truancy as follows:


The law raises the fine placed on parents for truancy to *\$300.00* and requires parents to pay court costs and/or be sentenced to complete a parenting education program. Under the act, both the truant child and the parents would have to appear at a hearing by the district justice. If the parents show that they took reasonable steps to ensure the attendance of the child, they will not be convicted of a summary offense. If the parents are not convicted and the child continues to be truant, the child will be fined *up to \$300.00* or be assigned to an adjudication alternative program.

Other provisions allow a district justice to suspend a sentence given to the parent or child if the child is no longer habitually truant. A district justice may order the parents to perform community service for up to six months. The law also grants to state, municipal, port authority, transit authority, housing authority, or school police officers the same arrest powers as attendance officers and home and school visitors.

In addition, Act 29 removes from truant juveniles their vehicle operating privileges for ninety days for a first offense and six months for a second, while juveniles who are unlicensed are prohibited from applying for a learner's permit for *ninety* days (first offense) and six months (second offense), commencing upon their 16th birthday. Finally, students and parents-involved with home education programs are exempt from the provisions of the act.

If you have any questions contact your school principal.

Sincerely,


William Lombardo
Principal

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ATTENDANCE

ADOPTED: May 27, 2010

REVISED:

204. ATTENDANCE	
<p>1. Purpose SC 1301, 1326, 1327, 1501 Title 22 Sec. 4.4, 11.1, 11.12, 11.13, 11.41, 12.1 Pol. 200</p>	<p>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. The district provides a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days of instruction or nine hundred (900) hours of instruction per year at the elementary level, or nine hundred ninety (990) hours per year of instruction at the secondary level.</p>
<p>2. Authority SC 1327, 1329, 1330 Title 22 Sec. 11.23, 11.25, 12.1</p>	<p>Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in district schools during the days and hours that school is in session, except that a principal or teacher may excuse a student for temporary absences upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of mental, physical, or other urgent reasons that may reasonably cause the student's absence. Urgent reasons shall be strictly construed and do not permit irregular attendance.</p> <p>The Board considers the following conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school:</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.25</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Illness. 2. Quarantine, when verified by a public health service or licensed physician. 3. Recovery from accident. 4. Death in family. 5. Impassable roads.
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.26</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Educational travel, when approved in advance by the Superintendent. Such travel may not exceed more than five (5) consecutive school days, nor occur during the first two (2) and last two (2) weeks of the school year and during scheduled standardized testing.

<p>SC 1333, 1354 Title 22 Sec. 12.1</p>	<p>The Board shall report to appropriate authorities infractions of the law regarding the attendance of students below the age of seventeen (17). The Board shall issue notice to those parents/guardians who fail to comply with the requirements of compulsory attendance that such infractions will be prosecuted according to law.</p>
<p>SC 1327 Title 22 Sec. 11.22, 11.23, 11.28 Pol. 115, 116, 117, 118</p>	<p>Attendance need not always be within school buildings. A student shall be considered in attendance if present at any place where school is in session by authority of the Board; the student is receiving approved tutorial instruction, or health or therapeutic services; the student is engaged in an approved and properly supervised independent study, work-study or career education program; the student is receiving approved homebound instruction.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.21</p>	<p>Upon written request by a parent/guardian, an absence for observance of a student's religion on a day approved by the Board as a religious holiday shall be excused. A penalty shall not be attached to an absence for a religious holiday.</p>
<p>SC 1546 Title 22 Sec. 11.21</p>	<p>The Board shall, upon written request of the parents/guardians, release from attendance a student participating in a religious instruction program acknowledged by the Board. Such instruction shall not require the child's absence from school for more than thirty-six (36) hours per school year, and its organizers must inform the Board of the child's attendance record. The Board shall not provide transportation to religious instruction. A penalty shall not be attached to an absence for religious instruction.</p>
<p>SC 1329 Title 22 Sec. 11.41</p>	<p>The Board shall permit a student to be excused for participation in a project sponsored by a statewide or countywide 4-H, FFA or combined 4-H and FFA group upon written request prior to the event.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.23, 11.25</p>	<p>The Board will recognize other justifiable absences for part of the school day. These shall include medical or dental appointments, court appearances, family emergencies, and other urgent reasons.</p>
<p>SC 1329, 1330 Title 22 Sec. 11.34</p>	<p>The Board shall excuse the following students from the requirements of attendance at district schools, upon request and with the required approval:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On certification by a physician or submission of other satisfactory evidence and on approval of the Department of Education, children who are unable to attend school or apply themselves to study for mental, physical or other reasons that preclude regular attendance.
<p>SC 1327 Title 22 Sec. 11.32</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Students enrolled in nonpublic or private schools in which the subjects and activities prescribed by law are taught.

<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.5</p>	<p>3. Students attending college who are also enrolled part-time in district schools.</p>
<p>SC 1327.1 Pol. 137</p>	<p>4. Students attending a home education program in accordance with law.</p>
<p>SC 1327</p>	<p>5. Students fifteen (15) or sixteen (16) years of age whose enrollment in private trade or business schools has been approved.</p>
<p>SC 1330</p>	<p>6. Students fifteen (15) years of age, and fourteen (14) years of age who have completed the highest elementary grade, engaged in farm work or private domestic service under duly issued permits.</p>
<p>SC 1330 Title 22 Sec. 11.28</p>	<p>7. Students sixteen (16) years of age regularly employed during the school session and holding a lawfully issued employment certificate.</p>
<p>The Board may excuse the following students from the requirements of attendance at district schools:</p>	
<p>SC 1327 Title 22 Sec. 11.22 Pol. 116</p>	<p>1. Students receiving tutorial instruction in a field not offered in the district's curricula from a properly qualified tutor approved by the Superintendent, when the excusal does not interfere with the student's regular program of studies.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.34</p>	<p>2. Homebound children unable to attend school on the recommendation of the school physician and the school psychologist or a psychiatrist and approval of the Secretary of Education.</p>
<p>SC 1327</p>	<p>3. Students enrolled in special schools conducted by the Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit or the Department of Education.</p>
<p><u>Educational Tours/Trips</u></p>	
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.26</p>	<p>The Board may excuse a student from school attendance to participate in an educational tour or trip not sponsored by the district if the following conditions are met:</p>
<p>1. The parent/guardian submits a written request for excusal prior to the absence.</p>	
<p>2. The student's participation has been approved by the Superintendent.</p>	
<p>3. The adult directing and supervising the tour or trip is acceptable to the parents/guardians and the Superintendent.</p>	

<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility Title 22 Sec. 11.41</p> <p>SC 1501, 1504 Title 22 Sec. 4.4, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3</p> <p>SC 1332, 1339</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 11.41</p> <p>SC 1333, 1338, 1354 Pol. 218, 233</p> <p>SC 1333, 1354</p>	<p>The Board may limit the number and duration of tours or trips for which excused absences may be granted to a student during the school term.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the district's attendance policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, parent newsletters, district web site and other efficient methods.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations for the attendance of students which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure a school session that conforms with requirements of state law and regulations. 2. Govern the keeping of attendance records in accordance with law. 3. Distribute annually to staff, students, and parents/guardians Board policies and school rules and regulations governing student attendance, absences and excusals. 4. Impose on truant students appropriate incremental disciplinary measures for infractions of school rules, but no penalty may have an irredeemably negative effect on the student's record beyond that which naturally follows absence from classroom learning experiences. 5. Identify the habitual truant, investigate the causes of truant behavior, and consider modification of the student's educational program to meet particular needs and interests or placement into the district's alternative education program. 6. Ensure that students legally absent have an opportunity to make up work. 7. Issue written notice to any parent/guardian who fails to comply with the compulsory attendance law, within three (3) days of any proceeding brought under that law. Such notice shall inform the parent/guardian of the date(s) the absence occurred; that the absence was unexcused and in violation of law; that the parent/guardian is being notified and informed of his/her liability under law for the absence of the student; and that further violations during the school term will be prosecuted without notice.
---	---

<p>SC 1318 Pol. 218, 233</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p> <p>SC 1333, 1354</p>	<p>Repeated infractions of Board policy requiring the attendance of enrolled students may constitute misconduct and disobedience that warrant the student's suspension or expulsion from the regular school program or provision of alternative education services.</p> <p>In such cases, the Board may consider the effectiveness and appropriateness of the educational program to the student's needs.</p> <p>The Board authorizes the Superintendent to suspend a student from a particular class or from school in accordance with the policies of the Board, if sincere efforts by the staff and parents/guardians cannot rectify the pattern of absence. The Superintendent is authorized to establish the criteria to implement this policy.</p> <p><u>High School Attendance Guidelines</u></p> <p>Regular attendance is essential to success at Panther Valley High School. Attendance records are a very important part of a student's permanent record, and business and industry examine carefully the school records of applicants for employment. Those with records of excessive absences are considered undependable and poor prospects for employment.</p> <p>The school recognizes its responsibility to cooperate with the home to encourage regular daily attendance and aims to foster communication with the home.</p> <p>The action steps to be followed at the high school are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When a student acquires ten (10) days' absence, a parental conference will be requested and final review of the attendance policy will be made. A doctor's excuse for subsequent absences will be required at the discretion of the principal. 2. When a student acquires thirteen (13) days' absence, without a doctor's excuse, the district will prosecute through the office of the district's magistrate under the School Code. 3. When a student acquires eighteen (18) days' absence, the student and parents/guardians will be offered a due process hearing by a review committee consisting of the principal, counselor, and/or school nurse.
--	---

4. If it is determined that no extenuating circumstances exist, upon reaching the nineteenth absence, the student will not be granted credit and will be required to repeat the educational program. Under extenuating circumstances, a review committee may exercise the following options:
 - a. Grant credit for medical reasons, provided the student has successfully met all other requirements.
 - b. Withhold course credit.
 - c. Recommend expulsion for the remainder of the school year. Board action shall be required.

NOTE: If course credit is withdrawn, a student will remain, under normal circumstances, in the classes to which s/he is assigned.

Days of suspension shall not be included in the absence plan.

Elementary School And Middle School Attendance Guidelines

The district recognizes its responsibility at grade levels K-8 to cooperate with the home to encourage regular daily attendance and aims to foster communication with the home.

Elementary and middle school action steps to be followed are:

1. When a student acquires ten (10) days' absence, a letter with a copy of the attendance policy will be made. A doctor's excuse for subsequent absences may be required at the discretion of the principal.
2. When a student acquires thirteen (13) days' absence, without a doctor's excuse, the district will prosecute through the office of the district's magistrate under the School Code.
3. When a student acquires eighteen (18) days' absence, the student and parents/guardians will be offered a due process hearing by a review committee consisting of the principal, counselor, and/or school nurse.
4. If it is determined that no extenuating circumstances exist, upon reaching the nineteenth absence, the student may be required to repeat the educational program.

SC 1333, 1354

District-Wide Attendance Guidelines

District-wide students exceeding thirty (30) days of absence (regardless of age) may be retained in their grade. In the case of students with IEP's, an individual determination will be made by the IEP team regarding retention or promotion. For students whose absence is caused by extended illness, a decision will be made by the building principal based on the individual circumstances and recommendations of the teacher(s), counselor and parents/guardians regarding the student's ability to be successful if promoted to the next grade.

Out-of-school or in-school suspension will not be considered unexcused.

Excuse Forms

Any time a student is absent, a standard excuse form will be given to the student on the first day of return to school. The form is to be completed and signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the teacher the following school day.

The validity of an absence will be determined at the time the completed excuse form is returned. If the completed form is not returned within three (3) school days after the receipt, the absence will be considered unexcused and therefore illegal.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1301, 1318, 1326, 1327, 1327.1, 1329, 1330, 1332, 1333, 1338, 1339, 1354, 1501, 1504, 1546

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.4, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.5, 11.8, 11.12, 11.13, 11.21, 11.22, 11.23, 11.24, 11.25, 11.26, 11.28, 11.32, 11.34, 11.41, 12.1

Board Policy – 000, 115, 116, 117, 118, 137, 200, 218, 233

ARRIVAL IN SCHOOL

Walkers: Arrival on school property at the Elementary Center should not be before 8:45 a.m. Students who are having breakfast should report to the cafeteria; all others should report to the multi-purpose room.

The school shall not be accountable or responsible for any child arriving at school before the stated time.

In compliance with this regulation, P.M. Kindergarten students should not arrive before 12:30 p.m. (fifteen minutes prior to the starting time of 12:45).

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

When you are dropping off your child at school or picking up your child you may NOT use the circled driveway in front of the school between 8:30 AM – 9:15 AM, 11:15 AM – 11:45 AM, 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM, or 3:00 PM – 3:45 PM. Only faculty, staff and vehicles with a disability placard are authorized to enter the parking lots in front or along side of the building. On Mermon Avenue, in front of the building, there are designated drop off and pick up areas. Please DO NOT leave your automobile when using the drop off and pick up areas. A security guard and an instructional assistant will be present to insure your child's safety as he/she walks to the front doors of the elementary school. Violators will be prosecuted. All persons waiting outside to pick up a student are asked to remain behind the yellow lines. With your cooperation the safety of our students will be secured.

NON-IMMUNIZED CHILDREN

No child may be admitted to or permitted to attend the public schools unless the child has received immunizations required by the Department of Health at 28 PA Code Chapter 23 Subchapter C (relating to immunization) or has received from the school district Superintendent a medical or religious exemption from immunization under 28 PA Code S23.84 (relating to exemption for immunization).

A child who has not received all doses of the required immunizations or who has not been exempted from immunization but who has received at least one dose of each of the required immunizations, may be provisionally admitted and attend public school for a period of up to eight (8) months. Provisional admission or continued attendance shall be conditioned upon the parent/guardian's submission to the superintendent of a plan for the pupil's completion of the required immunization doses. The plan shall be reviewed by the school district at least every sixty (60) calendar days. If after eight (8) months the child has not received all doses of the required immunizations, the child thereafter may not be further admitted to or be permitted to attend the public schools until all doses have been received.

No school age child may be admitted to or permitted to attend a private, nonpublic, special education or vocational school unless the immunization, exemption or provisional admission requirements of the Department of Health at 28 PA Code Chapter 23, Subchapter C have been met.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES, CELL/MOBILE PHONES, & OTHER ITEMS

Electronic devices, cell/mobile phones and other items are prohibited at all times.

To avoid interruptions to the instructional program, it is the policy of the Panther Valley Elementary School that no cell/mobile phones, pagers, Walkmans, games, toys, collectibles, sunglasses, makeup, iPods, or other electronic devices shall be brought into the school building, on the school bus, or on class field trips unless they have been approved as part of a class assignment. The school will NOT accept responsibility for the loss of personal property. If such items are brought to school, they may be taken and kept in the school office until parents come to claim them.

UNAUTHORIZED TAPE RECORDING

In Pennsylvania tape recording is covered under the “Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Control Act”. From time to time, students may attempt to tape school staff without the knowledge that it was taking place. This can be disturbing especially when it may seem that the recording was done surreptitiously and the recording device is intentionally hidden from view. This type of undisclosed tape recording is illegal.

STUDENT RECORDS

Your counselors/administrators observe the state regulations and recommendations that govern information about you in your student record file. Basic information such as name, age, sex, grades, attendance, and standard achievement test scores will be available to prospective employers, college admission officers, and other responsible persons upon your parent’s written request. Other test scores and school records are maintained confidentially and will only be released upon special written request of the student or his/her parent or guardian. If you want further information about how your records are maintained, see our counselor.

GENERAL REGULATIONS CONCERNING SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

Every teacher in the public school shall have the right to exercise the same authority as to conduct and behavior over the pupils attending his school during the time they are in attendance, including the time required in going to and from their homes, as the parents, guardians of persons in parental relation to such pupils may exercise over them.

Almost all students want to learn and are willing to cooperate. The small number who do not will not be permitted to deprive others of their right to learn or the teacher’s right to teach. It must be clearly understood that no teacher needs to tolerate a student who is not supporting the teacher in his primary responsibility—that of teaching students.

STUDENT RIGHTS - STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

How many times have you said or have you heard someone else say "That's my right"?

How often have you thought about your RESPONSIBILITY to maintain that right?

Too often it is taken for granted that a "right" is something for which one must do nothing. Fortunately, those "rights" are privileges that are earned by the responsibility to uphold the rules and regulations designed to provide an orderly and wholesome atmosphere for the welfare of all students.

TO PARENTS AND PUPILS

The following list of students' rights and responsibilities is required by the State Board of Education to be communicated to you. Please make yourself aware of your responsibility and duty, for it is only under your compliance to these obligations that the privileges or rights of students are granted - both by law and for the natural efficient operation of a complex institution.

When the rights of others to learn are infringed or the orderly operation of the school is disrupted, it becomes necessary to deal with the problem-causing individual. It is for this purpose that the subsequent discipline policy has been affected. It is designed to provide you with all the due process of law that requires that you be informed and that the result process is fair.

A. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in the classroom work, and conformance to school rules and regulations. It is expected that the students will share with the administration and faculty the responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.
2. No student has the right to interfere with the education of his/her fellow students. It is the responsibility of each student to respect rights of teachers, students, administrators, and all others who are involved in the educational process.
3. Students should express their ideas and opinions in a respectful manner so as not to offend or slander others.
4. It is the responsibility of the students to:
 - a. Be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accord with them.
 - b. Cooperate with school staff in matters relating to health, safety, and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property, including books.

- c. Dress and groom themselves in accordance with our dress and grooming policy, and so as not to cause substantial disruption to the educational process.
- d. Assume that until a rule is waived, altered or repeated, it is still in effect.
- e. Assist the school staff in operating a safe school for all students enrolled therein.
- f. Be aware of and comply with state and local laws.
- g. Exercise proper care when using public facilities and equipment.
- h. Attend school daily, except when excused, and to be on time to all classes and other school functions.
- i. Make all necessary arrangements for making up work when absent from school.
- j. Pursue and attempt to complete satisfactorily the course of study prescribed by state and local authorities.
- k. Avoid inaccuracies in student newspapers or publications and indecent or obscene language.

CRITERIA FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT OF THE MONTH

1. Attendance with no more than three (3) absences in the month.
2. Working to the best of his/her ability.
3. Exemplary behavior in classroom, cafeteria, library, lavatory and on the playground.
4. No tardiness.
5. Completion of homework in all subjects.

At the end of the month each homeroom teacher will choose one child from his/her classroom who meets the stated criteria. One student from each homeroom will receive a certificate of achievement. This selection process is solely at the discretion and expertise of each teacher. The teacher's decision is final. Awards will be presented for every month that school is in session with the exception of August and June.

LUNCH WITH THE PRINCIPAL

Each month, October through May, the principal will have lunch with a representative from each grade level, one through five. Students should be selected to this activity only once during their elementary career.

FIRE, TORNADO AND EMERGENCY DRILLS

School law requires every school have frequent fire drills. Students are taught to leave the building quickly and quietly and move to an area of safety under the direction of school staff members. Evacuation procedures are posted in all rooms. Tornado drills are also held at specific intervals and students are directed to designated safe areas within the school building.

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Policy on Student Conduct & Philosophy

The problem of maintaining effective discipline in the school is seen to be a joint responsibility of all persons who come in contact with students. Primarily it is recognized that teachers and building principals carry the bulk of the responsibility for doing everything within their capability to affect good discipline to their classes and throughout the building wherever they happen to be. This assumes that teachers will take the responsibility to act on student misbehavior even when it involves students who are not assigned to them directly and even when it takes place in a location other than in the teacher's own classroom. The building principal, utilizing a process which involves school staff members, is responsible for establishing the specific rules and regulations of the school within the framework of district policy that will foster good behavior on the part of students. When the principal is involved in a problem regarding student misbehavior, he/she is obliged to keep the teacher or other employees who referred the problem to him/her well informed of the status of the matter and of any actions taken.

The following conditions are favorable to the development of good school discipline: It is the responsibility of the home to:

- Assume the primary responsibility for the discipline of the child.
- Be aware of the child's responsibilities and obligations in the school as well as in the community and establish home conditions which are favorable to this success in school.
- Recognize that school personnel must necessarily concern themselves primarily with group training and group behavior.
- Cooperate with school authorities and participate in conferences regarding the behavior, health and/or academic progress of their children. Parents are responsible for the willful misbehavior of their children, in conformance with provisions of the statutes of Pennsylvania.

It is the responsibility of each student to:

- Be honest and ethical.
- Avoid use of obscene-vulgar language or actions.
- Refrain from loud distracting conversations and horseplay.
- Report to class on time, prepared to work.
- Strive to attend school on a regular basis, avoiding absence unless absolutely necessary.
- Exhibit appropriate classroom conduct within limits of established rules. Treat others with courtesy, dignity and respect.
- Demonstrate proper grooming and hygiene.
- Assist in maintaining a neat, clean school atmosphere and safeguarding school property/textbooks.

- Demonstrate proper social etiquette.
- Comply with state/local laws and school rules/policies published in the Student Handbook.

It is the responsibility of each professional staff member to:

- Consistently enforce all existing school policies.
- Encourage the use of good guidance procedures.
- Maintain an atmosphere conducive to good behavior.
- Exhibit an attitude of respect for students that has a positive influence in helping students develop good citizenship traits.
- Plan a flexible curriculum to meet the needs of all students.
- Promote effective training or discipline based on fair and impartial treatment of all students.
- Set standards in their classes that reflect a district-wide attitude of high standards of achievement.
- Inform all students what is required of them whenever they enter the classroom.

In order to implement our policy on Student Conduct, the Panther Valley School District Board of Directors has adopted the following policies as an instrument to bring about a positive educational climate in our school. These rules reflect the rights of individuals set forth in the United States Constitution, the Pennsylvania State Constitution, the State Board of Education's mandated regulations, Panther Valley School District policies and recent court decisions.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

To achieve an efficient and orderly operation of the school, we expect all students to meet certain responsibilities with respect to behavior.

The following regulations are cited with the appropriate disciplinary action in order to inform students and parents as to what is considered unacceptable behavior. Every effort has been made to develop an approach to discipline which embodies fairness, firmness and consistency.

Every attempt will be made to resolve individual problems which originate within the classroom by an approach involving teacher, counselor, administrator and student. Should this prove unsuccessful, parents will be involved immediately. Outside resources may also be utilized (school psychologist, child guidance services, etc.)

ANTI-BULLYING CHARTER

Bullying: A Charter of Pupil Rights

As a member of Panther Valley Elementary and Middle School, you have the right:

- 1) To live your life in peace and safety.
- 2) To be an individual and be proud of being different.
- 3) To not be bullied.
- 4) To say "NO" firmly to anything you think is wrong.
- 5) To protect yourself by ignoring others or walking away.
- 6) To tell a member of staff if someone is making you unhappy.

Bullying: Charter of Pupil Responsibilities

As a member of Panther Valley Elementary and Middle School, the school expects you:

- 1) Not to put up with any form of bullying.
- 2) To work with others to stop bullying.
- 3) To inform a member of staff of any form of bullying.
- 4) Not to be afraid of reporting incidents. If you do nothing, it might suggest you are supporting bullying.
- 5) Not to put up with bullies in your group of friends.

SCHOOL LEVEL OF AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT

Schools must...

1. Treat bullying like any other act of violence by:
 - a. Dispelling the myth that it is natural childhood behavior.
 - b. Recognizing that bullying is not:
 - * normal
 - * a rite of passage
 - * boys will be boys
 - c. Recognizing that bullying is:
 - * aggressive behavior meant to control others
 - * anti-social behavior
 - * hurtful to other students
2. Inform students, parents, teachers and administrators that bullying causes long-term and short-term problems for the victims, the bullies and bystanders, and the school environment in general.
3. Provide a safe environment for ALL students. Schools must deal with the bully, but they must also provide services for the victims. Many times the victim is victimized a second time because he/she is usually ignored by the system.
4. Provide a process for victims to tell a trusted teacher or administrator about a chronic bully.
 - * how students are to report
 - * to whom they are to report
 - * when and where they are to report
 - * the school's guarantee of confidentiality
5. Erase the stigma that students are tattletales, snitches or narcs if they inform adults about bullying behaviors. This idea must be reinforced with teachers, administrators, playground monitors, hall monitors, parents and other students.
6. Teach pro-social behaviors to all students:
 - a. respect
 - b. cooperation
 - c. consideration
 - d. responsibility

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: BULLYING

ADOPTED: May 27, 2010

REVISED:

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

249. BULLYING	
1. Purpose	<p>The Board strives to provide a safe, positive learning climate for students in district schools. The Board recognizes that bullying and intimidation have a negative effect on school climate, that students who are intimidated and fearful cannot give their education the single-minded attention they need for success, and that bullying can lead to more serious violence. Therefore, it shall be the policy of the district to maintain an educational environment in which bullying and harassment, in any form, are not tolerated.</p>
2. Authority SC 1303.1-A Pol. 248	<p>The Board prohibits all forms of harassment and bullying of students by all district students. This policy will deal with issues of bullying. Regarding issues of harassment, see Policy 248.</p> <p>The Board encourages students who have been bullied to report promptly such incidents to the designated staff members.</p> <p>The Board directs that complaints of bullying shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action shall be taken when allegations are verified. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district's legal and investigative obligations. No reprisals nor retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying.</p>
3. Definitions SC 1303.1-A	<p>Bullying means an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting, that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substantial interference with a student's education. 2. Creation of a threatening environment. 3. Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.

	<p>Bullying is a pattern of abuse over time and involves a student being “picked on.” Bullying includes physical intimidation or assault; extortion; oral or written threats; teasing; putdowns; name-calling; gestures or actions; cruel rumors; false accusations; and social isolation. A bullying situation creates an imbalance of power in a relationship.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop or at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by the school.</p>
<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>Each staff member shall be responsible to maintain an educational environment free from bullying. Staff members who observe or become aware of an act of bullying shall take immediate, appropriate steps to intervene, unless intervention would be a threat to staff members’ safety. If a staff member believes that his/her intervention has not resolved the matter, or if the bullying persists, s/he shall report the bullying to the building principal for further investigation. This investigation may include interviews with students, parents/guardians, and school staff; review of school records; and any other appropriate means of investigation.</p> <p>Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of his/her fellow students, to ensure the rights of his/her fellow students, and to ensure an atmosphere free from all forms of bullying.</p> <p>The Board expects students and parents/guardians who become aware of an act of bullying to report it to a school official for further investigation. Any student who retaliates against another person for reporting bullying may be subject to appropriate disciplinary consequences.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that this policy and any administrative regulations developed by the district are reviewed annually with students.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board.</p>
<p>SC 1303.1-A</p>	<p>District administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board’s Bullying Policy. 2. Report of bullying incidents.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION SCHEDULE FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Level I – This is misbehavior, which interferes with orderly classroom or school procedures and operations. These misbehaviors are to be handled by the individual in immediate authority, and can be referred to the Disciplinarian or Principal if excessive.

Examples:

1. Inappropriate/loud behavior in hallways or cafeteria
2. Classroom misconduct, such as verbal outbursts, not following classroom rules
3. Cheating
4. Unprepared for class
5. Gum chewing
6. Failure to do school/home work
7. Loitering / such as roaming the halls, prolonged lavatory stays
8. Intentional littering
9. Consuming or distributing food or beverages outside of the cafeteria
10. Inappropriate dress – obscene or dangerous

Level I Disciplinary Options

1. Talked to the student about the behavior
2. Notification of parents
3. Verbal reprimand
4. Isolation within the classroom
5. Special assignment
6. Loss of privileges – recess, chorus, art club, assemblies
7. Teacher/parent/guidance counselor meeting

NOTE: More than one option can be used, depending on the situation

Level II – This is misbehavior, which disrupts the learning climate of the school. The Disciplinarian or Principal usually handles these misbehaviors.

Examples:

1. Disrespect to an adult / Insubordination
2. Fighting
3. Obscene gestures / notes
4. Injury to other students (physical or emotional)
5. Defacing / Destruction / Damage to school property
6. Leaving school without permission
7. Late to school
8. Throwing objects / snowballs
9. Forged notes
10. Class cutting

Level II Disciplinary Options

1. Notification of parents
2. Loss of privileges
3. Assigned detention
4. In-school suspension
5. Out-of-school suspension
6. Notification of police

NOTE: More than one option can be used and the options are not listed in a progressive manner. The option depends on the situation.

Level III – This refers to acts of violence, which result in injury to another person or damage to school property. It can pose a threat to the safety of others in the school and disrupt the educational climate.

Examples:

1. Theft of school property
2. Physical assault
3. Controlled substance abuse (drugs, alcohol and tobacco)
4. Harassment (sexual/racial)
5. Weapons violation
6. Bomb threats / terroristic threats
7. Arson
8. Misuse of computer / Internet / District software

Level III Disciplinary Options

1. Notification of parents
2. Mandatory disciplinary action as stipulated by the Panther Valley School District policy

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: DRESS AND GROOMING

ADOPTED: May 27, 2010

REVISED:

221. DRESS AND GROOMING	
1. Purpose	<p>The Board recognizes the right of every student to freedom of expression, both in speech and the wearing of apparel, as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Supreme Court.</p> <p>The Board also recognizes its paramount obligation to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the students who attend its schools.</p> <p>The Board further recognizes its responsibility to maintain a positive learning environment in the schools under its jurisdiction and to minimize the opportunity for student distraction and/or disruption.</p> <p>The Board believes that a policy of uniform dress will address the issues related to the health, safety, and welfare of the students attending schools and will further aid in the maintenance of a positive learning environment.</p>
2. Authority SC 1317.3 Title 22 Sec. 12.11	<p>The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school.</p> <p>The Board authorizes the Superintendent to enforce established school regulations governing student dress and grooming practices.</p>
Title 22 Sec. 12.11	<p>Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, shop classes, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.</p>
3. Delegation of Responsibility Pol. 325	<p>The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy which designates the building principal to monitor student dress and grooming in his/her building and instruct staff members to demonstrate, by example, positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.</p>

<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.11</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Students have the responsibility to keep themselves, their clothes, and their hair clean. School officials may impose limitations on student participation in the regular instructional program where there is evidence that the lack of cleanliness constitutes a health hazard.</p> <p>Parents/Guardians must be mindful that dress which may be distracting or disruptive to the learning process will not be tolerated. Any student violating this dress code will be considered insubordinate and dealt with according to the following penalties:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First Offense – Notify parents/guardians to bring in appropriate clothing. Student will remain in an area designated by the principal until proper attire is provided by the parent/guardian. 2. Second Offense – Parent/Guardian meeting is required. Student will remain in an area designated by the principal and assigned detention. 3. Third Offense – Parent/Guardian meeting is required. Out-of-school suspension will occur. <p>Repeated violations of the standard dress code shall be treated as disruptive behavior.</p> <p>School administrators have the final responsibility for interpretation and enforcement. School administrators may give permission for students to dress outside the parameters of the dress code guidelines on planned occasions. Examples may include, but are not limited to, Spirit Days, Read Across America Day, Picture Day, Incentive Days, and JROTC Activities.</p> <p>The following dress and grooming guidelines shall apply to all students in grades K through 12:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All students in grades K through 12 shall be subject to a uniform dress code consisting of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Solid khaki, grey or black full-length pants or capri pants. b. Solid khaki, grey or black skirts or jumpers. Solid khaki, grey or black shorts are permitted in grades K-5. c. Solid colored shirt in black, gold, white or grey. d. No black-on-black.
---	---

2. Pants will be straight-legged dress or casual slacks in the permitted colors. Pants may not be of the cargo or carpenter style with pockets below the hips, loops, straps, elastic ankles or other comparable adornments. Pants must be worn at the waist and fit comfortably. Excessively tight or baggy pants will not be permitted. Pants must be of an appropriate length so as to not drag on the floor. Garments worn so as to expose underwear will be in defiance of the dress code.

3. Students are permitted to wear skirts or jumpers that are knee-length or longer in the permitted colors. Students in grades K-5 are permitted to wear shorts that are knee-length or longer in the permitted colors.

Pants, capri pants, shorts, skirts or jumpers made of denim and/or leather material may not be worn.

4. Shirts will be collared, long or short-sleeved, pullover, or golf-style, appropriately sized, buttoned to the base of the neck and of solid color. Students may opt to wear a dress shirt, appropriately sized, buttoned to the base of the neck and tucked in. Students may wear solid turtleneck or crewneck shirts under the regulation shirt or a full torso sweater or a cardigan sweater. See-through shirts are not permitted to ensure garments or accessories worn underneath are not visible. Students may also elect to wear the turtleneck shirt as the primary garment. All shirts must have sleeves which cover the shoulders. Tank tops, sleeveless tops, shells, mesh tops, sheer tops, bare midriffs or any other garment that expose the upper torso will not be permitted. Hooded sweaters are not permitted. Only the Panther Valley logo is permitted, which measures no larger than 3"x 4" on the left chest panel.

5. For safety reasons, the district reserves the right to insist upon age appropriate footwear. Shoes will be brown, black, tan or burgundy with matching laces. Shoes must be close-toed. Shoes with excessive heels, boots, and sandals are prohibited. All footwear must have a back which secures the shoe to the foot. Sneakers are permitted and must be predominantly white, black, brown, or tan. Socks may be grey, black, brown, tan or white. If the footwear is designed to have laces, the laces must be in the footwear and tied. No flip-flops will be permitted.

6. There shall be no clothing worn with messages, written or symbolic, pertaining to but not limited to drug, alcohol, or tobacco messages, references to illegal substances, implications of an obscene or sexual nature, negative comments about another's culture, references to racist or hate groups, or violence.

7. Mutilation of clothing, which includes purposely cutting holes or tearing required clothing, will not be permitted.

8. Jewelry and other adornments:

- a. The district recognizes the right of the students to wear jewelry and other adornments. However, certain jewelry and other adornments and the manner in which they are worn or displayed may not be appropriate under certain circumstances, and may pose a danger to the safety and welfare of the student or to the other students or staff, and may pose a threat to or interruption of the education process.
- b. In the case of the day-to-day school environment, the administration and/or teaching staff may require that the students remove any jewelry and other adornments which might reasonably be considered as posing a threat to the safety of the student, other students or staff, or as posing a threat to or interruption of the education process.
- c. Earrings and body rings worn at locations other than the ears are not allowed. Specifically, those worn in the nose, eyebrow, tongue, cheek, or any other visible location besides the ears is not acceptable.
- d. The piercing body parts and the insertion of jewelry or other objects which result in bleeding, oozing of bodily fluids or other physical condition which may reasonably pose a danger to the student or others is considered inappropriate and unacceptable.
- e. There shall be no chains worn other than those designed as a necklace or bracelet.
- f. Hair coloring of a fluorescent or non-typical color shall not be permitted.
- g. Hats, handkerchiefs, or other similar headwear may not be worn in the school building during regular school hours, except for religious or health reasons.
- h. Sunglasses are not permitted inside the building unless required by an attending physician.
- i. Accessories deemed to be distracting, disruptive or offensive in nature are prohibited.

9. Clothing should be clean, not excessively stained or faded, tidy and free from tears, holes, and fraying.

10. Upon enrollment in the district, new students will be granted a grace period of two (2) weeks before being required to conform to the dress code.
11. Due to the educational environment at the elementary level and requirements for physical education and other activities such as recess, students in grades K-5 will be permitted the following accommodations: sneakers will be permitted; knee-length shorts will be permitted; and boots will be permitted in inclement weather.

Physical education class: Students in grades K-5 will be permitted to wear tee shirts, sweat shirts, and sweat pants of black, gold, grey or white. Knee length shorts of black, gold, grey or white will be permitted.
12. Purses larger than 10" x 10" will not be permitted.

Religious Exemption

If the parent/guardian of a student or the student has what they consider to be a bona fide religious belief which precludes strict adherence to the dress and grooming guidelines, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must fill out the appropriate waiver form and submit all other documentation reasonably required by the administration to establish their objection.

Parents/Guardians requesting an exemption from these guidelines will be required to meet with the Superintendent or his/her designee to discuss the guidelines and the nature of the objection necessitating a waiver. Following this meeting, the Superintendent shall render a written decision, approving or denying the requested waiver.

If the parents/guardians do not agree with the Superintendent's decision, the parents/guardians may request, in writing, a nonpublic meeting with a designated committee of the Board. The decision of the committee following this meeting shall be in writing.

Any exemption from these guidelines granted by the Superintendent or the designated committee of the Board shall be limited to the minimum variance from the guidelines necessary in light of the specific, bona fide religious belief, which precludes strict compliance. The exception as allowed will be clearly stated.

Any exemption granted will apply only to the current school year. If an exemption for a subsequent year is requested from a parent/guardian whose child was enrolled at the conclusion of the previous year, the applications for exemption must be

submitted to the Superintendent prior to July committee meetings. This procedure shall ensure a decision on the application for exemption prior to the beginning of the first student day of the school year.

Economic Hardship

Any parent/guardian whose child(ren) is deemed to suffer as a result of a perceived economic hardship is directed to complete a request for waiver form and submit it through the building principal's office. Such cases will be reviewed case-by-case.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1317.3

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.11

Board Policy – 325

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: WEAPONS

ADOPTED: May 27, 2010

REVISED:

218.1. WEAPONS	
1. Purpose	The Board recognizes the importance of a safe school environment relative to the educational process. Possession of weapons in the school setting is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law.
2. Definitions SC 1317.2	<p>Weapon - the term shall include but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, razor, ice pick, nunchaku, explosive device of any kind, including firecrackers, tear gas canisters, smoke bombs, chains, loaded cane, sword cane, loaded or unloaded firearms, including shotguns, rifles, pellet guns, BB guns or any look-alike guns, any Bowie knife, lock-blade, hunting knife or any other similar knife, replica of a weapon, and/or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of directly or indirectly inflicting serious bodily injury.</p> <p>Possession - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; and under the student's control while on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, at any school event held away from the school, or while the student is coming to or from school.</p>
3. Authority SC 1317.2	The Board prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons and replicas of weapons into any school district buildings, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any public vehicle providing transportation to school or a school-sponsored activity.
SC 1317.2 Pol. 233	The school district shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who violates this weapons policy. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law and Board policy. The Superintendent may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility SC 1317.2 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq</p>	<p>In the case of a student with disabilities, the Superintendent shall take all necessary steps to comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and follow Board policy.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall report the discovery of any weapon prohibited by this policy to the student's parents/guardians and to local law enforcement officials.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall report all incidents relating to expulsion for possession of a weapon to the Department of Education.</p>
<p>SC 1303-A</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to develop a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials that sets forth procedures to be followed when an incident occurs involving an act of violence or possession of a weapon by any person on school property.</p>
<p>SC 1303-A</p>	<p>Acts of violence or possession of a weapon in violation of Board policy shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.</p>
<p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>The building principals shall annually inform staff, students and parents/guardians about the Board policy prohibiting weapons and about their personal responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of the school community.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>An exception to this policy may be made by the Superintendent, who shall prescribe special conditions or administrative regulations to be followed.</p>
<p>18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922</p>	<p>Law enforcement officers may possess weapons on district property only when on duty, in official uniform, with a badge and identification in view.</p>
<p>18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922</p>	<p>In accordance with federal law, possession or discharge of a firearm in, on, or within 1,000 feet of school grounds is prohibited. Violations shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p><u>Transfer Students</u></p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>When the school district receives a student who transfers from a public or private school during an expulsion period for an offense involving a weapon, the district may assign that student to an alternative assignment or may provide alternative education, provided the assignment does not exceed the expulsion period.</p>

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1303-A, 1317.2

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 403.1

Possession of Weapon on School Property – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 912

Gun Control Act – 18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922

Individuals With Disabilities Education Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.

Gun-Free Schools Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7151

No Child Left Behind Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7114

Individuals With Disabilities Education, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations –
34 CFR Part 300

Board Policy – 233

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: TOBACCO USE

ADOPTED: May 27, 2010

REVISED:

222. TOBACCO USE	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board recognizes that tobacco use by students presents a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for both users and nonusers and the safety and environment of the schools.</p>
<p>2. Definition 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6306.1</p>	<p>For purposes of this policy, tobacco use shall be defined as use and/or possession of a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar and pipe; other lighted smoking product; and smokeless tobacco in any form.</p>
<p>3. Authority 35 P.S. Sec. 1223.5 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7183</p>	<p>The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession by students at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the school district.</p> <p>The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession by students at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.</p>
<p>18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6306.1</p>	<p>The school district may initiate prosecution of a student who possesses or uses tobacco in violation of this policy.</p>
<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the district's tobacco use policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, district newsletter, posted notices, district web site and other efficient methods.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.</p>
<p>5. Guidelines SC 1303-A</p>	<p>Incidents of possession, use and sale of tobacco in violation of this policy by any person on school property shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.</p>
<p>18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6306.1</p>	<p>A student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in violation of this policy may be fined up to fifty dollars (\$50) plus court costs or admitted to alternative adjudication in lieu of imposition of a fine.</p>

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1303-A

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 403.1

Tobacco Use Prohibition – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6306.1

School Tobacco Control – 35 P.S. Sec. 1223.5

No Child Left Behind Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7114

Pro-Children Act of 2001 – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7181 et seq.

Board Policy – 000

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

ADOPTED: May 27, 2010

REVISED:

227. DRUGS AND ALCOHOL	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board expresses its belief in the accompanying policy that alcohol and other drugs cannot be used responsibly by any minor. Furthermore, this philosophy must be of utmost importance in the development of guidelines and procedures required to implement this policy.</p> <p>The Board recognizes that chemical dependency, including drug and alcohol abuse, has become one of our major health problems. The Board is also aware that drug and alcohol abuse taking place in district schools and the community is a threat to the health and welfare of the general population, especially to children and youth. The district recognizes that chemical dependency is a treatable health problem.</p> <p>Health problems of youth are primarily the responsibility of the home and community; however, schools share in that responsibility because chemical dependency problems interfere with appropriate school behavior, student learning, and the fullest possible development of each student. The district holds the position that students must be chemically free in order to develop in the most productive and healthy manner.</p> <p>Furthermore, the district will work through curriculum and classroom activity, administrative and faculty effort, and disciplinary procedures to prevent and intervene in the abuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the school population.</p>
<p>2. Definitions 35 P.S. Sec. 780-102 21 U.S.C. Sec. 812 Pol. 210</p>	<p>For purposes of this policy, drugs and alcohol shall include any alcohol or malt beverage, any controlled substance prohibited by federal and state law, abused substance, anabolic steroids, drug paraphernalia, potentially health endangering substance, medication for which a prescription is required, and/or any substance which is intended to alter mood.</p> <p>Examples shall include, but are not limited to, herbal products and any products that contain any form of ephedrine, beer, wine, liquor, marijuana, hashish, chemical solvents, inhalants, hallucinogens, glue, counterfeit substances or chemicals, look-alike substances, potentially health endangering substances, and any medication not</p>

<p>3. Authority SC 510, 511 Title 22 Sec. 12.3</p> <p>Pol. 218</p> <p>Pol. 122, 123</p>	<p>registered with the nurse, annotated within the student's health record and/or taken in accordance with Board policy for the administration of medication to students in school.</p> <p>Counterfeit means a controlled substance, other drug, device or cosmetic which, or the container or labeling of which, without authorization, bears the trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark, imprint, number, or any likeness thereof, or a manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser other than the person or persons who in fact manufactured, distributed, or dispensed such substance, or the substance is falsely represented to be the product of, or to have been distributed by, such other manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser. Counterfeit shall also mean any substance which is termed a look-alike substitution for any controlled substance.</p> <p>For purposes of this policy, under the influence shall include any consumption or ingestion of controlled substances by a student.</p> <p>The Board prohibits students from using, possessing, distributing, and being under the influence of any drugs and alcohol/controlled substances during school hours, at any time while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity, and during the time spent traveling to and from school and school-sponsored activities.</p> <p>The Board identifies that school personnel shall be held responsible for reporting all incidences involving drugs and alcohol. Employees shall be subject to progressive discipline for failure to report any such incident.</p> <p>The Board may require participation in drug counseling, rehabilitation, testing or other programs as a condition of reinstatement into the school's educational, extracurricular or athletic programs resulting from violations of this policy.</p> <p><u>Off-Campus Activities</u></p> <p>This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the Code of Student Conduct if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities. 2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.
---	---

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>42 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 8337 Pol. 218, 233</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school. 4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct. 5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property. <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to identify and control substance abuse in the schools which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish procedures to deal with students suspected of using, possessing, being under the influence, or distributing drugs and alcohol/controlled substances in school, up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution. 2. Disseminate to students, parents/guardians and staff the Board policy and administrative regulations governing student abuse of drugs and alcohol/controlled substances. 3. Provide education concerning the dangers of abusing drugs and alcohol/controlled substances. 4. Establish procedures for education and readmission to school of students convicted of offenses involving drugs and alcohol/controlled substances. <p>All district personnel shall report to their immediate supervisor any student or employee involved in or suspected in the use of, transfer of, or having alcohol or other drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances in their possession while on or about the school property or while on a school function.</p> <p>All district personnel shall report to their immediate supervisor any person who is not a student or employee and who is found to be using, soliciting, or giving a student or employee any alcohol or other drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances while on or about the school property or while on a school-related function.</p> <p>The Supervisor shall report such information to the Superintendent immediately and confirm the same to the Superintendent as soon as possible in writing relating the specific sequence of events in each case.</p>
---	---

<p>SC 1303-A</p> <p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>The supervisor or the Superintendent will immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency in any case involving persons not related to the district.</p> <p>Incidents of possession, use and sale of controlled substances by any person on school property shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.</p> <p>In all cases involving students and drugs and alcohol/controlled substances, the need to protect the school community from undue harm and exposure to drugs shall be recognized.</p> <p>No student may be admitted to a program that seeks to identify and rehabilitate the potential abuser without the intelligent, voluntary and aware consent of the student and parent/guardian.</p> <p>The Board requires that a student who, while under the school's jurisdiction, is found to possess, is observed to be under the influence of, use or abuse of alcohol or other drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances for the first time shall be subject to the following immediate actions. For subsequent offenses, please refer to the Summarization of Drug and Alcohol Administrative Guidelines as set forth in the student handbook.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parents/Guardians shall be immediately contacted by the building administration and the student shall be sent home or removed from the school for medical attention if necessary. If the parents/guardians cannot be reached, the decision to get medical attention for the student or to isolate the student from other students shall be made by the school administration or designee. 2. The police department having jurisdiction over the area in which the school is located may be notified by the Superintendent or designee and the student may be referred for appropriate action. 3. The student will initially be suspended for up to ten (10) days during which time an informal hearing will be scheduled. In addition, students will be subject to eligibility guidelines.
---------------------------------------	--

4. Within the first three (3) days of the suspension, preferably the day after the occurrence, an informal hearing will be held with the student, his/her parents/guardians, local police department representative, the school administration, and any other person who, in the judgment of the administration, could make contributions to aid in determining a course of action. As a result of the meeting, the district shall do one (1) or more of the following:
 - a. Refer the student to district personnel for counseling. Appropriate staff members may constitute one (1) or more of the following:
 - 1) Principal.
 - 2) School nurse.
 - 3) Student's guidance counselor.
 - 4) School psychologist.
 - 5) Other appropriately trained staff members selected by the principal.
 - b. Recommend the student, under parental supervision, obtain assessment from an outside licensed professional resource. Confirmation of such contact shall be required to be submitted within a prescribed time to the school administration. Such confirmation shall include a signed consent for release of information to the treating resource and a copy of a written report with recommendations. Failure to comply within a prescribed time will be cause for additional days of this suspension to be required. The quantity of these required suspensions will be at the discretion of the principal.
 - c. Full suspension for up to ten (10) school days.
 - d. Referral to the district hearing committee for an expulsion hearing.
 - e. Student is required to follow the Student Assistance Contract.
 - f. Any other action determined appropriate by the situation.

The Board recognizes that a student who voluntarily comes, or is referred, to the principal seeking help and not under the immediate influence of, or transferring, or in possession of alcohol or other drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances within the school is not subject to the provisions of this policy, but will be provided with all appropriate help as defined in this policy.

<p>35 P.S. Sec. 807.1</p> <p>35 P.S. Sec. 807.2 Pol. 233</p> <p>35 P.S. Sec. 807.3</p>	<p><u>Anabolic Steroids</u></p> <p>The Board prohibits the use of anabolic steroids by students involved in school-related athletics, except for a valid medical purpose. Body building and muscle enhancement of athletic ability are not valid medical purposes. Human Growth Hormone (HGH) shall not be included as an anabolic steroid.</p> <p>Students shall be made aware of the dangers of steroid use; that anabolic steroids are classified as controlled substances; and that their use, unauthorized possession, purchase, or sale could subject students to suspension, expulsion and/or criminal prosecution.</p> <p>The following minimum penalties are prescribed for any student athlete found in violation of the prohibited use of anabolic steroids:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For a first violation, suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season. 2. For a second violation, suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season and for the following season. 3. For a third violation, permanent suspension from school athletics. <p>No student shall be eligible to resume participation in school athletics unless a medical determination has been submitted, verifying that no residual evidence of steroids exists.</p> <p><u>Reasonable Suspicion/Testing</u></p> <p>If based on the student's behavior, medical symptoms, vital signs or other observable factors, the building principal has reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of a controlled substance, the student may be required to submit to drug or alcohol testing. The testing may include but is not limited to the analysis of blood, urine, saliva, or the administration of a Breathalyzer test.</p>
--	---

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 511, 1303-A

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.3, 403.1

PA Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act – 35 P.S. Sec. 780-101 et seq.

Steroids – 35 P.S. Sec. 807.1 et seq.

PA Civil Immunity of School Officers/Employees Relating to Drug or Alcohol Abuse – 42 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 8337

No Child Left Behind Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7114, 7161

Controlled Substances Act – 21 U.S.C. Sec. 801 et seq.

Board Policy – 000, 122, 123, 210, 218, 233

GENERAL RULES in place within the SCHOOL DAY

A. General Classroom Rules

- Follow directions the first time they are given
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself
- No cursing, teasing or name calling
- Stay seated unless you have permission to get up
- Walk!

B. Hallway Rules

- Follow directions of staff
- Always walk in quiet orderly manner
- No talking in hallways
- Stay to the right

C. Cafeteria Rules and Procedures

- No jumping ahead in line
- Each student has an assigned table and must remain at that table for the entire lunch period except to buy ice cream or excused by monitor on duty
- No student shall leave the cafeteria until his/her table is dismissed
- If a student wishes to go to the lavatory, he/she must obtain permission from the monitor on duty
- Throwing of food is strictly forbidden
- Courtesy to fellow pupils demands that pupils should clean up food items or paper which are accidentally dropped or spilled. Leave the lunchroom and table in a neat condition.
- No food items to be taken from the cafeteria
- Students will not yell but speak in quiet tones to students seated near them
- Popping of bags, whistling or other unnecessary noises will not be tolerated
- Lunch is not recess
- The lunch monitor has the right to deny a student the privilege of having recess time if the student fails to abide by the above listed rules. Should inappropriate behavior persist, the monitor has the right to take additional measures immediately.

D. Playground Rules

Students **MUST**

- follow directions of supervisor
- stay within those areas only designated by supervisors
- stay away from the building, off banks, off any fences and parked automobiles

- use playground equipment in manner in which it is intended i.e. jump ropes for jumping...not for swinging around body or hitting others, basketball for that game only...not soccer or kickball

Students MUST NOT

- return to the building without the approval of recess supervisor
- physically or verbally bully or abuse other students, curse or tease
- engage in tackle football, wrestling or any other potentially dangerous contact sport
- have hardballs or bats on playground / whiffle balls & bats and rubber balls are permissible

Students who create problems at recess will be subject to disciplinary action by the teacher, disciplinarian and/or principal.

IF A CHILD CHOOSES TO BREAK A RULE:

Negative Consequences:

- 1st time a rule is broken: Name recorded – Warning
- 2nd time a rule is broken: Name recorded – 5 minute time out
- 3rd time a rule is broken: Name recorded – 10 minute time out
- 4th time a rule is broken: Name recorded – Loss of privileges & student calls parent
- 5th time a rule is broken: Name recorded – Loss of privileges, student calls parent & after school detention

Each child starts out fresh every day and knows the results of his actions.

Positive rewards will be given at the discretion of the homeroom teacher but may include the following: verbal praise, stickers, treats, computer time, positive note to parents, certificates, earning free time, no homework.

We encourage you to enforce this discipline plan at home and praise good behavior.

STANDARD PROCEDURE FOR DETENTION AND SUSPENSION

DETENTION - The detention room will be open after school from 3:30 to 4:30 on designated days in the Elementary School. When a detention has been assigned, it must be served on the day for which it is assigned. Students who miss detention will be reassessed and reassigned detention make-up and be given additional detentions for missing assigned one. If a student misses a make-up detention for a reason other than illness, the events will be reassessed with an in-school suspension as a disciplinary action. Parents are responsible to pick-up their child by the front door at 4:30 p.m.

ALLOW YOUR CHILDREN TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTIONS. Please do not call the school to reschedule and/or reassign. Enough time in scheduling is given for any arrangements to be made if necessary. Parental cooperation is vital to the enforcement of our discipline policy which should be as important to you as it is to us. Thank you for working with us to bring about a positive educational climate.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION - When it becomes necessary to suspend a student for an infraction of school regulations, each student suspension will be considered on its own merits. An in-school suspension will be granted when it is deemed in the best interest of the student. The goal of the administration is to have most of the student exclusions from school take the form of in-school suspension.

An in-school suspension will enable the student to remain in school and continue his studies, but in a different setting. The suspended student will be assigned to an in-school suspension area which will be supervised by members of the staff.

A student on an in-school suspension will be restricted to the area all day.

After completion of the in-school suspension, the student will be readmitted. If the administrator deems necessary, a parent conference will be held before readmitting the student.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION - A student under an out-of-school suspension is returned temporarily to his home and placed in the custody of his parent(s) or guardians(s). During the period of suspension the student is required to spend the hours of the school day, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for elementary students, on the home premises. The student is also barred from involvement in any school sponsored activity, either as a participant or a spectator. Furthermore, the student must remain away from the school grounds throughout the duration of the suspension. The cooperation of the parents is requested in the enforcement of this policy.

The student must make up all work missed and have completed given assignments. After completion of the suspension, the student will be readmitted after a conference with the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) and the principal.

HARASSMENT, DISORDERLY CONDUCT, CRIMINAL MISCHIEF AND CRIMINAL TRESPASS

While the Student's Rights and Responsibilities addresses discipline measures concerning student behavior, there are those situations where severe discipline problems involving harassment, criminal mischief, criminal trespass, disorderly conduct and related offenses will be handled under the Pennsylvania Crime Code, Title 81, Chapter 55, Sections 2709, 3304 and 5503 as well as other appropriate sections.

A decision on the involvement of the Panther Valley School District is the preferring of charges of harassment, disorderly conduct, criminal mischief or criminal trespass is to be made by the administration. The person who witnesses the incident will not be the person bringing the charges. However, all school personnel who are involved in any way will give their full support and the person who witnesses the incident will appear at the hearing.

Charges of harassment, disorderly conduct, criminal mischief and criminal trespass may be brought against a student or any other individual whether on school property, at a school-related function or on school busses.

The Panther Valley School District will utilize the Pennsylvania Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure through the local magistrate court system for infractions of the Panther Valley School District discipline policies, when in the opinion of the administration, this is the most effective procedure to remedy a problem, correct an unacceptable behavior or to recover costs incurred as a result of the misbehavior of students, visitors or others covered by these policies. The initiation and continuation of criminal proceedings may take place in addition to disciplinary procedure and actions warranted by the Panther Valley School District to problems involving students on busses, persons other than students who attempt to use school transportation improperly and students attending school-related functions.

CHARGES WHICH MAY BE PROCESSED THROUGH LOCAL MAGISTRATES

The following charges shall be considered as being proper for such disciplinary procedures. These follow with definitions taken from the "Pennsylvania Criminal Code and Criminal Procedures" better known as the Pennsylvania Crime Code. While they do not represent the only offenses reportable, they provide a guide for the categories of offenses that may occur within the school setting.

1. DISORDERLY CONDUCT - SECTION 5503

Offense Defined - A person is guilty of disorderly conduct if, with intent to cause Public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm, or recklessly creating a risk thereof he:

- Engages in fighting or threatening, or in violent or in tumultuous behavior
- Makes unreasonable noises
- Uses obscene language or makes obscene gestures
- Creates a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act which serves no legitimate purpose of the actor.

Grading - An offense under this section is a misdemeanor of the third degree if the intent of the actor is to cause substantial harm or serious inconvenience or if he persists in disorderly conduct after reasonable warning or request to desist. Otherwise, disorderly conduct is a summary offense.

Definition - As used in this section, the word "public" means affecting or likely to affect persons in a place to which the public or a substantial group has access; among the places included are highways, places of business or amusement or any premises which are open to the public.

2. HARASSMENT - SECTION 2709

- (a) Offense Defined - A person commits the crime of harassment when, with intent to harass, annoy or alarm another, the person:
- (1) Strikes, shoves, kicks or otherwise subjects the other person to physical contact or attempts or threatens to do the same;
 - (2) Follows the other person in or about a public place or places;
 - (3) Engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly commits acts which serve no legitimate purpose;
 - (4) Communicates to or about such other person any lewd, lascivious, threatening or obscene words, language, drawings or caricatures;

- (5) Communicates repeatedly in an anonymous manner;
- (6) Communicates repeatedly at extremely inconvenient hours; or
- (7) Communicates repeatedly in a manner other than specified in paragraphs 4, 5 & 6.
- (b) (Repealed.)
- (b1) Venue. -
 - (1) An offense committed under this section may be deemed to have been committed at either the place at which the communication or communications were made or at the place where the communication or communications were received.
 - (1) Acts indicating a course of conduct which occur in more than one jurisdiction may be used by other jurisdiction in which an act occurred as evidence of a continuing pattern of conduct or a course of conduct.
- (c) Grading. -
 - (1) An offense under subsection (a)(1), (2) or (3) shall constitute a summary offense.
 - (2)(i) An offense under subsection (a)(4), (5), (6) or (7) shall constitute a misdemeanor of the third degree.

3. CRIMINAL TRESPASS - SECTION 3503

Building and Occupied Structures - A person commits an offense if knowing that he is not licensed or privileged to do so, he enters or gains entrance by subterfuge or surreptitiously remains in any building or occupied portion thereof.

Defiant Trespasser - A person commits an offense if knowing that he is not licensed or privileged to do so, he enters or remains in any place as to which notice against trespass is give by:

- Actual communication to the actor
- Posting in a manner prescribed by law or reasonably likely to come to the attention of intruders
- Fencing or other enclosure manifestly designed to exclude intruders

An offense under this sub-section constitutes a misdemeanor of the third degree if the offender defies an order to leave personally communicated to him by the owner of the premises or other authorized person. Otherwise, it is a summary offense.

SCHOOL BUS POLICY

Adopted: May 23, 1996
Revised: January 29, 2009

It is the policy of the Panther Valley School District Board of Directors to provide transportation for students in accordance with law and the following guidelines.

The Board shall contract for school bus services for the transportation of students to and from school at regularly scheduled hours and for the transportation of students on field trips and athletic trips. The contractor shall provide all necessary school buses to transport our students in accordance with a contractual agreement. The district may utilize vehicles of its own to meet limited transportation needs and supplement the contractor's efforts.

Pupils may be transported if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Elementary pupils living more than 1 and 1/2 miles from their assigned school.
2. Special Education (E.M.R. /S.E.D. /T.M.R. /L.D.) and Handicapped, (visual, hearing and physical), handled on a category by category basis.
3. Any pupil regardless of distance, if the PA Department of Transportation certifies the road on which the pupil must walk is hazardous.

PARENTAL CONVENIENCE SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS MEETING THE CRITERIA FOR TRANSPORTATION.

The school bus driver shall be responsible to enforce the bus rules and regulations for students while they are being transported to and from school. A student may be suspended from bus transportation by the principal, disciplinarian or superintendent for disciplinary reasons. If a student is suspended the parents are responsible for the pupil's transportation.

The Principals, Disciplinarian and Superintendent shall have power to suspend students from riding the bus or to take other reasonable disciplinary action for misconduct on school buses. For disciplinary purposes, the school bus is deemed to be similar to the classroom. The Board recognizes that although a bus driver is responsible for maintaining the bus rules and regulations on a bus, there may be an occasion when referral of a case by the driver to school officials is both desirable and necessary. All referrals are to be first reported to the Transportation Supervisor who makes an investigation. If warranted, the supervisor shall make a recommendation to the appropriate Principal. Parents are to be notified in each instance of a suspension. Out of district student placement problems of a disciplinary nature shall be handled in a similar fashion.

All students shall ride the bus to which they have been assigned. Students will be picked up and dropped off ONLY at their approved stop. However, a parent/guardian may request to have a student picked up at one stop in the a.m. and dropped off at another in the p.m. in child care circumstances provided the arrangement is consistent daily.

BUS REGULATIONS

The following rules of conduct are prescribed for pupils who ride school busses. All riders are expected to comply with these regulations. Violations will result in disciplinary action.

1. Walk in front of bus when crossing road.
2. Remain in seat while bus is in motion.
3. Always take seat assigned by driver.
4. Be on schedule at all times.
5. Keep feet on floor of bus when seated.
6. Keep laughter, talk and noise at a low level.
7. Pushing or shoving while getting on or off bus is prohibited.
8. Fighting is prohibited.
9. Swearing is prohibited.
10. Marking or writing on any part of the bus is not permitted.
11. Eating, drinking, or smoking are not permitted on busses.
12. Do not extend hand or head out of windows.
13. Do not put pressure on the back of the seat in front of you.
14. Loosening or removing screws, bolts or nuts is strictly forbidden.
15. Do not use emergency door unless there is an emergency.
16. Littering inside of bus with paper or other refuse is prohibited.
17. Pupils must have written permission to leave bus at other than regular stop.
18. No pupil is permitted to ride bus unless authorized to do so.
19. Pupils are expected to follow directions of driver at all times.
20. Pupils must refrain from annoying driver.
21. Transportation by school bus is a privilege and not a right. Pupils may be suspended from the bus-riding privilege for violation of rules.

SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT

1. Bus transportation to and from school is a privilege extended to the students of the Panther Valley School District through the efforts of the taxpaying citizens of our district. It must be understood by both the students and their parents the responsibilities which this privilege carries.
2. It is imperative that discipline is maintained on school busses. Misconduct on school busses is dangerous and foolhardy as well as selfish and lacking in self-discipline. The Panther Valley School District has set down regulations and students who violate them may be denied bus transportation. The rules have one aim: safe transportation between school and home.

3. Students, while riding the bus, will conduct themselves in a manner that will not distract the driver. A driver has many responsibilities and all of them are important for the safety of the students.
4. The driver is in complete charge of the bus and the students. The driver has the authority when notified by the Principal to refuse transportation to a student who has violated the rules, until the case is reviewed and acted upon by the Administration of the School District. Any incident must be reported by the bus driver to the Transportation Supervisor within 24 hours of the occurrence who in turn will report the incident to the appropriate building principal.
5. Any parent who intends to pick up his/her child at school must submit a signed note stating the date and time of pick-up as well as the person who will pick up the child. IF THE ADULT HAS NOT ARRIVED BY THE TIME THE CHILD'S BUS IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART FROM THE SCHOOL, THE STUDENTS WILL BE PLACED ON HIS/HER BUS. For this reason, parents picking up a child should arrive at the school no later than 3:20 p.m. and requests should be kept at a minimum. The school assumes NO responsibility in sending the child on his/her regular bus if not picked up before the bus leaves the school.
6. Punishment for bus violation for first offenders shall be consistent with the rules and regulations as set forth by the Panther Valley School District including loss of 3 – 5 recess periods. Second offenses shall cause denial of bus privileges for three (3) school days. A third offense shall cause loss of bus riding privileges for 5 – 10 school days. A final offense shall result in loss of bus riding privileges for an indefinite period of time subject to administrative decision and review. A conference will be held with parents, principal and/or transportation director. In addition, for each offense, the administration has the right to revoke other privileges such as attendance at programs, assemblies and/or field trips.
7. Withdrawal of school bus privileges does not relieve either the student or the parent of their responsibilities to compulsory attendance laws. Absence from school for this reason will be considered an unexcused absence. Parents are expected to provide transportation on these days. Lack of transportation is not considered a legal excuse for absence on any school day.
8. In the event of serious or repeated violation of bus regulations, the district may file a summary offense, misdemeanor or felony complaint with the local magistrate. These complaints include, but are not limited to, harassment, disorderly conduct, assault, criminal mischief and recklessly endangering another person.
9. Permission to change buses WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. Bus overload is of prime concern since it involves the safety of students and is prohibited by law. Questions concerning busing should be directed to the transportation department in the Business Office at 570-645-4248, extension 8.

PARENT CUSTODY GUIDELINES

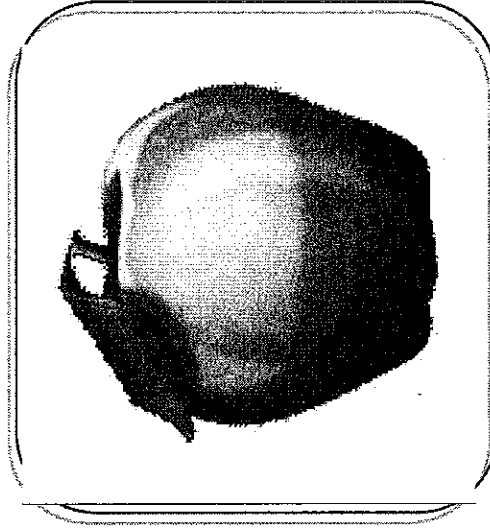
The responsibilities of the school and the rights of parents in educational matters involving separation or dissolution of a marriage shall take into consideration the following broad guidelines.

1. Separated or divorced parents are advised of their obligation to officially inform the school of their status in terms of the custody of the child and to rights of either parent regarding access to the child and responsibility for the child's education. This includes, but is not limited to, any custody agreement, as well as any changes that occur within the agreement.
2. Where the court has awarded "legal custody", the right to make educational decisions for the child resides with the custodial parent. Involvement in the child's educational process by a non-custodial parent should be subject to the custodial parent's approval or some provision set by the custody agreement.
3. In the absence of a court directive fixing custody, the parent who has actual physical possession and control of the child would be responsible for the child's attendance at school and thus make the decisions affecting the child's education.
4. Although the school may permit access of the child to the non-custodial parent, they are not obligated to do so. Through the proper exercise of their in loco parentis responsibility, the school authorities may deny access in any case where the child's education, health and welfare might be placed in jeopardy.
5. Non-custodial parents shall not be allowed to take the child off school premises without the explicit consent of the custodial parent unless a valid and specific visitation schedule is on file in the office.
6. In the matter of school records, both parents have the right of access to all information relating to their child's education unless there is a court document specifically prohibiting it. Report cards, progress reports and other educational information routinely provided to the custodial parent by the school may also be sent to the non-custodial parent upon written request. The written request must state the name and address of the person making the request, their relationship to the student and specifically list the information requested. It takes approximately ten working days for the information to be collected. **REQUESTS MUST BE RENEWED EVERY NEW SCHOOL YEAR.**
7. Contact by the non-custodial parent with school staff may be permitted under the same conditions as it is offered to the custodial parent. In the case of the non-custodial parent, it should be understood that such contacts are for informational purposes only and should not involve educational decision making unless explicitly approved by the custodial parent.



Panther Valley School District

Nutrition Guide for Parents



Viki Stahr
Food Service Supervisor
Panther Valley School District
Phone: 570-645-2171 x4057
Web site: www.panthervalley.org

Nutritional Initiatives

- ✓ Low fat, pre-cooked hamburgers are purchased
- ✓ Low fat salad dressings are offered
- ✓ 20% less sugar is used in baking recipes
- ✓ Whole wheat hamburger buns are offered
- ✓ No butter is used on vegetables
- ✓ An assortment of fresh fruits and vegetables are served daily
- ✓ Only fruit canned in light syrup is served
- ✓ Lower fat (15% fat) ground beef and low fat ham are used
- ✓ Elementary snack policy allows only 6 approved snacks, all of which must be less than 30% fat. 2nd/5th grade snacks available 3 days a week
- ✓ 100% fruit juices are served
- ✓ Salad bars are offered in all secondary and elementary schools
- ✓ Canola oil is used
- ✓ Low fat yogurt is available at all schools
- ✓ Cured meats, sausage, and eggs are served no more than once a week
- ✓ The NSL Type A menus meet the AHA guidelines for 30% fat
- ✓ Low sodium soups are served
- ✓ Ground turkey is mixed with ground pork to lower fat in tacos
- ✓ Low fat turkey hot dogs are served
- ✓ No product is fried
- ✓ Students are encouraged to take as much fruit and juice as they like



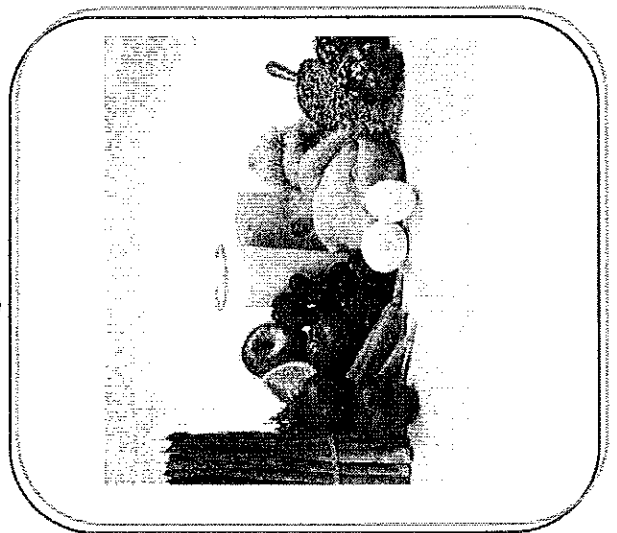
Helpful Websites

MyPyramid offers personalized eating plans, interactive tools to help you plan and assess your food choices, and advice to help you
www.mypyramid.com

Food for Fitness and Fun Guidelines
www.extension.iastate.edu/food

Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods in Pennsylvania Schools for the School Nutrition Incentive
www.pde.state.pa.us/foodnutrition

National Food Service Management Institute provides information and services that promote the continuous improvement of Child Nutrition Programs
www.nfsmi.org





Classroom Parties & Holiday Celebrations

Your School has adopted the Pennsylvania Department of Education Nutrition Standards. Here are some rules to follow if you choose to provide food for your child's classroom or holiday party:

Limit baked goods to one item. The item must be individually wrapped and provide ingredients used in preparation.

If you choose to bring in baked goods you must also bring in a healthy alternative.

You must provide fruits and vegetables for every child. Some examples include: pre-sliced apples, bananas, grapes, and orange sections, carrot and celery sticks, cucumber slices, grape tomatoes or broccoli florets with a low fat ranch dressing for dipping.

Stick to healthy drinks such as water, milk, or 100% fruit juice.

The Panther Valley Cafeteria staff can help. We provide birthday Baskets and Party Plans.

Visit:

www.panthervalley.org/Admin/Cafeteria/Cafeteria.htm

Tips for Parents

Eat Right

- 1 Choose whole-grain foods, such as whole-wheat bread, oatmeal, brown rice, and low fat popcorn, more often.
- 2 Go dark green and orange with your vegetables - eat spinach, broccoli, carrots, and sweet potatoes.
- 3 Eat them at meals, and at snack time, too, and go easy on the fruit juice.
- 4 Serve low fat and fat-free milk and other milk products several times a day.
- 5 Eat lean or low fat meat, chicken, turkey, and fish. Also, add chick peas, nuts, or seeds to a salad; pinto beans to a burrito; or kidney beans to soup.
- 6 We all need oil. Get yours from fish, nuts, and liquid oils such as corn, soybean, canola, and olive oil.
- 7 Choose foods and beverages that do not have sugar and caloric sweeteners as one of the first ingredients.

Tips for Parents

Exercise

- 1 Be active. Have fun together. Play with the kids or pets. Go for a walk, tumble in the leaves, or play catch.
- 2 Track your individual physical activities together.
- 3 Set aside time each day as activity time. Adults need at least 30 min. of physical activity most days of the week; children 60 minutes everyday or most days.
- 4 Use household items, such as canned foods as weights. Stairs can substitute for stair machines.
- 5 Make the next birthday party centered on physical activity.
- 6 Instead of sitting through TV commercials, get up and move. Remember to limit TV and computer time.
- 7 Give gifts that encourage physical activity - active games or sporting equipment.

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT

We Make Birthdays Easy

Instead of scrambling around the night before trying to prepare a snack for the whole class, why not let us help you!!! Don't worry about napkins or plates. We'll take care of everything. . All food gets delivered to the classroom the morning of your request. SIGN UP NOW!

Customer Order Form:

Name: _____
 Today's Date: _____ Date Needed: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Student's Name: _____
 Teacher's Name: _____ Location: _____

Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Total Price
	Low Fat Muffins	\$.50	
	Bagged Baked Snacks	\$.50	
	Soft Pretzels	\$.50	
	Fruit Shape-up	\$.50	
	8oz. water/fruit juice	\$.40	

*Please return this order form to the school cafeteria **ONE WEEK** prior to date needed. All checks should be made out to **PVSD Cafeteria Fund**.*

All food will be delivered to the classroom teacher the morning of the day you have requested.

Any questions, please call Vicky Stahr, Food Service Director at 570-645-3432 or email at pvnutrition@panthervalley.org or log onto the website at www.panthervalley.org/Admin/Cafeteria/Cafeteria.htm

PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT CAFETERIA

2010-2011

Point of Sale System

Procedures for School Lunch Charges and Refunds from Account Balances

All students will be issued a lunch account PIN number at the start of the school year. Sign up to pay bills online at www.mynutrikids.com

At the Elementary level (1-5), if a student's lunch account balance is depleted by **\$25.00**, the student will be offered a *provisionary lunch* until the charges are paid in full. The student's account will be charged according to posted lunch prices for the provisionary meal. **A provisionary lunch will consist of a cold cheese sandwich, carrot coins, fruit and milk.**

At the Middle School level (6-8), if a student's lunch account balance is depleted by **\$10.00**, the student will be offered a *provisionary meal* until the charges are paid in full. The student's account will be charged according to posted lunch prices for the provisionary meal. **A provisionary lunch will consist of a cold cheese sandwich, carrot coins, fruit and milk.**

At the High School level (9-12), Students will be permitted to charge a full lunch to his or her account for one (1) day. After a student exhausts the one (1) day meal charge limit they will **NOT** be allowed to charge additional meals.

Charges will not be permitted for breakfast, ala carte items or snacks. Any unpaid balances at the end of the month totaling over \$200 will result in administrative and/or legal action necessary to collect delinquent accounts.

Account Balances

Positive account balances will not be refunded at the end of the year with the exception of High School Seniors leaving the district with a balance of \$10.00 or more, or by correspondence addressed to the Food Service Director for summer refunds if the balance is \$10.00 or more. All other balances will transfer with the students account to the next year

Insufficient Funds

Returned checks, NSF, Closed Accounts, etc., will have thirty (30) days to pay face value of the check and any additional bank fees. After thirty (30) days, an administrative fee of \$25.00 will be added. At the end of each month, all delinquent accounts will be turned over to the district magistrate for collection. No further checks will be accepted until the account is paid in full.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

The 14 Member School Districts of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 Provide Special Education Programs for Special Needs Children

Allentown School District
Catasauqua Area School District
East Penn School District
Jim Thorpe Area School District
Lehigh Area School District
Northern Lehigh School District
Northwestern Lehigh District

Palmerton Area School District
Panther Valley School District
Parkland School District
Salisbury Township School District
Southern Lehigh School District
Weatherly Area School District
Whitehall-Coplay School District

The School Districts listed above, either directly or through various other education agencies including CLIU #21 provide special education services which may be required by children with special needs.

Types of Programs and services are:

- (1) Academic Support
 - (a) Gifted Support for exceptional students identified as mentally gifted. The focus is to provide instruction beyond the regular curriculum.
 - (b) Learning Support or Resource Room for exceptional students whose primary identified need is academic learning.
- (2) Life Skill Support for exceptional students where the focus is primarily on the needs of students for independent living as well as general daily living skills.
- (3) Emotional Support for exceptional students whose primary identified need is for emotional support. The focus is primarily on behavior management.
- (4) Sensory Support
 - (a) Deaf or Hearing Impaired for exceptional students who are deaf or hearing impaired.
 - (b) Blind or Visually Impaired for exceptional students who are blind or visually impaired.
- (5) Speech and Language Support for exceptional students who are speech and language impaired.
- (6) Physical Support for exceptional students where the program is modified primarily to meet the need of physically disabled students.
- (7) Autistic Support for exceptional students who are autistic. The focus is primarily to develop daily living skills.
- (8) Multi-handicapped Support for exceptional students who are multi-handicapped. The focus is on daily living, self-help, and independent living.

Screening:

Kindergarten screening activities include a review of informal social and health history, developmental areas, functional vision and hearing, and speech and language. Kindergarten screenings are held during the spring at the school district.

Parents who wish to request screening and evaluation for their child may do so by contacting the principal or counselor in their child's school building.

Questions regarding services for special needs children can be addressed to:

Panther Valley School District / Mr. Dan Borden (570) 645-0386

Preschool Children with Special Needs

Parents who have questions regarding their child's seeing, hearing, learning, talking, moving about, manipulating objects, understanding, showing emotions, getting along with others, playing with toys, taking care of himself/herself should phone CLIU #21, which offers Project Connect, a preschool program for children with special needs. Project Connect can provide information, screening, evaluation, programs, therapy, parent involvement, and referral to community agencies at no cost to the parent. For further information contact the CLIU #21 at 1-800-223-4821 or 610-799-4111.

Nonpublic School/Private Schools

Duties owed to students with disabilities enrolled in private schools by their parents are limited to child find activities and a genuine offer of a Free Appropriate Program of Education (FAPE) from the school district of residence. Students unilaterally enrolled in private schools by their parents have a right to participate in services, however, no private school child with a disability is entitled to any particular service or to any amount of service. (300.455(2))

SPECIAL EDUCATION

In compliance with state and federal law, notice is hereby given by the Panther Valley School District that it conducts ongoing identification activities as a part of its school program for the purpose of identifying students who may be in need of special education and related services (eligible students). If your child is identified by the District as possibly in need of such services, you will be notified of applicable procedures. Individualized services and programs are available for children who are determined to need specially designed instruction due to the following conditions:

1. Autism
2. Deafness
3. Emotional Disturbance
4. Mental Retardation
5. Orthopedic Impairment
6. Specific Learning Disability
7. Traumatic Brain Injury
8. Deaf/Blindness
9. Developmental Delay (Preschool Only)
10. Hearing Impairment
11. Multiple Disabilities
12. Other Health Impairment (OHI)
13. Speech & Language Impairment
14. Visual Impairment (Including Blindness)

If you believe that your child may be in need of specially designed instruction, related services, or early intervention services. You may request screening and evaluation at any time, *whether* or not your child is enrolled in the District's public school program.

In compliance with state and federal law, the Special Education Office, Panther Valley School District will provide to each student without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services or accommodations which are needed to provide access to the general education curriculum and to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities. In order to qualify as a student with a disability the child must be school age with a physical or mental disability which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program.

For further information on the rights of parents and children, provision of services, evaluation and screening (including purpose, time and location), and rights to due process procedures, you may contact in writing the Special Education Office at the Panther Valley High School.

Confidentiality: All information gathered about your child is subject to the confidentiality provisions contained in federal and state law. The District has policies and procedures in effect governing the collection, maintenance, destruction and disclosure to third parties of this information. For information about these policies and procedures, as well as rights of confidentiality and access to educational records, you may contact in writing the Special Education Office at Panther Valley High School.

Panther Valley School District

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: SCHOOL VISITORS

ADOPTED: May 23, 1996

REVISED: October 24, 2002

907. SCHOOL VISITORS	
1. Purpose	The Board of School Directors welcomes and encourages visits to school by parents and other residents of the community. To insure order in the schools, it is necessary to establish guidelines governing school visits.
2. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent has the authority and responsibility to implement these guidelines.
3. Guidelines	<p>The Superintendent or building principal has the authority to deny access to any district-owned property if the requesting party fails to adhere to the following procedures:</p> <p>Persons wishing to visit a school should make arrangements in advance with the school office in that building. Unscheduled visits or conferences are often disruptive to school personnel and students.</p> <p>Upon arrival at the school, visitors must register at the office where they will receive a building pass. Instructions and a guide may be provided.</p> <p>Staff members shall be encouraged to require that a visitor has a visitor's pass.</p> <p>No visitor may confer with a student in school without the approval of the principal or his/her designee.</p> <p>Should a student be called to the school office to meet a visitor, the principal or designee shall be present during the meeting.</p> <p>Visitation of classrooms by school visitors while a class is in session invariably leads to disruption of the learning process. Accordingly, such visitations are not encouraged and shall be permitted only with the approval of the building principal and under stringent procedures.</p>

Panther Valley School District

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: ACCEPTABLE USE OF
INTERNET

ADOPTED: November 24, 1997

REVISED: September 23, 2004

815. ACCEPTABLE USE OF INTERNET

1. Purpose

The Panther Valley Board of School Directors shall provide access to the district's networks and to the Internet for staff members and for students. It supports use of the Internet and other computer networks in order to facilitate learning, teaching and daily operations through interpersonal communications and access to information, research and collaboration.

For instructional purposes, the use of network facilities shall be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the school district, as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities and developmental levels of students. These purposes shall serve as the only reason for use of networks and/or the Internet.

2. Authority

Electronic information available to students and staff does not imply endorsement by the district of the content, nor does the district guarantee the accuracy of information received. The district shall not be responsible for any information that is retrieved via the Internet. It also bears no responsibility for information that is lost, damaged, or unavailable due to technical difficulties or user error.

The district shall not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet.

The district reserves the right to log network use and to monitor fileserver space utilization by district users.

The Board clearly establishes that network use is a privilege, not a right; inappropriate, unauthorized and illegal use shall result in cancellation of those privileges and appropriate disciplinary action for students and staff.

P.L. 106-554
Sec. 1732

The Board establishes the fact that certain materials, as stated in law, are inappropriate for access by minors.

3. Delegation of Responsibility

The district shall make every effort to ensure that its electronic resources are used responsibly by students and staff. Therefore, administrators, teachers and staff have

815. ACCEPTABLE USE OF INTERNET

P.L. 106-554
Sec. 1711,1721

a professional responsibility to work together to help students develop the intellectual skills necessary to discriminate among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use the information to meet their educational goals. Such responsibility shall include providing clear guidelines, direction, and supervision to students in the use of district technology resources.

Students and staff have the responsibility to respect and protect the rights of every user in the district and on the Internet. All users shall recognize that all data is the property of the Panther Valley School District and there is no expectation of privacy.

Building administrators shall make initial judgments to determine what is inappropriate use. The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for implementing technology and procedures to determine whether the district's computers are being used for purposes prohibited by law or for accessing sexually explicit materials. The procedure shall include but not limited to:

1. Utilizing software that blocks or filters Internet access for minors and adults to certain visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, harmful to minors with respect to use by minors, or determined inappropriate for use by minors by building administrators.
2. Maintaining and securing a usage log.
3. Monitoring online activities of students and staff members.

Access to the Internet shall be permitted for students who have their parent or guardian's permission to use the network and for school employees who agree to the provisions, requirement and prohibitions on network use outlined in district policy. All users shall sign a written district agreement form.

This policy strictly prohibits the following activities and any others determined by district authorities to be unacceptable uses of the network:

1. Allowing another person to use an assigned account.
2. Use of the network for non-work or non-school related communications.
3. Use of the network to access obscene or pornographic material.
4. Introduction of unauthorized software onto the school's computers and network communication system. This includes personal software from home.

815. ACCEPTABLE USE OF INTERNET

4. Guidelines

Network accounts shall be used only by the authorized owner of the account for its approved purpose.

Prohibitions

Students and staff shall act in a responsible, ethical and legal manner in accordance with district policy, accepted rules of network etiquette, and federal and state law. Specifically, the following uses are prohibited:

1. Illegal activity
2. Commercial or for-profit purposes
3. Non-work or non-school related work
4. Product advertisement or political lobbying.
5. Hate mail, discriminatory remarks, and offensive or inflammatory communication.
6. Unauthorized or illegal installation, distribution, reproduction, or use of copyrighted materials.
7. Access to obscene or pornographic material or child pornography
8. Access by students and minors to material that is harmful to minors or is determined inappropriate for minors.
9. Inappropriate language or profanity.
10. Transmission of material likely to be offensive or objectionable to recipients.
11. Intentional obtaining or modifying of files, passwords and data belonging to other users.
12. Impersonation of another user, anonymity and pseudonyms.
13. Fraudulent copying, communications, or modifications of materials in violation of copyright laws.
14. Loading or using of unauthorized games, programs, files or other electronic media.
15. Disruption of the work of other users.

815. ACCEPTABLE USE OF INTERNET

16. Destruction, modification, abuse or unauthorized access to network hardware, software and files.
17. Quoting or personal communications in a public forum without the original author's prior consent.
18. Revealing personal addresses or phone numbers of students and staff.
19. Instant Messaging (IM) on the district network
20. Use of personal e-mail accounts on the district network without permission
21. Student use of computer hardware or software purchased for the express use of a staff member.

Security

System security is protected through the use of passwords. Failure to adequately protect or update passwords could result in unauthorized access to personal or district files. To protect the integrity of the system, the following guidelines shall be followed:

1. Employees and students shall not reveal their passwords to another individual.
2. Users shall not use a computer that has been logged in under another student's employee's name.
3. Any user identified as security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the network.

Consequences For Inappropriate Use

The network user shall be responsible for damages to the equipment, systems and software resulting from deliberate or willful acts. Restitutions shall be made by the offending party.

Illegal use of the network; intentional deletion or damage to files of data belonging to others; copyright violations; and theft of services will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities for possible prosecution.

815. ACCEPTABLE USE OF INTERNET

<p>P.L. 94-553 Sec. 107</p>	<p>General rules for behavior and communications apply when using the Internet. Loss of access, cancellation of privileges, and other disciplinary actions shall be consequences for inappropriate use in accordance with district policy.</p> <p>Vandalism will result in cancellation of access privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, Internet or other networks; this includes but is not limited to uploading or creating computer viruses.</p> <p><u>Copyright</u></p> <p>The illegal use of copyrighted software by students and staff is prohibited. Any data uploaded to or downloaded from the network shall be subject to fair use guidelines.</p> <p><u>Safety</u></p> <p>To the greatest extent possible, users of the network shall be protected from harassment and unwanted or unsolicited communication. Any network user who receives threatening or unwelcome communications shall report such immediately to a teacher or administrator. Network users shall not reveal personal information to other users on the network, including chat rooms, e-mail, Internet, etc.</p> <p>Any district computer/server utilized by students and staff shall be equipped with Internet blocking/filtering software.</p>
---------------------------------	--

ACCEPTABLE USE OF INTERNET

Please return this form to your homeroom teacher in the Panther Valley Elementary School.

As the parent/guardian of _____ or as an employee of the Panther Valley School District, I have read the school district policy governing access to the Internet through school resources and agree with its terms. I understand that this access is being provided for educational purposes only. I understand that Panther Valley School District cannot restrict access to all controversial and inappropriate materials and I will not hold it responsible for materials acquired on the network. I also accept full responsibility for supervision of my child if the network is accessed from home. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child.

Parent/Guardian or Employee (please print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

PANTHER VALLEY ELEMENTARY STUDENT HANDBOOK
2010-2011 Parent Sign-Off

I have received and read the Student Handbook and understand its contents.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student's Name

Grade

Date



Superintendent's Office
 1 Panther Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-4248
 Fax: (570) 645-6232

Business Office
 1 Panther Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-3176
 Fax: (570) 645-3036

High School
 912 Coal Region Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-2171
 Fax: (570) 645-2507

Middle School
 678 Panther Pride Drive
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-2175
 Fax: (570) 645-9723

Elementary School
 1 North Mermon Ave.
 Nesquehoning, PA 18240
 (570) 669-9411
 Fax: (570) 669-6043

FIELD TRIP PERMISSION SLIP

Dear Parents / Guardians:

There will be times during the 2010-2011 school year when classes will leave the school premises for field study. These study trips will be in the walking vicinity of the school and/or students will ride to another Panther Valley school building.

The classes will be properly supervised by teachers.

Pupils who go on such activities must have written permission from parents/guardians.

Your signature on this form will be your consent for _____
 Student's Name
 to go with the class.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____



PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT



Superintendent's Office
 1 Panther Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-4248
 Fax: (570) 645-6232

Business Office
 1 Panther Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-3176
 Fax: (570) 645-3036

High School
 912 Coal Region Way
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-2171
 Fax: (570) 645-2507

Middle School
 678 Panther Pride Drive
 Lansford, PA 18232
 (570) 645-2175
 Fax: (570) 645-9723

Elementary School
 1 North Mermon Ave.
 Nesquehoning, PA 18240
 (570) 669-9411
 Fax: (570) 669-6043

August 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Throughout the school year, your child may have the opportunity to have his/her picture taken for local newspapers and/or school web page. Also, yearly Panther Valley Elementary school students have the opportunity to participate in video projects which may be broadcast on Channel 13 or other local television stations.

Parental permission for photos and video taping projects is needed before publication. Please fill out the bottom portion of this letter and return it to the school as soon as possible.

=====

Please detach and return.

Student's Name _____ Homeroom _____

_____ I **DO** give permission to have my child photographed for the newspaper or videotaped for television.

_____ I **DO NOT** give permission to have my child photographed for the newspaper or videotaped for television.

_____ I **DO** give permission to have my child's photograph used in the school yearbook.

_____ I **DO NOT** give permission to have my child's photograph used in the school yearbook.

Each year photographs are taken of all students for identification purposes. Families may purchase these photographs. School "picture day" information will be sent home.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date _____