

Porter Ranch Community School-School Wide Policies

Student Behavior

In addition to the general LAUSD policies and expectations set forth through the LAUSD parent student handbook, PRCS has adopted "Leader in Me" to serve as our major character development piece in helping students thrive not only academically, but socially. In conjunction with "Leader in Me", PRCS will also be implementing ideas from *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* to both address and guide the student behavior choices we want to see throughout our campus. For more information, and a more in depth explanation of district policy, please refer to the LAUSD parent student handbook.

*Link to parent student handbook-<https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/17131>

***Student and Teacher Reflection Question-Habit # 4-Think Win Win**-How can we build a school culture that sets clear expectations for students, but also helps them feel valued and heard?

Dress Code

At Porter Ranch Community School, we believe that students should focus on school work and not what to wear to school every day.

The dress code policy is based on the following principles:

- The primary focus of school is to maintain a safe and effective learning environment.
- All students are encouraged to dress in a manner that is comfortable and conducive to an active school day.
- All students should be able to wear clothing without fear of unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- The student Dress Code serves to support a positive self-image.
 1. Students shall not wear apparel that interferes with their participation in any school activity.
 2. Clothing, jewelry and personal items such as backpacks and book bags, with language or images that are vulgar, sexually explicit, discriminatory, obscene, libelous, contains threats, or that promote illegal or violent content such as the unlawful use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco or drug paraphernalia are prohibited.
 3. Closed toed shoes for general wear. Athletic shoes for PE only. If a student chooses to wear Crocs, they must be in "sports mode". No sandals or slippers.
 4. Hats can be worn, forward facing, but must be taken off indoors. Hoods should only be worn outdoors during inclement weather. Bandanas may not be worn.
 5. Student's undergarments must be covered at all times.

*Note to parents-Please note that students may not be disciplined or removed from class as a consequence for wearing attire that violates our local, school-site dress code. However, students may briefly leave the classroom to cover, remove or change the non-complying clothing. If your child is not in compliance with our dress code, you may be contacted by the school.

***Student and Teacher Reflection Question-Habit # 5-Understand, Then Be Understood**-What is the balance between having a dress code that promotes safety and a distraction free learning environment, but still gives students a pathway to express themselves?

Cell Phones/Smart Watches

Students are allowed to have their phones on their person during the school day, but it is encouraged that students leave their phones in their backpacks, and/or in their lockers. However, during instructional hours, phones must be completely turned off. Not silenced. Do not put on "do not disturb". Turned completely off.

Students are not allowed to take pictures, or take video recordings, at school, unless it is for an approved school activity with the permission of a supervising adult.

Students that do not comply with the above stated cell phone policy will have their phone taken and kept in the office until the end of that school day. They may retrieve their phone after school. Should cell phone violations persist, parents will be notified.

***Student and Teacher Reflection Question-Habit # 2-Begin With The End In Mind-What is the intended goal of using technology in the school setting?**

Tardies

Students are expected to be in their assigned seats, in their classroom, once the bell rings. Students that are not in their assigned seats when the bell rings will be marked tardy.

Students that accumulate more than 3 cumulative tardies per 5 week grading period will serve detention and/or participate in restorative recess. Should tardy issues continue, parents will be notified by the school.

***Student and Teacher Reflection Question-Habit # 1-Be Proactive-What can I actually accomplish during the 5 minute passing period?**

Food

Students are expected to eat their food before school, during nutrition and lunch, and after school. Food is not allowed in the classroom and should not be eaten in the hallways. Furthermore, during nutrition and lunch, students are expected to eat their food in the covered eating areas, and finish their food before they go out to the courts and/or fields.

Gum is also not allowed on our campus. A great alternative to gum is breath mints.

***Student and Teacher Reflection Question-Habit # 3-Put First Things First-How does managing our time well set us up for success in other areas of our lives?**

Bullying, Hazing and Fighting

Porter Ranch Community School is committed to providing a safe, civil learning and working environment, and takes a strong position against bullying, hazing, and/or any behavior that infringes on the safety and well-being of students and employees or interferes with learning or teaching. Fighting, play fighting, and physical contact that crosses another person's personal boundaries is not allowed and will be addressed through strategies such as (but not limited to) re-teaching, reflection, restorative activities, alternatives to suspension and the loss of privileges, should that behavior continue. In summary, students are expected to keep their bodies to themselves.

Any PRCS students or employees who believe they have been a victim of sexual harassment or who have witnessed such an act should report it to an administrator or Title IX/Bullying Complaint Manager so appropriate action may be taken to resolve it.

***Student and Teacher Reflection Question-Habit # 6-Synergize**-What strategies can we use to help teach ourselves to express our feelings without resorting to intimidation, violence and/or aggression?

School Climate

Porter Ranch Community School is committed to providing a working and learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation and abusive conduct. This idea pertains to both students and adults. Should students choose to engage in behavior that is opposite of this vision, PRCS has many tools available to help them learn how to interact in a diverse community, including restorative practices, reflective activities, peer mediation and helping students repair harm that may be done.

School climate includes, but is not limited to, interactions between and amongst students, interactions between students and adults, creating a space where individuals from diverse backgrounds feel safe and understood, creating a space that has high expectations coupled with an array of interventions and creating a united front in assisting children and young adults becoming thriving members of a Democratic society.

***Student and Teacher Reflection Question-Habit # 7-Sharpen The Saw**-What can I do to focus less on myself and more on those around me?

On Par for School Activities

Middle school students must be “on par” to participate in and/or be a part of middle school events and activities.

On par means that a student can have no fails and no more than 2 U’s in Work Habits and no more than 2 U’s in Cooperation.

Students that are not on par will participate in an appropriate restorative activity geared toward behavior and/or academic intervention.