



**PELICAN RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT HANDBOOK**

2022-2023 School Year

Welcome to Pelican Rapids High School

Welcome to Pelican Rapids High School. We are glad to have you here! We hope you will take advantage of the opportunities that are available to you. The curriculum, activities, and programs at Pelican Rapids High School have been designed to challenge students of all interests and abilities.

To benefit from these programs, you need to get involved. To grow, you need to take risks.

The staff at Pelican Rapids High School is eager and capable to assist you. You are the reason we are here. This booklet provides information for you to use to be successful. It tells you what is expected of you and what services and benefits you may expect from the school. Cooperation is the key. We suggest that you read this handbook thoroughly. We hope that you have an enjoyable and successful school year.

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DIRECTORY INFORMATION

NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

The Pelican Rapids Public Schools are committed to providing equal education and employment opportunities to all persons and do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, with regard to public assistance, or any other group or class against which discrimination is prohibited by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 363, U.S. Department of Agriculture Policy and other applicable state or federal laws. Inquiries regarding compliance should be referred to: Mr. Brian Korf, Affirmative Action Coordinator at (218) 863-5910.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

PELICAN RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL

310 S. Broadway
218-863-5910, option 1

Doug Bruggeman, Dean of Students
Email: dbruggem@vikes.us
Ext. 4352

Laura Januszewski, Secondary Principal
Email: ljanuszewski@vikes.us
Ext. 4201

PRHS Attendance Reporting:

Contact ON or BEFORE absence
218-863-5910, option 1 OR mrobles@vikes.us, jsanchez@vikes.us

PELICAN RAPIDS DISTRICT 548 OFFICES

Telephone: 218-863-5910
Mailing Address:
Box 642
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
Mr. Brian Korf, Superintendent
Email: bkorf@vikes.us
Ext. 4435

CHRISTIANSON BUS SERVICE

Phone: 218-863-7000

DISTRICT WEBSITE

www.pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us



Pelican Rapids Public Schools



@VicTheVik

2022-23 DAILY SCHEDULE

Normal		Pep Fest		2 Hours Late	
Breakfast Served 8:05 - 8:20		Breakfast Served 8:05 - 8:20		No Breakfast Served	
Period 1	8:25 - 9:25	Period 1	8:25 - 9:25	Period 1	10:25 - 10:58
Period 2	9:29 - 10:19	Period 2	9:29 - 10:19	Period 2	11:02 - 11:35
Period 3	10:23 - 11:13	Period 3	10:23 - 11:13	JH Lunch	11:35 - 12:05
JH Lunch	11:13 - 11:43	JH Lunch	11:13 - 11:43	JH Period 4	12:05 - 12:39
JH Period 4	11:43 - 12:33	JH Period 4	11:43 - 12:33	SH Period 4	11:39 - 12:13
SH Period 4	11:17 - 12:07	SH Period 4	11:17 - 12:07	SH Lunch	12:13 - 12:43
SH Lunch	12:07 - 12:37	SH Lunch	12:07 - 12:37	Period 3	12:43 - 1:19
Period 5	12:37 - 1:27	Period 5	12:37 - 1:20	Period 5	1:19 - 1:55
Period 6	1:31 - 2:21	Period 6	1:24 - 2:07	Period 6	1:59 - 2:35
Period 7	2:25 - 3:15	Period 7	2:11 - 2:54	Period 7	2:39 - 3:15
		Pep Fest	2:58 - 3:15		

2022- 23 STUDENT OFFICERS

FFA OFFICERS

President - Eva Rustand
Vice President - Janae LaFerriere
Secretary - Kylee Holt
Treasurer - Landyn Pierce
Reporter - Hunter Williams
Sentinel - Thea Olson
Officers at Large - Kaden Holt

SADD OFFICERS

President- Kelsey Isaman
Vice President- Lizzy Moe
Secretary- Lizette Franco
Treasurer- Timmy Guler

SADD Representatives:

GRADE 12

Alondra Franco
Montserrat Gonzalez
Amela Kurtic
Taia Marich
Kia Nelson
Daniel Urbano

GRADE 11

Ellie Welch

GRADE 10

Grace Backstrom
Hazel Haugrud
Charlie Larson
Ashlea Matykiewicz
Anna Roisum
Brody Syverson

GRADE 9

Maclain Hovland
Morgan Korf

GRADE 8

Emma Hanson
Nicholas Rockstead
Miren Thomas
Addison Walters

GRADE 7

TBD

STUDENT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Janae LaFerriere
Vice President – Lizzy Moe
Secretary – Mollie Thornton
Treasurer – Eva Rustand
Public Relations – Lexie Pixley & Sylvia Pesch
Student Council Representatives

GRADE 12

Hannah Fossen
Kia Nelson
Skylar Zamora
Arturo Zavala

GRADE 11

Emily Haiby
Alli Jessen
Adrianna Logan
Ellie Welch

GRADE 10

Anna Roisum
Hailey Zavala
Brody Syverson
Sarah Haugrud

GRADE 9

Hani Bashir
Ashley Zavala
Morgan Korf
Dylan Hoadley

GRADE 8

Andon Roisum
Ikraan Mohamed
Emma Hanson
Abdulkani Aden

GRADE 7

Olivia Kunz
Malia Tweeton
Kazlyn Erickson
Natalia Villagomez

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2022-2023

Staff Flex Day (1 day)	August 1 - 26
New Staff Workshop	August 23 - 25
Staff Workshop	August 29 - September 1
Labor Day (no school)	September 5
First Day of School	September 6
Homecoming Week	September 26 - 30
Student Pictures (grades 7-11)	September 28
Senior Group Picture	TBD
Mid-quarter – Quarter 1	October 7
Picture Retakes (grades 7-11)	October 18
<i>M.E.A. (no school)</i>	October 20 - 21
1st Quarter Ends	November 4
Teacher Workshop (<i>no school</i>)	November 7
Parent/Teacher Conferences (1-7 pm)	November 14
Thanksgiving Break (<i>no school</i>)	November 24 - 25
Mid-quarter - Quarter 2	December 9
Half Student Day/Half Workshop	December 2
Winter Break (<i>no school</i>)	December 23 - January 2
School Resumes	January 3
1st Semester/2nd Quarter Ends	January 13
Teacher Workshop (<i>no school</i>)	January 16
Sweetheart Week	February 13 - 17
Mid-quarter - Quarter 3	February 10
Parent/Teacher Conferences (12-6 pm) <i>No School</i>	February 20
3rd Quarter Ends	March 17
District Workshop (no school)	March 20
Spring Break (<i>no school</i>)	April 6 - 10
Mid-quarter - Quarter 4	April 21
Prom	May 6
Baccalaureate	May 21
4 th Quarter Ends/Last Student Day of School	May 25
Graduation/Teacher Workday (no school)	May 26

***First 3 Snow days will be built in
Days 4-8 will be E-learning***

Pelican Rapids School District 548 Master Calendar 2022-2023					(5 Day Week)					UPDATED 1.28.22					
	July 2022					January 2023					13: VES/HS End of Quarter 2/Semester 1				
	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	16: MLK Day/ Teacher workshop-No School				
					1	2	3	4	5	6					
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13					
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31									
1 Certified Staff Flex Days 23-25: New staff workshop 29-31: Staff workshop	August 2022					February 2023					10: HS Midquarter 3				
	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	17: No School				
					3/4			1	2	3	20: HS Parent/Teacher Conf. No School (1-7) Elementary PT Conf (12-8)				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28									
29	30	31													
1: Staff workshop 5: Labor Day - No School 6: First Day of School 28: Teacher Workshop Day-No School	September 2022					March 2023					17: HS End of Qtr 3				
	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	20: District Workshop - No School				
				1	2			1	2	3					
	5	6	7	8	9	6	7	8	9	10					
	12	13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16	17					
19	20	21	22	23	20	21	22	23	24						
26	27	28	29	30	27	28	29	30	31						
7: HS Mid-Quarter 1 20-21: MEA - No School	October 2022					April 2023					6-10: Spring Break - No School				
	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	21: HS Mid-Quarter 4				
					7										
	3	4	5	6	7	3	4	5	6	7					
	10	11	12	13	14	10	11	12	13	14					
17	18	19	20	21	17	18	19	20	21						
24	25	26	27	28	24	25	26	27	28						
31															
4: HS End of Quarter 1 7: HS/Elem Teacher Wrkshp-No School 14: HS PT Conf. No School (1-7) Elem PT Conf.(12-8) 24-25: Fall Break - No School	November 2022					May 2023					25: VES/ HS End of Quarter 4/Sem 2				
	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	26: Teacher Workday - No School Graduation 7:00pm				
			1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5					
	7	8	9	10	11	8	9	10	11	12					
	14	15	16	17	18	15	16	17	18	19					
21	22	23	24	25	22	23	24	25	26						
28	29	30			29	30	31								
9: HS Midquarter 2 22-Jan 2: Winter Break - No School 22- 1/2 student day AM /1/2 Staff workshop PM	December 2022					June 2023					Month				
	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	STUDEN TS	HS staff	ELEM staff		
				1	2				1	2	August	0	4	4	
	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	September	18	20	20	
	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	October	19	19	19	
19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	November	18	20	20		
26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	December	16	16	16		
Snow Make-Up Days: First 3 Snow days will be built in Days 4-8 will be E-learning	Qtr 1					Qtr 2					Qtr 3				
	Qtr 4					Total					HS Qtr/Semester End				
	42					39					41				
	45					167					Parent Teacher Conf				
											Non-School Day				
										April					
										May					
										June					
										Totals					

BAD WEATHER & SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Bad weather may require that school is:

- Dismissed early
- Cancelled for the full day
- Start 2 hours late (10:25 am) No breakfast served.

If school starts 2 hours late, the buses will pick up students 2 hours later than normal pick-up time.

The school website, school facebook page, and Skylert system will carry emergency messages.

All storm announcements will be given on: KFGO, KVLV/KWJB (Valley News Live), WDAY, KDLM/KBOT, AM1340/104.1FM, KBRF/KJJK, KVRN (Fox News), KLTA, KMSP (Fox 9), WCCO, KARE, KSTP

E-LEARNING & GOOGLE CLASSROOM

E-Learning Days (ELD) are used to make up Snow Days

- Snow Days = NO school (when school is cancelled the night before or morning of)
- ELD Schedule: 8:25 am - 3:15 pm (same as school day)
- The first 3 Snow Days will be built into the calendar, additional Snow Days (5+) will be E-Learning Days
- Assignments will be posted on Google Classroom
- Attendance will be taken via assignments completed

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

In advance:

- Know where to access and be able to login to Google Classroom

Day of:

- Access their class's via Google Classroom
- Participate in and complete ELD assignments within 2 days
- Communicate questions for teachers via Google Chat or other appropriate platform

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS/PROBLEMS/CONNECTION FAILURES

If the student is unable to get connected to a digital class (via Zoom or Google Classroom) due to a:

- Connection issue - contact the teacher of that class immediately via Google Chat, explain what is happening AND continue trying to connect
- Device issue - contact the Student/Parent Technology Support (Help Desk)

PARENT/GUARDIAN EXPECTATIONS

Day of:

- Monitor student progress on ELD or within 2-day completion window as appropriate
- Communicate with teachers via email or Google Chat if needed.

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS/PROBLEMS/CONNECTION FAILURES

A supervising adult should call the school office at 218-863-5910 if the:

- Student is unable to make contact with their teacher
- Device is broken and the student needs to come in for a replacement
- Home internet is down

ATTENDANCE

Pelican Rapids School District follows the Otter Tail County-Wide School Attendance Procedure. The School Engagement Work Group of the Otter Tail Family Services Collaborative developed this attendance procedure to be incorporated into the procedures of ALL Otter Tail County schools. This team has worked together to develop this procedure because we believe it is necessary to be academically engaged in order to be successful in school.

This procedure only addresses unexcused absences. Unexcused absences are defined by Minnesota Law and specifically within each school district's individual attendance procedure.

OTTER TAIL COUNTY ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

1. Attendance will be taken every half-day in elementary schools and every class period in secondary schools.
2. For purposes of this procedure, unexcused absences are cumulative throughout the school year. Records regarding attendance will transfer with students who transfer between schools within Otter Tail County.
3. Every time a student is absent for any period of time, the **school will notify the parents**, if the parent has not called or sent a note.
4. After **three unexcused absences** (this can be absences over multiple days), a letter will be sent to parents at the discretion of the truancy department. The purpose of the letter will be to document the students' unexcused absences.
5. After **seven unexcused absences** (this can be absences over multiple days), the school will notify the County Attorney's office and the County Attorney's office will schedule a meeting between school personnel, parents, student, Human Services and County Attorney at the Otter Tail County Courthouse. Parents are required to attend a face-to-face meeting with school administrators to develop a Truancy Plan of Action, as a final attempt to compel the student to attend school. A contract will be established with the child, who is then placed under supervision to attend school.
6. If the truancy Plan developed is not followed and the child continues to have unexcused absences, the matter will be referred to Human Services for review by the County Attorney's Office for determination for what action should occur.
7. Judges have the authority to administer a variety of consequences, which can include the following:
 - i. A child may lose their driving privileges until he / she is 18 years old.
 - ii. The court can order that any necessary evaluation, treatment, and counseling service be completed by the child or family.
 - iii. A child can be removed from their home and placed in a shelter or foster care or a short-term facility.

ATTENDANCE IS THE LAW

The state compulsory attendance provisions must be enforced through keeping daily attendance records. Minnesota State Statute requires that children attend school. For students under the age of 12, it is presumed that it is a parental responsibility to ensure the child's attendance. Federal "No Child Left Behind" legislation states that our school must have a minimum of 90% attendance rate, in order to achieve "Adequate Yearly Progress". Parents, students, and the staff of PRHS need to work together to be sure students arrive on time and attend school regularly.

ACADEMICALLY SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL REGULARLY

There is a direct link between regular attendance and academic success. At Pelican Rapids High School, we believe that attendance habits begin the first year of a school, and these habits become behavior patterns by the time students reach high school.

PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the parent / guardian to CALL OR EMAIL THE OFFICE on the day of the absence or prior to the absence explaining the absence reason. Call 218-863-5910 option 1 for PRHS. Emails can be sent to mrobles@vikes.us. Chronic absences may require a medical excuse to be acquired by the parent / guardian. If parents do not contact the school, the absence will be "unexcused" until further information is received.

PELICAN RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROTOCOL

- Students are required to provide a confirmation note to school from all appointments. Notes can be emailed to mrobles@vikes.us
- Students who are not in school and do not have the permission of their parent or the Pelican Rapids School District are considered unexcused absent and truant.
- Attendance will be taken every period.
- Absences are cumulative throughout the school year and records will transfer with students who transfer to other schools.
- When a student is absent, parents will be notified of the unexcused absence/truancy. Parents may check their student's attendance via internet access to the SKYWARD student information system (SIS).
- After 3 days with 1 or more periods of unexcused absence, parents will be notified.
- After 7 days with 1 or more periods of unexcused absence, a meeting with the student and parent will be scheduled.
- If the student continues to be unexcused absent, OTC Human Services and the OTC Attorney's Office will be notified.
- Any student who is absent from class more than 8 days of the scheduled days may be denied credit for that course.
 - Absences due to participation in school-sponsored activities do not count against student credits or grades. The Building Management Team (BMT) (principal, administrative assistant, counselor, department spokespersons, and selected parents) will serve as a review board for those students with unusual circumstances who wish to file an appeal concerning loss of credit(s).
 - Appeals will be based on attendance files, documents and written materials submitted by the administration, parents and student. Parents and student will have seven calendar days after being notified to submit any written material they wish to include in the appeal. The review board will issue a written decision within ten (10) calendar days after the appeal.
- **Tardiness:** Upon arrival at school, a tardy student must report to the main office to pick up a tardy pass for admittance to classes. If a student is late for school (1st period) for less than 10 minutes, the absence will be counted as a tardy. Tardies will be tracked and may impact attendance grade.
- In emergency situations such as serious prolonged illness or hospitalization, a hospital or homebound tutor may be arranged. Doctor verification of the need for the absence and tutor will be required.
- Every absence will be evaluated. If the principal determines that any absence(s) is unexcused, the student will receive appropriate disciplinary action.
- For unexcused absences, students will need to make up the time missed and the parent will be notified.
- Student health will be closely monitored (ie. temp and symptom checks). Parents will be notified when a

student becomes ill during the day. Students will be kept in school if the parent(s)/guardian(s) cannot be reached.

- All seniors (18 or more credits) may schedule one day of post-secondary visitation through the counselor, which will be counted as an acceptable day of absence from school. All visits must be made prior to April 15. Visits not coordinated in advance with the counselor's office will be unexcused.
- School sponsored trips and activities may be denied if the student has exceeded attendance guidelines. The trips and activities denied include college visitation for seniors and activities sponsored by the school.

ABSENCES

EXCUSED ABSENCES: These absences do not count toward loss of credit: illness (accompanied by a Doctor's note stating student should not be in school), conditions beyond control of the student (court appearances, religious holidays or religious release time) or urgent family activities or emergencies. The parent/guardian needs to contact the school in advance.

The school will consider the following to be "*Excused Absences*"

- Illness
- Short-term chronic illness - Doctor notes may be required
- Medical, Dental, Orthodontic, or Counseling appointments: A confirmation note from the appointment is required upon return to school.
- Urgent family illness or death in the family
- Court appearances occasioned by family or personal action
- Religious holidays or religious release time
- Unsafe weather or condition beyond the student's control
- Physical emergency conditions such as fire, flood, storm, etc.
- Official religious holidays

The principal may designate other absences "acceptable" as situations arise.

If a student arrives at school after classes have started or will be leaving before the school day has ended, they must report to the attendance secretary in the office to check-in and check-out.

ACCEPTABLE ABSENCES: These absences do not count toward loss of credit:

- Illness
- Doctor appointments: A confirmation note from the appointment is required upon return to school
- Work at home
- Senior college visitation days
- Family/student vacations: A preapproved form is required for family vacations. Vacations will only be excused if taken with parents/family.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES: These absences do count toward loss of credit.

The school will consider the following to be "*Unexcused Absences*"

- Missing the bus
- Oversleeping
- Shopping

- Car Trouble
- Work for hire
- Haircuts / Beauty Appointments
- Hunting and fishing trips - Unless pre-approved by the school office.
- Family Vacation - Unless pre-approved by the school office.
- Any absence without parental permission

Students may **NOT** participate in extracurricular activities if he / she has an unexcused absence during the day.

The principal may designate other absences “unacceptable or unexcused” as situations arise. Leaving the school without permission at ANY time during the school day will be considered truancy.

PARENT STRATEGIES TO ENCOURAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE

- Let your child know you value education. Insist they attend school every day
- Talk with your child about school. Is your child struggling with schoolwork or classmates? Ask how you can help.
- Talk with your child’s teachers
- Does your child need a tutor or assessment for special services?
- Get to know your child’s friends and their families

ILLNESS

Parents / guardians will be called if students become ill during the school day. Please notify the office of any changes in address, phone number, work numbers as they happen, so that we may contact you in emergencies.

- In emergency situations, such as serious prolonged illness or hospitalization, the school will arrange a tutor when necessary
- In the case of excessive absence caused by illness, medical documentation may be required

Do not send your child to school if:

- Temp of 100.0 or greater
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Pink eye or strep throat
- Your child may return to school from illness when advised by a physician, or
- Free of symptoms for 24 hours
- Temp remains normal for 24 hours without use of medication
- On an antibiotic for 24 hours
- Lice
- If your child has live lice they will be sent home for the first treatment. Your child must report to the Health Office upon return to school.

ILLNESS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY: If a student becomes ill at school, he/she should notify his/her teacher first and then report to the Health Services Office. When necessary, parents/guardians will be called to remove their student from school. If parents/guardians are unavailable, the student’s alternate emergency contact will be notified. Please make sure forms are accurate and updated. If a student leaves the building ill during the school day and does not check in with the school nurse, it will be an unexcused absence.

BEHAVIOR & DISCIPLINE

Students are required to abide by all student behavior rules outlined in board policy and reviewed in this handbook whether attending online or in-person. Consequences for misbehavior, whether it takes place in/around a school vehicle, in school, elsewhere on school property at a school event, via the internet or electronically will be applied to any student who violates the rules. Disciplinary action may include but is not limited to: meeting with the teacher, counselor, or principal; detention; loss of school privileges; parental conference with school staff; modified school programs; suspension from activities; removal from class; suspension (in-school or out-of-school); exclusion; expulsion.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

- COVID-19 measures put in place by the school must be followed.
- Students **should**: be involved, be productive, attend school regularly, immediately follow the directions of the teacher, sit in their assigned seat facing forward, talk respectfully and use appropriate language, keep their arms, legs and belongings to themselves, be at classes on time, complete all assignments, be courteous to all students, staff members and visitors, respect yours and others property, help keep the building clean, eat & drink in designated areas only (commons, gym foyer when and where permitted by supervisor), be physically and mentally prepared to participate in classes and activities, value the ethnic, religious, and economic diversity of the Pelican Rapids community.
- Students **should not** participate in: fighting, harassment, intimidation, horseplay, throwing of any object, use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, vaping substances, illegal drugs or look-alike drugs, bringing any weapon or dangerous objects to school, damaging school or individual property.

Unacceptable Behavior: Any willful conduct which materially and substantially disrupts the right of others to an education, endangers school district employees, the pupil or other pupils, or the property of the school or violates any rule of conduct specified in this discipline policy.

DISCIPLINE RULES

- The teacher has authority over students and is in charge/responsible for their classrooms.
- Disciplinary action will be taken with students for any behavior which disrupts order or violates the rights of others, especially the right of students to receive instruction.
- Discipline at Pelican Rapids High School is cumulative.
- Jr. High Check System: In an effort to aid teachers in maintaining a sound educational program in their classroom, Pelican Rapids Jr. High School has adopted a "check system" for students. This check system addresses two areas, behavior and incomplete assignments or work not turned in. The time period covered is for one week, at which time the check list will be reviewed by a committee and infractions calculated. Each Jr. High School teacher will have a daily opportunity to evaluate the behavior and assignment requirements for their class.

TYPES OF MISBEHAVIOR

- **Theft** is the act of intentionally and without right taking, using, transferring, concealing, or retaining possession of movable property of another without his/her consent and with intent to deprive the owner permanently of the property, or the finding of lost property and not making reasonable effort to find the owner.
- **Physical Assault** is an act which intentionally inflicts or attempts to inflict bodily harm upon another.
- **Verbal Assault** is threatening, profane, or obscene language either oral or written by a student toward a staff member or another student including conduct which degrades people because of their gender, race, religion, ethnic background, or physical or mental handicaps.
- Minnesota law called a felony. No one may possess a dangerous weapon at any time on school property. A dangerous weapon includes any device or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of producing great bodily harm or death. Firearms transported in accordance with Minnesota law are accepted.
- Possession on school property includes on a school bus, in a school vehicle, or any property leased by the school whether the school is public or private. Violation of the terms of Minnesota law will result in penalties that may include expulsion from school in addition to statutory penalties which include significant fines and prison.
- **Threats:**
- Any student who threatens normal operations or school activities, including reporting of dangerous or hazardous situations that don't exist will be subject to disciplinary action.

SCHOOL DISRUPTIONS

Any student who disturbs or interrupts the peace and good order of the school or school-sponsored activities will be subject to disciplinary action.

Nuisance Articles: The possession or use of articles that are nuisances, illegal or that may cause harm to persons or property is prohibited at school and school-sponsored activities.

School Trespass: It is a misdemeanor for a person to enter or be found in a public or nonpublic elem., middle, or secondary school building unless the person: is an enrolled student, a parent or guardian of an enrolled student, an employee of the school or school district; has permission or an invitation from a school official to be in the building; is attending a school event, class, or mtg. to which the person, the public, or a student's family is invited; or has reported the person's presence in the school building in the manner required for visitors to the school.

- **Trespass After Warning:** It is a misdemeanor for a person to enter or be found on school property within six months after being told by the school principal or the principal's designee to leave the property and not to return, unless the principal or the principal's designee has given the person permission to return to the property.
- **Detaining Trespasser:** A school principal or a school employee designated by the school principal to maintain order on school property, who has reasonable cause to believe that a person is violating this subdivision may detain the person for a reasonable period of time pending the arrival of a peace officer. A school principal or a designated school employee is not civilly or criminally liable for any action authorized under this paragraph if the person's action is based on reasonable cause.
- **Arrest of Trespasser(s):** A peace officer may arrest a person without a warrant if the officer has probable cause to believe the person violated this subdivision within the preceding four hours. The arrest may be made even though the violation did not occur in the peace officer's presence.

DISCIPLINE STEPS

1. Written/verbal warning to student from teacher
2. Notification of parents by teacher
3. Meeting with students, parents and teacher to include discipline plan
4. Notification of Principal/Dean of Students and removal of student from class
5. Detention, exclusion, expulsion

Removal from Class: A student will be removed from class immediately if the student engages in assault or violent behavior. Removal from class is the short-term exclusion of a student from school during which the school retains custody of the student. Students removed from class shall be the responsibility of the principal or lawful designee. The removal of a student from class shall not exceed three class periods. Students shall be removed from class only upon agreement of the appropriate teacher and principal after an informal admin conference with the pupil. The decision as to removal shall ultimately be up to the principal. The removal from class may be imposed without an informal administrative conference where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to himself or to persons or property around him. The length of time of the removal from class shall be at the discretion of the principal after consultation with the teacher. Students shall be returned to class upon completion of the terms of the removal established at the informal administrative conference including but not limited to the completion of any make-up work.

Detention: Detention will be served outside the school day. Detention is a consequence for students who violate school rules on truancy, behavior, excessive tardies, or other behaviors. Students need to provide their own transportation. Students will be expected to bring home work or reading material. Failure to attend an assigned detention may result in: reassignment of detention, suspension and/or a parent conference.

In-School Suspension: Students who accumulate excessive detention hours will serve in-school suspension.

Suspension: Suspension is the short-term exclusion of the student from classes either in or outside the school building. Suspension, exclusion and expulsion shall be used in accord with The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act as amended. Copies of this policy together with The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act shall be published in the Student Handbook and distributed to all students during the first month of the school year. Nothing in this policy is intended to conflict with The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. Suspension procedures shall afford the student the right to due process in accord with the following: The principal, or designee, shall notify the student of all charges. A conference shall be held prior to suspension. When, in the opinion of the principal or designee, the student's presence poses a continuing danger of persons or school property or is an ongoing threat of disruption of the educational process, the student may be immediately suspended from school. In such cases, the necessary notice and hearing shall follow as soon as practicable thereafter. The students shall be given an opportunity to give their version of the facts and their implications. The parent/legal guardian shall be informed of the suspension as soon as possible.

Parent Notification: Parents shall be notified by email, student information system (SIS) telephone or first-class mail of violation of the rules of conduct and resulting disciplinary actions except as provided otherwise by The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act of 1974. Students shall be notified of violations of the Rules of Conduct and resulting disciplinary actions verbally except as provided otherwise by The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act of 1974. Early involvement of parents or guardians is essential to resolving pupil behavior problems. Teachers will make it a practice to inform parents or guardians of student behavioral problems as soon as possible.

Student Behavior Referral: A student in regular classes who has repeatedly been removed from class will receive a referral for possible special education services. If the student is already receiving special education

services, then the Individual Education Plan (IEP) should be reviewed as to its adequacy. **(A complete copy of all school policies is available in each building principals' office. Information concerning school policies will be disseminated to students.)**

BUS CONDUCT

Riding the bus is a privilege. School rules apply to students while on the bus to and from school and during transportation for school events.

RULES

- Follow current CDC/MDH health guidelines
- Immediately follow the directions of the driver
- Sit in your seat, facing forward
- Speak quietly, using appropriate language
- Keep all parts of your body inside the bus
- No fighting, harassment, intimidation or horseplay
- No weapons or dangerous objects on the bus
- Treat the bus with respect. Do not damage it. Keep it clean.
- Follow driver guidelines concerning food / drink on the bus
- No alcohol, tobacco or drugs on the bus

CONSEQUENCES

1. Written warning to parent/guardian and Principal
2. 3 day riding suspension
3. 5 day riding suspension
4. 10 day riding suspension and parent/guardian meeting

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

The use of the Pelican Rapids School District's technology is a privilege, not a right. If a person violates any of the terms and conditions, privileges may be terminated. This extends to access to all school district technology, internet, and other media. Failure to follow these rules could result in disciplinary action possibly involving law enforcement.

All Pelican Rapids High School students have the opportunity to utilize a school owned laptop for the school year. The laptop provides a simple and portable way to manage information and allows students constant access to learning opportunities. The individual use of a laptop is a way for students to prepare for college, trade school and the job force. Students will be allowed to use the district provided internet and are responsible for their on-line behavior.

LAPTOP DISTRIBUTION

- Laptops will be distributed each fall to all students who would like one.
- Laptops will be returned in May. If a student terminates enrollment for any reason, the laptop must be returned to the school immediately. Failure to return the laptop results in fines, and or a report could be filed with the Pelican Rapids Police Department.
- Laptops will be labeled and identified by the serial number and School label.

LAPTOP CARE

- Students are responsible for the general care of the laptop they have been issued. Broken or faulty laptops should be returned to the technology department.
- Laptops should not be left unsupervised.
- The laptop should be stored in a protective case that is provided. Papers, folders and books should not be placed in the case.
- The laptop screen can be cleaned with a soft dry cloth or an anti-static cloth.
- Students are responsible for any and all damage. Fines will be assessed according to damage; the student is responsible to pay these fines. Fines will be assessed due to broken screens, cracked plastic, inoperability, sleeves, cases and cables/chargers. Should the cost to repair exceed the cost of purchasing a new device, the student will pay the full replacement value.

LAPTOP USE

- Laptops should come to school each day in working condition and with a full charge.
- Inappropriate media, presence of guns, weapons, pornographic materials, inappropriate language, alcohol, drugs, gang related symbols or pictures are not allowed as screensavers or background photos.
- Internet games are not allowed on the laptops.
- All software is district provided and data storage will be cloud based.(laptop/ server location).
- Printing is available with the laptop.
- Students are allowed to set up wireless networks on their laptops for use at home. It is recommended that documents are saved in one of the following ways: emailed to themselves, use of a flash drive, district server, Microsoft OneDrive, or Google Drive. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is saved. Laptop malfunctions are not an acceptable excuse for not submitting work.
- The Pelican Rapids School District makes no guarantee that the network will be up and running; therefore, they are not responsible for lost or missing data.

LAPTOP SOFTWARE

- The software and apps installed by Pelican Rapids Schools must remain on the laptop. The tech staff may add software for use in a particular course. Periodic checks may be made to ensure that students are not removing required apps.
- Students are not allowed to load extra software or apps on their laptops.
- If illegal software has been added, the laptop will be reimaged. The school is not responsible for lost information or documents due to reformatting the laptop.
- Students may be selected at random to provide their laptop for inspection.

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 524)

Pelican Rapids School District on district-provided access to electronic information, services and networks. Our goal in providing internet service to teachers and students is to promote educational excellence in the Pelican Rapids School District by facilitating resource sharing, collaborations, innovation, and communication.

The District expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of the internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in its use. The expectation of the district is that staff and students will use internet access and devices in an appropriate educational manner.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students and Parents/Guardians must follow the acceptable use policy
- Should you want your child to forgo the use of a school laptop, please let the school know in writing. A student's laptop must be synced to the school district's computers to ensure the district required applications and safety precautions are installed.
- The school will provide internet and e-mail to all students. They will also block inappropriate materials as able.
- The school will provide guidance to help students research and complete projects which are in compliance with the acceptable use agreement.
- Students should also monitor all activity on their account and report any problems to an administrator. ISD 548 denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services by negligence or errors on the student's part. If a student receives an email containing inappropriate or abusive language, or questionable subject matter he/she is asked to print a copy and turn it into the office.
- If a student is unsure of trademark, copyright laws, or license agreements, the student should ask a teacher, principal or technical staff.

These uses of District provided internet access are not permitted:

- Violating any local, state, or federal statute.
- Accessing, sending, receiving or distributing pornographic, obscene, sexually explicit, abusive, harassing, racist, or threatening material.
- Vandalizing, damaging, or disabling the property of this school district or any other individual or organization.
- Accessing another individual's materials, information, or files without permission.
Vviolating copyright or otherwise using the intellectual property of another individual or organization without permission.
- Accessing or participating in any chat system, playing games or using game software not licensed by the district.
- Subscribing to non educational list serves, bulletin boards, or on-line services
- Sending or accessing email without direct supervision of a teacher
- Unauthorized commercial use, use for financial gain
- Administrators and faculty may review files and messages to maintain system integrity and insure that users are acting responsibly

The District will not be responsible for personal property used to access District computers or networks or for District provided internet access. **Ultimately, parents and guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources.** This policy and all its provisions are subordinate to local, state, and federal statutes.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS DUE TO VIOLATIONS

First Offense – Student will check-in/check-out the laptop from the help desk daily for three weeks

Second Offense – Student will be suspended from all laptop/internet privileges for three weeks. Student is still

responsible for all required work.

Third Offense – Student will lose laptop/internet privileges. Student is still responsible for all required work. Seniors will also lose their senior privileges for that year.

MEDIA CENTER POLICY

The media center provides access to a variety of information sources. Users of the media center have the responsibility to act in a manner that provides a productive school atmosphere. Use of the media center is a privilege, not a right. Access may be revoked any time for unacceptable behavior.

Unacceptable behavior includes:

- Disrupting or vandalizing equipment or system performance
- Wasting materials, such as printer paper
- Vandalizing the data of others
- Invading the privacy of others
- All e-mail, chat rooms or computer video games
- Accessing music or videos on the computer
- Harassment of any kind

Students are allowed to come to the Media Center individually with a pass from a classroom teacher. They will be allowed to do research, work on assignments, read, use the internet or check out media center materials. Students should not play computer games or music or tie up the computers for “entertainment” purposes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

School begins at 8:25 a.m. and ends at 3:15 p.m. Periods 1 is sixty minutes (due to morning announcements) and periods 2-7 are fifty-six minutes, followed by a four-minute passing period. Students are tardy when they are not in the classroom when class starts. Teachers will be in their rooms at 8:10 a.m.

Students In The Building Before 8:05 a.m. or after 3:35 p.m. must be under the direct supervision of a teacher/coach/advisor. All other students must leave. Students that are at school before 8:05am should be in the commons area.

VISITORS: The following rules apply to ALL adults during school hours:

1. The front entrance is locked during the school day. ALL parents, guardians, and guests must use the buzzer system to enter the school and then sign in at the office during every visit, no matter how short in duration. A “guest” badge will be given to all visitors in the building during school hours.
2. Students will be released to parents or authorized adults **from the office area** during school hours. Secretaries will contact the child’s classroom, and the student will be released to their parent / guardian.
3. Student visitors are not encouraged; please make arrangements with the office.
4. Parent volunteers are welcome, but the district requires every adult to get a background check BEFORE he / she may work with students. The principal and / or teacher will determine times that are appropriate

for your child. This also applies to field trip chaperones.

Announcements are made each morning at the beginning of period one over the public address system. Announcements should be turned into the high school office before 7:40AM.

Student Activity Tickets can be purchased in the Activities office for \$35. They admit students to school sponsored events. Class plays, class sponsored events, and musical events are not included. If an activity ticket is lost, a replacement ticket may be purchased for \$5. **Free activity tickets will be given to students whose family completes the application for Educational Benefits by Sept. 09,2022**

TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLIES

All necessary books and workbooks are provided to students. Our library also contains a wide variety of books to check out. It is the responsibility of all students to take good care of their books and supplies. Students will be fined for lost or damaged school materials.

Inappropriate public display(s) of affection are considered in poor taste and regarded as immature behavior. When such behavior is exhibited, a student conference may be held, each student's parents/guardians may be contacted and/or the students may be disciplined.

Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, Headphones/Earbuds, and other personal items: The school is NOT responsible for lost items. Students should not bring cell phones, headphones/earbuds, MP3 players, iPods, cameras, texting devices, or potentially disruptive items into the classroom unless needed for educational purposes. These devices may not be allowed in classrooms during the school day (8:25 am – 3:15 pm). Teachers have the right to request that cell phones be turned off during class time. Students can use their cell phones before school, during lunch, and after school.

Students who use their cell phone during class may have their phone taken away for two weeks or can pay \$25 to get their phone back at the end of the day the payment is received. Students also have the option to serve time in lieu of the payment option. Arrangements must be made with the Dean of Students prior to time served. In accordance with Minnesota State Department of Education rules, no cell phones or cameras are allowed in any locker room or gym areas. When observed, they may be removed immediately. Because these items are not allowed in school, when they are lost, misplaced or stolen, school personnel will not participate in their retrieval.

DANCE/PROM RULES

Dance: No use of alcohol, drugs or tobacco. Rowdiness and conduct unbecoming Pelican Rapids students will not be tolerated. Once in-stay in; once out-stay out. Students who violate dance rules will be removed from the dance and/or parents notified to pick them up. All such cases will also be reported to the principal's office for disciplinary action. Senior high dances are open to Pelican Rapids students and their guests in grades 9-12. Junior high activities are open to PRHS students only in grades 7 & 8. Senior high students may bring guests if they obtain a guest permit in advance signed by the principal. Chaperones are in charge and have the right to make decisions on any cases not covered by the above rules.

Prom: In order to attend Prom, you must: 1) have all ISS/detention hours completed a week before Prom, 2) pay ALL outstanding school fees, 3) obtain a guest pass if bringing a student from outside PRHS, and 4) be appropriately dressed for the event. In order to be on the Prom decorating committee, you must: 1) be enthusiastic and willing to help, 2) have no ISS hours during the school year, 3) all detention hours made up, 4)

attend all meetings (unless excused), 5) participate after school during the week of Prom (unless excused), and 6) attend clean-up the Monday after Prom or face consequences. Prom guests must be 20 years or younger to attend.

DRESS AND GROOMING

Students should use good judgment and wear appropriate clothing. Parents should use good judgment to help their students determine appropriate clothing to wear. Students should not dress in attire which creates a danger to health or safety, disrupts or potentially disrupts the educational process or violates community standards of decency. The principal is the final authority in determining whether dress is appropriate or inappropriate. Staff members will enforce dress and appearance standards. Students who refuse to follow acceptable dress standards will be sent to the principal. Students will change inappropriate clothing or be sent home to change clothing. Students will not return to class until they are appropriately dressed. Any time missed from school due to inappropriate clothing will be an unexcused absence.

Inappropriate student clothing includes:

- Clothing deemed too revealing: spaghetti strap tank tops; clothing that does not cover the midriff or navel; clothing that does not cover undergarments; low-riding pants; undergarments that are worn as outer garments; clothing that exposes any cleavage (chest or rear area); transparent (see-through) clothing; halter tops (tops that tie at the back of the neck, including dresses with bare shoulders or back); tube tops or other strapless tops including dresses; clothing that is shorter than or exposes skin (such as jeans) four inches (4") above the knee.
- Students may not wear clothing that disguises a student's appearance. During COVID-19, masks may be required, but sunglasses, wigs, costume masks etc. are not allowed.
- Students may not wear any headwear (any object which covers one's head, all or in part) except for legitimate religious or medical reasons that have been approved by the principal. This includes, but is not limited to caps, hats, hoods and do-rags.
- Students may not wear any clothing or face masks that displays, suggests or promotes, (either by picture(s), language (any) or diagrams): profanity, obscenity or vulgarity; chemical use or chemical advertisement (including alcohol, tobacco or any other any illegal products); inappropriate sexual behavior or sexually suggestive behavior; abusive, discriminatory, racist or violent behavior, people or groups; or unhealthy lifestyles.
- Student backpacks will remain in lockers during the school day.

Consequences for wearing inappropriate clothing include:

First Offense - education on the policy, a warning, and removal/confiscation of the item.

Second Offense - first offense consequence plus disciplinary action with parent contact.

Third Offense - second offense consequence plus possible suspension/expulsion.

Driving and Parking: Students are encouraged to park their cars at the beginning of the day and not drive them until they need to return home. Speeding, improper parking, reckless driving, and excessive noise are of concern to the school and disciplinary action will be taken against violators. Improperly parked cars will be ticketed and/or towed away at the owner's expense and students will be disciplined. Student used cars may be searched in the student parking lot or surrounding streets.

120A.20 ADMISSION TO PUBLIC SCHOOL. - § Subdivision 1.Age limitations; pupils.

(a) All schools supported in whole or in part by state funds are public schools. Admission to a public school is free to any person who: (1) resides within the district that operates the school; (2) is under 21 years of age or who meets the requirements of paragraph (c); and (3) satisfies the minimum age requirements imposed by this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, the conduct of all students under 21 years of age attending a public secondary school is governed by a single set of reasonable rules and regulations promulgated by the school board.

Background Checks: Per School Board Policy 404, the school district will seek a criminal background check for applicants who receive an offer of employment, or choose to volunteer with the school district.

Emergency Alarms: No person shall give a false alarm of fire, by setting fire to any combustible material, or by crying or sounding an alarm, or by any other means. Anyone violating the emergency alarm law is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be punished by a fine or by imprisonment in the county jail. The school will also provide consequences for such an act. Periodic fire, tornado, lockdown and evacuation drills will be conducted in accordance with state law. A plan has been developed which will ensure the maximum efficiency and safety for evacuating the building during emergencies. Teachers will discuss these instructions with students and indicate the evacuation routes for their classrooms. During alarms, drills, or actual emergency procedures, students should treat the experience seriously, move quietly, maintain classroom conduct and listen/follow the instructions of their supervisors. Students should become informed of exit routes for each of their classrooms.

Gangs: The following gang related acts, materials, and symbolism are not allowed: any apparel, jewelry, accessories, or manner of grooming which by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute (as a primary purpose) denotes membership in an organized gang as defined by MN Statute 260.125; graffiti on a person, their clothing, books, notebook, or other personal items which denotes affiliation with an organized gang or threat group; making hand signs which denote affiliation with an organized gang or threat group; possession, distribution, or display of slanderous, libelous, pornographic, racist or gang related materials or symbolism.

Phone Calls: Students will not be called out of class to answer calls. Parents and friends are requested not to call during school hours. The office phone is not available for student use except in an emergency with the permission of the principal or his/her designee.

Schedule Changes: Students will be allowed to make a schedule change **no later than the first four days of each semester**. PSEO STUDENTS ARE SUBJECT TO THIS POLICY AS WELL. Any PSEO student who drops a college course after the PRHS deadline (4th day of semester) will receive a grade of "F" on their high school transcript for that college course. To request a schedule change, students may fill out an electronic form. Schedule change requests may not be made via email or phone from a student or parent/guardian.

Schedule changes should fit the following requirements:

1. Computer error
2. Improper placement as determined by counselor, teacher, assistant principal, or principal
3. Medical or physical restriction
4. A failed or missing prerequisite

School Lockers: The school is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. Do not leave money or valuables in lockers. School lockers are the property of the school district and may be searched at any time. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of lockers provided for the convenience of students. Inspection of the interior of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time, without notice,

without student consent, and without a search warrant.

The personal possessions of students within a school locker will be searched when school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of law or school rules. As soon as practicable after the search of a student's personal possessions, the school authorities will notify students whose lockers were searched unless disclosure would impede an ongoing investigation by police or school officials. Students are responsible for the cleanliness and maintenance of the locker assigned to them and may be charged for any damages.

Use or Possession of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs: All buildings and grounds in District #548 are tobacco free. The use or possession of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, electronic cigarettes, other illegal chemicals, or look alike items are not allowed on school property, at any school sponsored activities/trips, or at any time during, before or after school hours/activities. Students will be disciplined for failure to comply with this rule.

Work Release Option: Students may work during school hours providing they meet the following guidelines: Students must: have academic standing (completed 18 credits); not be in academic, attendance or disciplinary difficulty; take a minimum of 6 other classes and arrange their schedule so the work release is to work for a parent/ guardian owned/operated business or the family must talk to the building principal to demonstrate financial need. The work release program may be terminated or temporarily suspended at any time for failure to comply with these reasons.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Students who participate in school activities may have the opportunity to represent the school district and community on school district sponsored trips. Students will be under the supervision of staff or community coaches/advisors/chaperones and need to be on their best behavior. Students will also need to exhibit positive academic, behavior and chemical nonuse characteristics to qualify for the school trips. Students may become ineligible to participate on school trips if they violate legal, MSHSL and/or school district academic, behavior or chemical rules. **ALL detention needs to be completed BEFORE a student can participate in school trips.** The staff member directly in charge of the trip will determine eligibility in conjunction with the building principal or assistant principal/activity director. Activity advisors/coaches will inform students in advance of school trips concerning their eligibility. Extended school trips (ex. Band, Choir, or Spanish overnight trip) will be approved in advance by the school board.

LUNCH PROGRAM

Pelican Rapids High School is a **closed campus** and each student is scheduled to be in an assigned area in the building every period, every day that school is in session. Students are not permitted to go outside/leave the school building during the designated passing time between class periods. Anytime the student is not in his/her assigned area, verification of parental permission must be on record in the Administration Office prior to the absences, unless it is illness related. Appropriate consequences for violation of the policies will be assigned.

NOON HOUR

All students have a closed campus and must remain in the lunch room or designated areas inside the building. All parking lots and vehicles are off-limits during the school day. Senior high students may utilize the designated areas during the lunch hour provided the junior high classes are not disrupted in the process. Leaving campus during the school day will result in suspension. 1st offense will be 1 day of In School Suspension (ISS) and 2nd offense will be 1 day of Out of School Suspension (OSS). The 3rd and subsequent offense will result in 2 days of Out of School Suspension.

Breakfast (grades 7-12) will be served from 8:05 – 8:20 a.m. Prices are: adult - \$2.00, student - \$1.30, student reduced - \$0.00

Lunch (grades 7 - 12) will be served at the conclusion of Period 3 and at the conclusion of Period 4 for grade 10-12.

Prices are: adult - \$3.95, student - \$2.05, student reduced - \$0.00, second entrée \$1.65.

Lunch Program Rules

- School lunch is to be eaten in the commons area. **No food is to leave the commons area.**
- Students must have money in their account before they will be permitted to eat. **There will be NO CHARGING of lunch.**
- Money may be added to lunch accounts every morning before school begins or on the school website using payschools.
- Eating is not allowed in the halls or classrooms. Sack lunches may be eaten in the commons area.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture Policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

Students need to complete Minnesota graduation requirements and successfully pass state required tests by the end of grade 12 or they will not receive a diploma. Students who have an individual education plan (IEP) can qualify for modifications in testing procedures or exemption from the requirements. This decision is made by the student's IEP team. To participate in the PRHS graduation ceremony and be awarded the PRHS diploma, students must attend school at PRHS their final semester. Students who choose to attend a different school elsewhere will receive their diploma from that school and participate in their graduation ceremony, and be counseled concerning these facts prior to leaving. Exceptions include students enrolled in the post-secondary options program and students with pre-approved alternative programs related to physical limitations for attendance, outside (ALC, etc.) credits must be pre-approved.

Credits for graduation: Each student shall complete at least 24 credits in grades 9 - 12 in required and elective courses. These include:

English: 4 credits (1 credit each in English 9, English 10, English 11, and English 12).

Mathematics: 3 credits

Science: 3 credits (1 credit in Science 9, 1 credit in Biology, 1 additional Science credit)

Social Studies: 4 credits (1 credit in Social 9; 1 credit in U.S. History 10; 1 credit in World History 11; ½ credit Geography and ½ Economics).

Arts: 1 credit (Art, Band, Choir, Digital Photography, or Web Design).

Physical Education 9: 1/2 credit

Health 10 courses: 1 credit

The remaining **elective credits** will be chosen from the approved curriculum of Pelican Rapids High School. Students who successfully complete high school credits while in junior high (gr. 7-8) will have these credits credited toward graduation. Graduation requirements will be evaluated yearly. A student's graduation requirements will not be changed once they enter grade 9. All students must attempt 6 credits per year.

Incomplete Grades: Students must complete all course work as scheduled by the teacher or an incomplete will be given. Incompletes must be made up within the time set by the teacher.

Notification of Parents Concerning Graduation Requirements: Parents and students will be notified of graduation requirements using the student handbook and district website.

Pass-Fail Option: Any grade 12 student (18 credits minimum) may register for one elective class per semester on a pass-fail basis. Students must register by the 10th week of the semester. If a student is being considered for salutatorian, valedictorian or graduation honors and has used the pass-fail option, all other students being considered for the same honors will have the same number of their lowest grades considered in the same manner.

Honor Roll Calculations - Letter Grade Values:

A=4.0, A-=3.66, B+=3.33, B=3.0, B-=2.66, C+=2.33, C=2.0, C-=1.66, D+=1.33, D=1.0, D-=0.66 F=0, I (Incomplete)=0 and P (Pass)=Cumulative grade point average (GPA)

An incomplete has no effect on grades, but the student will not be considered for the honor roll until the make-up work is completed and the grade is calculated and entered. A pass is calculated at the same value as the student's overall grade point average. There will be two honor rolls. The A honor roll requires a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.66 and the B honor roll has a minimum GPA of 3.0. Students who have D's, F's, or I's will not be eligible for the honor roll. Student incompletes must be completed within 2 weeks of the end of each quarter.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Students who participate in Activities/Athletics must pass a physical examination every 3 years (grades 7 and 10), file the physical with the Activities Director's office, pay all activity fees before practicing and/or playing in a game.

The Student Council is the connection between the student body and the administration. This council gives the students a voice in building government.

The Minnesota Honor Society (MHS) is an invitation-only activity. New members are inducted in a formal ceremony in mid-October. MHS members participate in a variety of activities throughout the year including the

rent-a-buddy auction, road ditch clean up, and the Red Cross Blood Drive, among others.

Speech is a Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) extracurricular activity. Students can compete in these categories: serious or humorous interpretation, original or non-original oratory, storytelling, discussion, extemporaneous reading or speaking. MSHSL rules are observed. Students may advance to subsection, section, and state contests.

The Shada is the school yearbook (annual). Members of the Shada staff are also members of a yearbook class. They begin working before school starts selling ads and continue through May to produce and distribute the yearbook. If you like teamwork, going to school events, photography, and fun - this just may be the class for you! Class members share the work - they are each assigned pages to work on including text and page design with photos. Every year the class is different! This is hands-on learning with computers and cameras. The finished product, our Shada yearbook, is a reflection of your work and will be a legacy for years to come.

National FFA Organization is an organization of students who have had or are enrolled in agriculture science classes. The purpose is to further the aims and understanding of agriculture, to provide leadership training, and to provide group recreational activities. Judging contests, public speaking contests, and other activities of a competitive nature are available.

Knowledge Bowl is an activity where you can learn new information and facts as well as show what you know in competition. Each meet begins with a written exam that you and your team work together to complete. Four oral rounds follow and your team will either advance or drop based on your performance. Meets are held during the school day, so you can easily participate in Knowledge Bowl and other activities. The junior high season runs from mid-September until December. The senior high season competes from December until March.

Math Team gives students who are interested in math the opportunity to compete in various contests throughout the year. Senior high mathletes (grades 9-12) have the opportunity to compete in some or all of the following: Minnesota State High School Mathematics League, Bemidji Math Contest, AMC-10/AMC-12, and Tri-College contests. Students may advance to the state meet in Math League. Junior high mathletes may compete in Minnesota Junior High School Mathematics League, AMC-8, MathCounts, and Tri-College contests. Students may advance to the state meet in MathCounts.

The instrumental music (band) program consists of: Band 7, Band 8, Concert Band, and Wind Ensemble. Jazz Band and Pit Band are available as additional instrumental activities. The bands represent the school during the year at concerts, athletic events and other community affairs. Students play in these groups and many of the individuals play solos or in small ensembles for community activities as well as contests.

The vocal music program consists of grade 7 & 8, the Viking Choir and the Chamber Chorale, which is selected by the instructor. The choirs represent the school during the year at concerts, and other community affairs. Students sing in these groups and many of the individuals sing solos or in small ensembles for community activities as well as contests.

MSHSL ELIGIBILITY

CHEMICAL VIOLATIONS

Pelican Rapids Jr.-Sr. High School is a member of and follows the rules of the MSHSL. Beginning with a student's first participation and continuing throughout the student's participation on any grade level (7-12) team or activity, regardless of the quantity, a student shall not: use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or any substance defined by law as a drug. This policy is in effect the entire calendar year including summers. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by her/his doctor. Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with the student's first participation and continuing throughout the student's participation on any grade level (7-12) team or activity.

Category 1 – Athletic Activities

- After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next two consecutive interscholastic events or two weeks (14 calendar days) of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
- After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next six consecutive interscholastic events or three weeks (21 calendar days), whichever is greater, of a season in which the student is a participant. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
- After confirmation of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility for the next twelve consecutive interscholastic events or four weeks (28 calendar days), whichever is greater, of a season in which the student is a participant. If after the subsequent violations, the student on her/his own volition becomes a participant in a chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in MSHSL activities after a minimum period of six weeks after entering the program. Such certification must be issued by the director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center.

Category 2 – Arts, Drama, Music and Speech Activities

- After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility for two (2) weeks (14 calendar days) of a season in which the student is a participant. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
- After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for three (3) weeks (21 calendar days) of a season in which the student is a participant. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
- After confirmation of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility for the next four (4) weeks (28 calendar days) of a season in which the student is a participant.

ACADEMIC VIOLATIONS

As a member of the Minnesota State High School League, Pelican Rapids High School is committed to and supportive of the rules as established by the league. Pelican Rapids High School has adopted the rules, In addition to those rules established by the MSHSL to participate in activities.

Academics

- The student participant must maintain a C- (1.66) grade average on the grading report (mid-quarter/quarter).
- Should the grade average for the quarter fall below a C- (1.66) the student shall be placed on eligibility

probation for the next grading period (mid-quarter/quarter).

- A student placed on probation must obtain a C- (1.66) grade average for the probationary period or will become ineligible thereafter until a C- (1.66) grade average is obtained on a subsequent grading report (mid-quarter/quarter).
- The activity director or principal will attempt to inform students and parents of their status if on probation or not eligible with a letter at the end of each grading term (mid-quarter/quarter). However, the ultimate responsibility for knowing grades and eligibility rests with the student and parent.

Policy for students who receive an incomplete: An incomplete is to be made up within two (2) academic weeks or the student shall be academically ineligible until the incomplete grade is completed.

Absences/Attendance Violations: Students with an absence(s) from any P.M. period(s) due to illness, injury or physical disability will be prohibited from participation and/or involvement in school activities, programs, events, interscholastic athletics, etc., held by the school during the remaining portion of that date unless prior approval is granted by the Principal and/or the Activities Director. Student managers, scorers, etc., shall be considered as team members. P.M. period(s) refers to hours 5, 6, and 7 for grades 7 through 12. For other unnamed activities, the student will abide by the decision of the school administrator and/or the Activity Director.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

PRHS provides a number of support services, to help students academically, emotionally, socially and developmentally. Students may be self-referred or referred by parents, guardians or staff.

Special Education students have accommodations to help them with their schoolwork and testing as determined by their Individual Education Plan (IEP) and IEP team.

Mental Health services are provided by a district mental health practitioner and mental health professional. These services are provided by a collaborative of Lutheran Social Services of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail County and PR School District. These services are billable to the family's health service with their permission.

VIKING SCHOOL SUCCESS (VSS): After School / Summer Programming

Students may be referred for after school programming by their teacher for additional help with reading and math, social or other school-related skills.

Student Disability-Nondiscrimination: Disabled students are protected from discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Learners who need special services, accommodations, or programs in order to receive a free and appropriate education may be served under a 504 plan. (School Board Policy 521)

Students protected under a 504 plan: Have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, including learning; have a record of such impairment; are regarded as having such an impairment. Learners may be eligible for services under a 504 plan, even though they may not qualify for Special Education services. Persons who have questions, comments, or complaints regarding disability issues may contact Derrick Nelson or Kelsey Lage, the district's ADA/504 coordinators at 863-5910.

DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT & VIOLENCE

Religious, racial, sexual and gender discrimination, harassment and violence are against the law.

Harassment may include the following when related to religion, race, sex, or gender; name-calling, jokes or rumors, graffiti, notes, cartoons, unwelcome touching of a person or clothing, offensive or graphic posters or book covers, or any words that make a person feel uncomfortable, embarrassed, have hurt feelings or make them feel bad. Harassment may also include any and all of the above actions that occur on the internet. A harasser may be a student or an adult.

Persons being harassed need to **report the harassment**. If any words or action make a person feel uncomfortable or fearful, they need to tell a teacher, counselor, the principal or the Human Rights Officer and/or make a written report which should then be given to a teacher, counselor, the principal or the Human Rights Officer.

A person's right to **privacy** will be respected as much as possible. All reports of religious, racial, sexual and gender discrimination, harassment or violence will be taken seriously and appropriate action will be taken.

The accused person may not retaliate. The School District will take appropriate action if anyone tries to intimidate a person or take action to harm a person because they have reported. This is a summary of the School District policy against religious, racial, sexual and gender discrimination, harassment, and violence. Complete policies are available in the superintendent's office upon request.

**CONTACT: MR. BRIAN KORF, HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICER, PELICAN RAPIDS SCHOOL
DISTRICT PHONE: (218) 863-5910**

HAZING (SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 571)

Hazing means committing an act against a student, or coercing a student into committing an act, that creates a substantial risk of harm to a person or student, in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization, or for any other purpose. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school district and are prohibited at all times. No student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employee of the school district shall plan, direct, encourage, aid or engage in hazing. Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy. This policy applies to behavior that occurs on or off school property and during and after school hours. A person who engages in an act that violates school policy or law in order to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization shall be subject to discipline for that act. The school district will act to investigate all complaints of hazing and will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employees of the school district who is found to have violated this policy. The term hazing includes, but is not limited to:

REPORTING: Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of hazing or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute hazing shall report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official (i.e. building principal or Superintendent).

SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTION: Upon receipt of a complaint, the school district shall undertake or authorize an

investigation. The school district may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, reporter, students, or others pending completion of an investigation. Upon completion of the investigation, the school district will take appropriate action. Action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination or discharge.

REPRISAL: The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employee of the school district who retaliates against any person who makes a good faith report of alleged hazing or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation or hearing. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

DISSEMINATION OF POLICY: This policy shall appear in each school's student handbook and in each school's building and staff handbooks.

DISCRIMINATION

As required by the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), all vocational opportunities at Pelican Rapids High School (PRHS) are offered to all students regardless of race, color, national origin, sex or disability. The grievance procedure that allows students an avenue for dealing with discrimination from faculty, fellow students and administrators is present in the student handbook and on the district web site. Vocational opportunities for PRHS students include classes in Ag. Science, Business & Computer Education, Family & Consumer Science and Industrial Tech. Vocational classes are offered in grades 7 and 8 as required exploratory classes in each vocational subject area except Agriculture Science and in grades 9-12 as elective classes in all vocational subject areas. Any PRHS student may enroll in any or all of the vocational classes.

The Title IX coordinator for the Pelican Rapids (PR) School District is the Activities Director (AD) Derrick Nelson. The Section 504 coordinator for the PR School District is the building principals. Contact at Box 642, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 or phone (218) 863-5910

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #548 DISCRIMINATION FORM

Independent School District No. 548 maintains a policy prohibiting all forms of unlawful discrimination. All students are to be treated with respect and dignity. Unlawful discrimination by any teacher, administrator or other school personnel will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Complainant: _____

Home Address: _____

Work Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Date of Alleged Incident(s): _____

Name of person you believe unlawfully discriminated toward you or a student:

If the alleged unlawful discrimination was toward another person, identify that person:

Describe the incident(s) as clearly as possible, including such things as what force, if any, was used; any verbal statements (i.e. threats, requests, demands, etc.); what, if any, physical contact was involved; etc.
(Attach additional pages if necessary)

Where and when did the incident(s) occur:

List any witnesses that were present:

This complaint is filed based on my honest belief that _____ has unlawfully discriminated against me or a student. I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this complaint is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Complainant Signature _____ Date _____

Received by: _____

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The School Board has designated the following as directory information relating to a student: the student's name; address; telephone number; electronic mail address; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; dates of attendance; grade level; enrollment status; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors and awards received; the most recent educational agency or institution attended by the student; and other similar information. Directory information also includes the name, address and telephone number of the student's parents. Directory information does not include identifying information on student's religion, race, color, social position or nationality.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive federal funds. FERPA requires the school district, within certain exceptions, to obtain written permission prior to disclosure of personally identifiable information from a child's educational records. However, the school may disclose student information without written consent of the parent when the information is designated directory information unless the parent informs the school not to do so in writing. Directory information is used with discretion in publications which would not be intentionally harmful or an invasion of privacy for a student. Examples are a program showing a student's role in a school event, athletic program, the annual yearbook (SHADA) and recognition/photos in newspapers or on websites.

Directory information can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's consent, in rare cases. Examples are state or federal authorities auditing, evaluating programs or enforcing state laws, release of transcripts to other schools, court order or subpoena.