

Student Rights & Responsibilities

Chicago Public Schools:
Student Bill of Rights
& Student Code of Conduct



Chicago Public Schools Student Bill of Rights

Purpose: To elevate and celebrate the fundamental freedoms and protections every CPS student has and that everyone in our schools must respect.

*Dr. Kenneth Fox
Chief Health Officer, Office of Student Health & Wellness*



What is the CPS Student Bill of Rights?

- Declaration of student freedoms and protections
- To be published in *CPS Student Code of Conduct*
- Illustrates alignment of District policies with human rights documents (for examples, *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*; *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*)
- In language accessible to students



Student Bill of Rights: Six Sections

- Preamble
- Free Public Education
- Speak, Advocate, Organize, Participate
- Health, Nutrition, and Personal Care
- Awareness About Fair Punishment
- Safety and Security



Student Bill of Rights: How was it made?

- **50** Citywide Mikva Teen Council members & CPS Student Voice & Activism Fellows (*over 4 week summer session at invitation of Chief Health Officer*)
- **4** CPS student focus groups (*including two with Athletes and Diverse Learners*)
- **10** CPS central offices:
 - OSHW
 - Civic Engagement & Student Voice
 - OSP
 - Law, Safety & Security
 - Office of Network Support
 - OCCS, OSEL
 - Marketing, Communications
- Principal Advisory Committee
- Teacher Advisory Committee
- Literature review

SYNTHESIS (Office of Student Health & Wellness)



Student Bill of Rights: When?

- Webinar for Principals, APs & Deans (completed, June)
- Publish in *Student Code of Conduct* (forthcoming, Summer)
- Present at Principals' *Summer Leadership Institute & Legal Conference*
- Train Office of Social & Emotional Learning Specialists (Summer)
- Back To School SY 19-20 Roll-out/Marketing Campaign
 - Posters
 - Booklet
 - Stickers
 - Video
 - Social Media



Student Code of Conduct SY 2019-2020

Purpose: To support consistent implementation of effective disciplinary practices that address root causes of behaviors, maximize learning time, repair harm, and promote social & emotional learning.

*Hellen Antonopoulos
Executive Director, Office of Social & Emotional Learning*

*Camie Pratt
Chief Title IX Officer, Office of Student Protections & Title IX*



Background

2017: The Preventing Alcohol Abuse in Chicago Teens (PAACT) coalition commissioned Voices of Youth in Chicago Education (VOYCE) to engage in a research project to study the problem of underage drinking.

March 2018: VOYCE released a report, [Open Bottles Broken Policies](#), which highlights their findings and proposes solutions for addressing underage drinking.

July 2018 CPS Board Meeting: OSEL proposes the formation of a committee to review the existing drug/alcohol policies, provide guidance on resources and available interventions, and develop protocols for responding to alcohol and substance use issues in CPS. This committee includes youth, parents, PAACT members, school personnel and CPS.

Summer 2018: Office of Student Protections and Title IX is created.

SY2019 SCC Review:

- PAACT Task Force (including students from VOYCE)
- School deans/disciplinarians
- Community partners including:
 - Lurie Children’s Hospital/Preventing Alcohol Abuse in Chicago Teens (PAACT)
 - Community Organizing & Family Issues (COFI) Power-Pac
 - MIKVA
 - Loyola University ChildLaw Clinic
 - Umoja
 - University of Chicago
- Local School Council Advisory Board (vote of confidence in SCC updates, 12-0)
- Central Office departments: Office of Student Health & Wellness, Safety & Security, Office of Student Protection, etc.
- Network Chiefs, NOMs, and Social & Emotional Learning specialists



Proposed Updates for SY2019-2020:

- 1. Revise SCC codes for substance use** to treat all substance use behaviors in the same group (SCC Group 4).
 - The use or possession of drugs, controlled substances, or any substance used for the purpose of intoxication, previously captured in Section 5-17, has been moved to Section 4-14 to reflect the City's path toward the decriminalization of marijuana use and possession and to shift focus to therapeutic responses for drug use. Section 5-17 is now left intentionally blank.
 - Section 5-18, for repeated Section 4-14 behaviors, has been left intentionally blank in order to shift focus to therapeutic responses for repeated alcohol and drug use. Section 5-18 is now left intentionally blank.
 - The Guidelines for Effective Discipline will provide additional guidance and support to schools for supporting students and responding to alcohol/substance use incidents.



Proposed Updates for SY2019-2020:

2. Include SCC policy that addresses the **use and possession of vaporizer devices** in school.

- **Include use of vaporizer devices that contain tobacco products in 2-7:**
 - Possession (physical control over, such as contained in clothing, lockers, or bags) and/or use of tobacco or nicotine products, matches, or cigarette lighters, including vaporizer devices that contain nicotine products or vaporizer components that do not contain substances
- **Include use of vaporizer devices that contain illegal substances in newly updated 4-14:**
 - Use or possession of alcohol, drugs, controlled substances, “look-alikes” of such substances, contraband (including all vaporizer devices that contain substances), or use of any other substance for the purpose of intoxication in or before school or a school-related function.



Proposed Updates for SY2019-2020:

3. Office of Student Protections & Title IX: Revised sexual misconduct codes to **align with Title IX best practices.**

- **Revised Definitions:**
 - **Align all SCC** codes with the definitions developed by the Office of Student Protections and Title IX
 - **Clear, objective definitions** of sexual behaviors for students, parents, and staff
 - **Revised definitions** for Sexual Bullying, Dating Violence, and OSP Reporting Procedures
- **Moved** “consensual sexual behaviors” Section 5-16 to Section 4-16 to reflect the difference in safety concerns between consensual sexual acts and non-consensual acts.
- **Revised Guidelines for Effective Discipline** and training for school staff in responding to sexualized behavior



Proposed Updates for SY2019-2020:

4. Update the Anti Bullying Policy

- **Align** the Scope of the Anti-Bullying Policy with the Scope of the Non-Discrimination Policy.
- **Clarify** the definition of Restorative Practices to describe how they can be impactful as an intervention.
- **Update** the information for submitting an appeal of a bullying investigation to replace the EOCO as the contact for appeals with the Office of Student Protections and Title IX.

