### ARSON/FALSE FIRE ALARMS/POSSESSION OF FIREWORKS

<u>ARSON</u> - The willful and malicious burning of, or attempt to burn any part of any building or any property of the Board of Education of Prince George's County.

<u>FALSE ALARMS</u> – The act of initiating a fire alarm or initiating a report warning of a fire or an impending bombing or other catastrophe without cause.

### POSSESSION OF FIREWORKS OR EXPLOSIVES -

The act of unauthorized possession, use or threatened use of any fireworks, explosives, or other such instruments capable of inflicting bodily injury.

Emergency operations for evacuation of the building are automatically initiated with the sounding of the alarm. The school shall not be reoccupied until authorization is given by the fire department officer-in-charge at the scene, with the following exception: in cases where a school official witnesses a false alarm being transmitted and knows it to be false, school authorities can have the school reoccupied without prior fire department approval.

Code of Student Conduct classifies False Fire Alarms and Possession of Fireworks or Explosives as gross misconduct.

The Board of Education views arson as GROSS MISCONDUCT, and as grounds for immediate suspension for as long as the balance of the school year, or expulsion.

### Immediate

Upon discovery of the fire or explosion, nearest staff person sounds fire alarm and reports location and nature of the fire to the principal's office immediately. Emergency operations for evacuation of the building are automatically initiated with the sounding of the alarm.

Principal or designee notifies the Prince George's
County FIRE DEPARTMENT, BUREARU OF
FIRE AND RESCUE COMMUNICATIONS (911)
immediately. According to Section 29.18 (d) of the
Fire Code, "This requirement applies even though
the fire may have been extinguished or the fire may
have occurred at a time when the building was not
occupied."

### Required Reporting Procedures

- Principal notifies:
  - 1. Prince George's County Fire Department by Telephone (911).
  - 2. Department of Security Services by telephone (301-499-7000).
- Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.

### Follow-Up Action

- Disciplinary steps should be taken with students involved in arson and/or false fire alarms in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.
- Arson investigations will be conducted by the Prince George's County Fire Department Bureau of Fire Investigations.
- False Alarms, trash can fires, other minor incidents not creating loss to structure or contents shall be investigated by the Department of Security Services.

### ASSAULTS

<u>BATTERY</u> – unlawful touching or any physical force or violence unlawfully applied to the person of another (e.g., jostling, throwing water or dirt at another, tearing clothes, seizing or striking another).

### PHYSICAL ATTACK AND/OR THREAT THEREOF -

The act of physically assaulting or threatening to assault any person on school property, including Board of Education owned vehicles, or while in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored and supervised activity.

#### Immediate

- Teacher or other school-based person witnessing battery render aid, if possible, and report it to the principal or investigator/counselor.
- Principal notifies the appropriate medical authority, if necessary:

severe injuries--call for ambulance minor injuries--administer First Aid at school.

### Required Reporting Procedures

- Principal notifies:
  - Department of Security Services by telephone (301-499-7000) Investigator/counselor for all acts perceived to be of a serious nature, and all acts involving weapons.
  - 2. Parents of student(s) involved.

DEFINITION OF ACT	STEPS TO TAKE
ASSAULTS - continued	Principal and/or Department of Security     Services notifies County Police Department immediately in all assaults requiring medical
Physical attack resulting in bodily injury, or upon investigation found to be clearly intended to so result.	treatment other than minor First Aid, and cases Involving a weapon.
The Board of Education views these events as GROSS MISCONDUCT, and as ground for immediate suspension for as long as the balance of the school of the school year, or expulsion.	Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.
	It will not be necessary for principals to file an Incident Report for minor altercations provided:
	<ol> <li>The matter is resolved to the satisfaction of both parties by the school administrator;</li> <li>No injuries were sustained by either party which required medical attention;</li> <li>No weapons were involved;</li> <li>The assault was not part of another offense, i.e., robbery, extortion, sex offense, etc.</li> </ol>
	Follow-up Action  In cases of minor altercations (those not requiring medical treatment) involved students should be separated and provided with a "cooling off" period to be followed by a conference, including parents, to determine further course of action.
	Peer mediation or other referral.
	In cases of major altercations, suspension procedures should be followed in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.
VERBAL - Threat to do bodily harm.	Immediate     Teacher or other school administrator notified by a student of a verbal threat will:
	<ol> <li>Attempt to find out all the facts;</li> <li>Evaluate seriousness of threat;</li> <li>Report serious threat to principal.</li> </ol>
	Required Reporting Procedures  Principal (after assessment of the incident) notifies the investigator/counselor or the Department of Security Services by telephone (301-499-7000) if the incident has possible ramifications for student unrest. The Department of Security Services will notify the police department if the incident has possible ramifications in the community.
	Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with Department of Security Services for incident judged by principal to be serious by the end of the first school day following the incident.
	Follow-up Action  Principal will counsel concerned parties and take appropriate disciplinary action. (See Code of Student Conduct)

FIGHTING - The act of hostile bodily contact among two or more students in or on school property, including Board of Education owned vehicles, or while in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored and supervised activity, which act is likely to result in physical harm and/or a substantial disruption of the educational environment. Neither self-defense nor action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person, shall, upon investigation, be considered such an act.

If a weapon is used during the fight, see also section on Weapons.

Code of Student Conduct classifies such events as gross misconduct.

### **Immediate**

 Teacher or other school-based person should separate fighting students, if possible. If unable to do so, contact the office immediately requesting assistance.

### Required Reporting Procedures

- Principal or designee notifies parents of students involved.
- Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services if there is an injury, a weapon is used, or the parents of the parties concerned wish criminal action, or principal deems necessary.

### Follow-up Action

- After a cooling off period, participants and parents should be counseled in a conference. If the situation warrants it, suspension procedures may be followed. (See Code of Student Conduct)
- Appropriate referral, if necessary.

<u>BOMB THREAT</u> - a communication stating that an explosive device has been placed in a facility.

<u>FALSE ALARMS</u> - The act of initiating a fire alarm or initiating a report warning of a fire or an impending bombing or other catastrophe without cause.

Code of Student Conduct classifies this event as gross misconduct.

(See Administrative Procedure 6114.7)

### **Immediate**

• Upon receiving a call wherein the caller states that a bomb has been placed in the school, the person taking the call will ask the following questions:

#### Bomb Threat Checklist

- Location of the bomb? If possible, the specific area within the building. What floor? What room? What area?
- 2. When is it set to go off?
- 3. Has it been placed in the open?
- 4. What type and size is the bomb?
- 5. Is it disguised or concealed?
- How did it get into the building? (Mailed or carried) (Protect written messages from unnecessary handling.)
- 7. Why was it put there?

Date	Time	

- The above questions are set forth as a guide to obtain some necessary information that may aid in the decision to evacuate or not evacuate.
- Based on content, caller's demeanor and other circumstances the threat must be assessed and a decision to evacuate made by the principal.
- It is advisable to inform the caller that the building is occupied and the detonation of a bomb could result in death or serious injury to many innocent people.
- Activate school emergency plan.

DEFINITION OF ACT	STEPS TO TAKE
BOMB THREAT – continued	Bomb Threats
	Things to try to determine during call:
FALSE ALARMS - continued	<ol> <li>Age - approximate age of caller.</li> <li>Accent - local, foreign, drawl, etc.</li> <li>Reason for threat - does caller sound angry with someone or something?</li> <li>Background noises - music, other people talking, etc.</li> <li>Disposition - calm, hysterical, etc.</li> <li>Sex - male/female - disguised voice.</li> </ol> Person receiving call should give all information immediately to the principal, who should proceed immediately in reporting the threat.
	Required Reporting Procedures  Principal notifies:
	<ol> <li>County Police Department by telephone (911).</li> <li>Department of Security Services (301-499-7000).</li> </ol>
	Follow-up Action  Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.
DISCOVERY OF AN INCENDIARY/EXPLOSIVE OR SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE  ACTUAL OR SUSPECTED DEVICE	<ul> <li>Immediate</li> <li>Person discovering device reports location to principal.</li> </ul>
See Administrative Procedure 6114.7)	Students and personnel in the immediate area of the device will be evacuated first - the area will be cordoned off - and then the remainder of the school will be evacuated, using a PA announcement.
	Under no circumstances shall the suspected device be moved or touched except by <u>County Fire</u> <u>Department Bomb Squad personnel.</u>
	Area is to be left as is.
	Required Reporting Procedures  Principal notifies:
	<ol> <li>The County Police Department (911).</li> <li>Prince George's County Fire Department (911).</li> <li>Department of Security Services (301-499-7000).</li> </ol>
	Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.
	Follow-up Action  • Fire/Bomb Squad personnel will assume control and jurisdiction over the incident.

DEFINITION OF ACT	SIEFS TO TAKE
DISCOVERY OF AN INCENDIARY /EXPLOSIVE OR SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE - continued  ACTUAL OR SUSPECTED DEVICE - continued	<ul> <li>The decision to dismiss students if necessary will be made by the Deputy Superintendent after consultation with the principal.</li> <li>The decision to reoccupy the facility is the sole authority of fire department personnel.</li> </ul>
BREAKING AND ENTERING  The unlawful entering of a building belonging to or occupied by the Board of Education with the intent to steal, destroy or vandalize property.  Code of Student Conduct classifies such acts as gross misconduct.	<ul> <li>Immediate         <ul> <li>Custodian or other school based person discovering a breaking and entering notifies principal immediately.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Principal assures that crime scene is not disturbed before police and security personnel arrive on the scene.</li> <li>Required Reporting Procedures         <ul> <li>Principal immediately notifies by telephone:</li> </ul> </li> <li>County Police Department (911).         <ul> <li>Department of Security Services (301-499-7000).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.</li> <li>Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Maintenance Department in order for repairs to be done, or for self-insurance purposes when property is missing.</li> </ul>
DRUGS (Including Alcohol)  GENERAL:  POSSESSION, USE OR DISTRIBUTION OF A CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCE - Unlawful possession, use or distribution of any controlled dangerous substance and /or controlled paraphernalia as defined in Article 27 Section 277 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.  ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - The use or possession of alcoholic beverages in any form on school property, including Board of Education owned vehicles, or while in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored and supervised activity is prohibited.  POSSESSION of such a substance implies that a student has same on his person or with his personal property, or has under his control such substance by placement of and knowledge of the whereabouts of same on Board of Education property, or other property on which he or she is presently by virtue of being within the jurisdiction of school authorities.	<ul> <li>Immediate         <ul> <li>Non-counseling situation: Teacher or other school-based person notifies the principal of suspicions regarding illegal drug possession.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Counseling situation: In a counseling situation, where the student has voluntarily come for assistance, existing stated guidelines will be followed by the teacher (Resolution No. 1971-50, Maryland State Board of Education Guidelines for Drug Abuse Counseling.) The teacher must respect the law of confidentiality. If the substance has been given to the teacher, it must be turned over to the principal for release to the Department of Security Services.</li> </ul> <li>Required Reporting Procedures         <ul> <li>Non-counseling situation: Principal notifies the investigator/counselor or the Department of Security Services by telephone (301-499-7000). The Department of Security Services will initiate legal action or refer case to the County Police Department for possible legal action.</li> </ul> </li>
(Note: Voluntary disclosure of possession or use, in a counseling situation is exempt by law.)	Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.

DRUGS (Including Alcohol) - continued	Suspected drugs will be turned over to School Security for disposition.
GENERAL – continued  A controlled dangerous substance as defined by state and	Follow-up Action
federal laws.	Non-counseling situation: Legal action to be taken by County Police Department or School Security.
All drug violations are considered a gross misconduct.	Use or possession of controlled dangerous substance <u>must</u> result in a Request for Expulsion. (See Code of Student Conduct)
	Counseling situation: Refer to Drug Education Office.
USE of such a substance implies that a student is reasonably known to have assimilated same (e.g., smoking marijuana, taking a pill, etc.) or is reasonably suspected to be under the influence of same while under the jurisdiction of school authorities.	<ul> <li>Immediate</li> <li>It a teacher or other school based person suspects that a student is under the influence of a drug, that information should be brought to the attention of the principal.</li> <li>The principal assesses the situation and secures medical assistance, if needed, following the same procedures that are used for any sick or injured student (i.e., parent notification, hospital treatment, etc.).</li> <li>Required Reporting Procedures</li> <li>Principal notifies: <ol> <li>Parent(s) of suspected user.</li> <li>Parent(s) of suspected user.</li> <li>Investigator/counselor or Department of Security Services by telephone (301-499-7000).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.</li> </ul>
	Use of possession of controlled dangerous substance must result in a Request for Expulsion. (See Code of Student Conduct)
DISTRIBUTION (Drugs)  DISTRIBUTION of such a substance implies the transfer of such substance to any other person, with or without the exchange of money or other valuables. Includes possession with intent to distribute.  POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRITUTE - Possession of a quantity of greater than individual use; or packages so as to indicate the intent to distribute (i.e. multiple packages, several doses, etc.)	<ul> <li>Immediate         <ul> <li>Teacher or other school-based person should relate all observed activity or suspicions to the principal.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Principal will notify Security who will notify police.</li> <li>Required Reporting Procedures         <ul> <li>Principal notifies:</li> </ul> </li> <li>Investigator/counselor or the Department of Security Services by telephone (301-499-7000)</li> </ul>
	to request investigative assistance.

<ol><li>Department of Security Services notifies</li></ol>
County Police if warranted.  Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.  Follow-up Action  To be conducted by the Department of Security Services and county police.  Distribution of a dangerous controlled substance must result in Request for Expulsion. (See Code of Student Conduct)
Immediate  School based person discovering school property missing notifies principal and indicates steps taken to locate the item.  Required Reporting Procedures  In cases where the value of the property exceeds \$50.00 and in all cases which the property has a serial number:  1. Principal notifies County Police Department (301-336-8800) and the Department of Security Services (301-499-7000) by telephone.  2. Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.  3. A copy of the Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Risk Management Office by the end of the first school day following the incident.  In cases where the value of the property is less than \$50.00:  1. Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services and Risk Management Office by the end of the first school day following the incident.  2. Notify Security Services (301-499-7000).  Follow-up Action  Appropriate disciplinary action is taken in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.
<ul> <li>Immediate         <ul> <li>School based person receiving report of the taking of personal property shall attempt to find out all the facts and report them to the principal.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Required Reporting Procedures         <ul> <li>In cases where the value of the property exceeds \$50.00:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

DEFINITION OF ACT	STEPS TO TAKE
ROBBERY  STRONG-ARM  The willful taking of the property of another through the use of force other than a weapon, or the threat of force without a weapon, taking place on Board of Education property or upon a Board of Education owned vehicle, or in attendance at a Board of Education sponsored and supervised activity, unless both parties enter into the agreement freely and without the presence of either an implied or expressed threat.	<ol> <li>Principal notifies County Police Department (301-336-8800) and the Department of Security Services (301-499-7000).</li> <li>Principal notifies parents of the victim and informs them that a police and Security report have been made. Furnish parent with police report number, if available.</li> <li>Follow-up Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with Department of Security Services by the end of the first day following the incident.</li> <li>In cases where the value of the property is less than \$50.00:</li> <li>Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.</li> <li>Notify Security Services (301-499-7000).</li> <li>Principal notifies parents of the victim and informs them that they should make a police report, if they so desire.</li> <li>Follow-up Action</li> <li>Appropriate disciplinary action is taken in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.</li> <li>Legal Action, if warranted, will be taken by Security Services.</li> <li>Immediate</li> <li>Teacher or other school-based person notifies principal of suspected or known robbery.</li> <li>Required Reporting Procedures</li> <li>Principal and/or investigator/counselor notifies:         <ol> <li>County Police Department (301-336-8800).</li> <li>Department of Security Services (301-499-7000).</li> <li>Parents /guardians of victim(s).</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
use of force other than a weapon, or the threat of force without a weapon, taking place on Board of Education property or upon a Board of Education owned vehicle, or in attendance at a Board of Education sponsored and supervised activity, unless both parties enter into the agreement freely and without the presence of either an	<ul> <li>Principal and/or investigator/counselor notifies:</li> <li>County Police Department (301-336-8800).</li> <li>Department of Security Services (301-499-7000).</li> </ul>
SEX OFFENSES  Acts of sexual misconduct. The criminal nature of the offense/incident will be determined by Article 27, Section 461 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.	Immediate  Teacher or other school-based person notifies principal.

DEFINITION OF ACT	SIEPS IO TAKE
SEX OFFENSES - continued	<ul> <li>The principal shall immediately be notified of the alleged offense and the principal shall immediately notify the county police and the Department of Security Services. No questioning of the victim shall be conducted by school personnel. Every effort will be made to remove the victim to an area where they will be assured privacy pending the arrival of the police. Parents of the victim should be notified and asked to respond to the school. This will assist the police as a parent or guardian is required to be present for any medical examination.</li> <li>Security personnel shall assist the county police in their investigation when requested to do so. The crime scene shall be preserved until turned over to the county police for processing.</li> <li>Required Reporting Procedures</li> <li>Principal notifies: <ol> <li>County police (301-336-8800).</li> <li>Department of Security Services (301-499-7000).</li> <li>Parents /guardians of victim.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the Department of Security Services by the end of the first school day following the incident.</li> <li>Follow-up Action</li> <li>To be conducted by the County Police Department and the Department of Security Services.</li> <li>Appropriate disciplinary action is taken in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.</li> </ul>
STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS  AUTHORIZED, LEGAL DEMONSTRATIONS	■ Non-school - Planned in advance with approval of principal. (See Administrative Procedure 5150 for Student, Involvement, Rights and Responsibilities, Section 11A, 2 and 3).      ■ Required Reporting Procedures     ■ Principal notifies the Department of Security Services by telephone (301-499-7000) prior to the legal demonstration. No reporting form is necessary.
STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS	<u>Immediate</u>
UNAUTHORIZED, ILLEGAL DEMONSTRATIONS	Teacher or other school based person notifies principal immediately of rumored demonstration or demonstration in progress.
	Principal should asses the situation:
	Number of persons involved; Issues; Type of demonstration (sit-in, walk-out, boycott or picket); Whether or not immediate police response is necessary at that time.

DEFINITION OF ACT	STEPS TO TAKE
STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS - continued	Required Reporting Procedures
	Principal notifies Department of Security Services by
<u>UNAUTHORIZED, ILLEGAL DEMONSTRATIONS</u> -	telephone (301-499-7000) with assessment of
continued	suspected or in progress demonstration.
	Department of Security Services based on principal's
	assessment notifies police if deemed necessary.
	• Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the
	Department of Security Services by the end of the
	first school day following the incident.
	, ,
	Follow-up Action
	To be conducted by the Office of Student
	Affairs/Peer Mediation in consultation with Security
	Services and the principal.
	r
TRESPASSING - An unlawful entering by unauthorized	Immediate
person or persons onto school property.	Principal determines whether or not the person(s)
Transfer from the first property of the firs	is/are trespassing and assesses whether or not
Article 27, Section 277 A	support is needed from County Police Department.
	support is needed from county 1 once Department.
Education Article 26-102	Principal notifies trespasser to leave school property.
Disorderly Conduct	Paguired Paparting Procedures
Disorderly Conduct	Required Reporting Procedures
	Principal notifies by telephone:
	1 County Police Department (011) if the situation
	1. County Police Department (911) if the situation
	warrants it.
	2. The Department of Security Services
	(301-499-7000).
	Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the
	Department of Security Services by the end of the
	first school day following the incident.
	mst school day following the incident.
	Follow-up Action
	If individual creates disruption, or refuses to abide
	by policies a letter may be sent requesting prior
	appointment before entering the school.
	appointment before entering the school.
VANDALISM AND/OR DESTRUCTION OF	Immediate
PROPERTY - The act or attempted act of willful	
	School based person, upon discovering destruction
destruction or defacement of school or private property	of property, brings this information to the attention
either on the school grounds, or during a school activity,	of the principal or the Department of Security
function, or event off school grounds.	Services.
Vandalism resulting in substantial damage to seheel	
Vandalism resulting in substantial damage to school property, or personal property on the school grounds, or	Principal assesses damage and determines if
	Maintenance needs to respond immediately.
during any school sponsored event on or off campus.	Described Describes D
The Board of Education views the above as gross	Required Reporting Procedures
	Principal notifies County Police Department and the  Output  Department and the County Police Department and the County Police Department and the Department and Department an
misconduct, and as grounds for immediate suspension for	Department of Security Services (301-499-7000).
as long as the balance of a current semester, or the	T. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.
balance of the school year, or expulsion.	• Incident Report Form (#10) to be filed with the
	Department of Security Services by the end of the
	first school day following the incident.
	Follow-up Action
	Investigate as necessary by the Department of

DEFINITION OF ACT	STEPS TO TAKE
VANDALISM AND/OR DESTRUCTION OF	Security Services or Police Department.
PROPERTY - continued	Principal takes appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.
WEAPONS/FIREARMS  POSSESSION OR USE OF WEAPONS/FIREARMS The act of possession, using or threatening to use any instrument as a weapon capable of inflicting bodily injury.  Possession of weapons or dangerous instruments, other than normal school supplies, on school grounds or during transit to or from school or any school sponsored activity.  The Board of Education views these events as gross misconduct, and as grounds for immediate suspension for as long as the balance of the school year, or expulsion.	<ul> <li>Teacher or other school based person should confiscate the weapon, if possible, if possible, and notify principal immediately. If a weapon is obtained, it should be delivered to principal.</li> <li>If it is rumored that a student possesses a weapon, the teacher should notify the principal so that appropriate steps to safeguard the safety of others can be taken (i.e., conduct an investigation, search locker and person if advisable, notify the Department of Security Services).</li> <li>Required Reporting Procedures</li> <li>Principal notifies investigator/counselor or Department of Security Services immediately by telephone (301-499-7000).</li> <li>Principal and /or Security notifies County Police (911) immediately if warranted.</li> <li>Follow-up Action</li> <li>Investigate as necessary by the Department of Security Services or Police Department.</li> <li>Criminal charges placed as needed by the Department of Security Services or police.</li> <li>Principal takes appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.</li> </ul>