



Parent & Student Handbook



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ORGANIZATIONAL DECLARATIONS

The Board of Directors, administration, and faculty of Pikes Peak Christian School (PPCS) believe that being students at PPCS is a privilege, not a right. In keeping with this privilege, the school has set basic policies, rules, regulations, and procedures by which the school will function. All students are required to follow these guidelines. The school reserves the right to dismiss any student whose general attitude or habitual actions are contrary to the interest of the school. In addition, a student may be dismissed if the actions of the student, the parents, or guardians, in the opinion of the school, seriously interfere with the school's ability to accomplish its educational and spiritual purposes.

Pikes Peak Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, athletic programs, hiring, and other school-administered programs.

PPCS reserves the right to set forth rules and regulations that are necessary and proper for executing the school's educational program, which are not specifically stated herein, as the need may arise. Each administrator may interpret and enforce these guidelines on the age group and situation within his/her authority for the purpose of improving the overall education of the students.

The PPCS Parent/Student Handbook does not create contractual rights or give rise to irrevocable contractual commitment. It is intended to express the status of the current policies and standards at the time of writing.

PURPOSE STATEMENTS

WHO WE ARE

Pikes Peak Christian School (PPCS) is an accredited coeducational private Christian school for children two years old through high school from all walks of life. PPCS is the largest ministry of Eastside Church of Christ and is resident in their building. PPCS receives no direct financial support from any government institution or agency, as the school is dependent on income from individual gifts and tuition for operating expenses and the expansion and improvement of the education program and physical facilities.

OUR BEGINNING

The school began as the Roy J. Morris Christian Academy with a Preschool and Day Care in 1981, founded by members of Eastside Church of Christ in the original structure at 5905 Flintridge. In 1984 the school name was officially changed to Pikes Peak Christian School. The first elementary grade was added in 1985, the first middle school grade in 1989, and the first high school grade in 1999. Two significant building projects in 1999 and 2001 provided the school with the current gym and middle/high school wing. The first senior class graduated in May 2003.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Pikes Peak Christian School is to provide a quality, Bible-based education taught by Christian teachers in a safe and compassionate environment. We strive to identify

and develop the academic, social, and spiritual potential of each student in partnership with God and family.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe that God is the creator of all things. We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. We believe God inspires and guides us through His Spirit and His holy word, the Bible. We believe God created mankind, male and female, in His own image to fulfill His purpose which is to glorify Him. Further, we believe in the necessity of a strong bond between the Lord's Church, the Family, and the School in the education of the child. The strength of that bond will allow us to help each child realize his or her greatest potential, to develop a love of learning, to think and act creatively, and to interact compassionately with others. We consider the opportunity to teach children to be a sacred trust, which we accept with fervor and joy.

OUR LEADERSHIP

PPCS is governed by a Board of Directors that follows a governance model of management with a focus on policy. The Board of Directors consists of a minimum of three (3) members who must be active Church of Christ members. Board members are nominated by the existing board and are elected by a simple majority vote of the board. The Board of Directors select, employ, evaluate, and support the School Director who is responsible for the daily management of PPCS.

Board of Director Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Directors are held monthly at 6:00pm. Specific dates for meetings will be posted monthly on the PPCS website. Parents and school staff members are invited to attend meetings. To do so, the Director should be notified one week in advance if one has an agenda item or plans to attend a meeting.

WHAT WE VALUE

PPCS' core values are:

- Christ-centered excellence
- Exceptional, personal academics
- Christian character development
- Caring, respectful relationships
- Preparation for college and life

To effectively be true to these values, PPCS provides a Bible-centered Christian education by:

- Christian teachers in every class
- Non-denominational Bible classes and Chapel assemblies
- All subjects taught from a Biblical perspective
- Teaching Bible-based values and relationship principles, including abstinence from drugs and premarital sex
- Depending on God's Word for information to develop character and morality
- Working with parents and local congregations to encourage strong homes and a stable foundation for students
- Traditional school programming with a solid emphasis on the basics in curriculum through faculty members who assume active and positive roles in students' lives

- Encouraging K-12 students to participate in a variety of extracurricular activities in which students can develop cooperative skills, physical talents, and leadership qualities
- Ensuring our campus and all school sponsored events are tobacco, drug, and alcohol free

ACCREDITATION & CERTIFICATION

Pikes Peak Christian School strives to maintain high academic standards. It is our desire to challenge each student to achieve maximum potential in every area of learning. PPCS is dually accredited by the National Christian School Association (NCSA) and Cognia. Pikes Peak Christian School was first accredited by the NCSA in 1994 and then also by Cognia in 2012. Since that time, it has maintained accreditation through an annual reporting process, as well as five year and ten-year visits from NCSA's and Cognia's accrediting commissioners. The extracurricular activities of the high school at PPCS are also recognized and sanctioned by the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) since 2004. PPCS is also licensed by the Colorado Department of Human Services to operate a preschool program in the Eastside Church of Christ building.

TEACHER TO PUPIL RATIO GUIDELINES

- Early Start: 1 to 6
- Preschool: 1 to 10
- Prekindergarten and Ready-Set-Go: 1 to 12
- Elementary: 1 to 18
- Middle School: 1 to 22
- High School: 1 to 22

Exceptions may be made by the Director in unique situations involving staff children as determined necessary.

PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Preschool Certification

All preschool teachers are Early Childhood Teacher certified as required by the Colorado Department of Human Services.

Elementary & Secondary Certification

All elementary classroom teachers have at minimum a bachelor's degree and are strongly encouraged to have or pursue their state and/or ACSI certified in elementary education.

Secondary (grades 6-12) teachers have at minimum a bachelor's degree with the equivalent of a major in their primary area of instruction. PPCS encourages secondary teachers to have or pursue their state certification as well as any teachers who are educated in other states to also obtain their certification from Colorado. ACSI certified teachers are accepted upon approval by the Director. Auxiliary teachers have at a minimum a bachelor's degree in their area of instruction.

SPIRITUAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

CHAPEL

All students attend a daily chapel where the students sing, pray, read scriptures, and hear lessons from the Bible. The students are given opportunities to develop leadership

through song leading, speaking, leading prayers, and reading scriptures.

BIBLE CURRICULUM

The Bible is taught as a part of the regular academic program on all grade levels with the Bible itself used as the text. Workbooks and a variety of visual aids are used to reinforce lessons learned in Bible study. Pikes Peak Christian School middle and high school students are required to complete a Bible class every semester. Students are taught to accept the Bible as the true word of a loving God. The Bible curriculum for PPCS is as follows:

Preschool

Preschool students will be using ACSI's "Purposeful Design" curriculum. This age-appropriate curriculum will include teachings of both the old and new testaments. We will be learning about creation, Noah and the ark and how Jesus loves everyone. Special lessons are chosen from the life of Jesus- his birth, miracles, death, resurrection, and the early church. Memory verses are selected from each lesson for the thirty-four-week curriculum.

Elementary

Kindergarten through Fifth grade students use ACSI's "Purposeful Design" curriculum. The Elementary Bible Series emphasizes a grade-level key biblical concept based on foundational truths. Special emphasis is given in the elementary grades to scripture memorization and recitation.

The main subject areas are:

- Kindergarten: Familiar Bible truths that emphasize God's loving care.
- First Grade: Familiar Bible truths that emphasize God's relationship to people.
- Second Grade: Studies on character traits of various people in the Bible with application to students' life.
- Third Grade: Studies in the life of Christ, the early Church, and missions from the time of Paul until now.
- Fourth Grade: Studies in the basic doctrines of the Church.
- Fifth Grade: Studies in the Old Testament that emphasize choices and their consequences.

Middle & High School

Sixth Grade: The sixth grade Bible curriculum, "Positive Action For Christ" discusses how God strengthened various New Testament figures to run their race. It also encourages students to review essential New Testament teachings for strength to run their own race.

Seventh Grade: The seventh grade Bible curriculum, "Growing Through the Bible" is designed to help students discover the main theme of all 66 books of God's Word. An overview of the entire Bible, students will encounter the many real people who had to choose whether to obey God and in turn encounter the decisions they need to make to do the same.

Eighth Grade: The eighth grade Bible course is designed to help students clearly understand the tenets of the Christian worldview, and how they compare to the tenets of the leading humanistic worldviews of our day. Students will learn how to apply their Christian faith to every area of life: theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, sociology, psychology, law, politics, economics, and history.

Ninth Grade: The ninth-grade curriculum consists of an overview of the plan for man through a study of Old Testament history. A study of God's plan for mankind in preparing the world for his Son is the main theme of this course. The lessons will use the major events and people of the Old Testament to provide the student with an understanding of God's plan for mankind's salvation.

Tenth Grade: The tenth-grade curriculum consists of an overview of each book in the New Testament. A study of God's plan of salvation for man through his Son and the spread of the gospel through the Church are the main themes of this course. The lessons will use the basic themes and elements of each New Testament book as well as the events and people to understand God's plan for mankind.

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade: The eleventh and twelfth grade curriculum compares the tenets of the Christian worldview to the tenets of the leading worldviews of our day: Islam, secular humanism, Marxism, New Age, and postmodernism. Students will understand that everyone has a "worldview", a way of interpreting everything that happens in the world and will be guided through the complex ideas confronting them from a biblical Christian perspective.

The Bible curriculum at PPCS is under constant review and evaluation. Knowledge, application of God's word, and growing in faith are the most important aspects of the entire curriculum. Each teacher strives to teach and exemplify Biblical principles in the best possible way.

SEX EDUCATION

PPCS believes that gender is immutably and originally bestowed upon each person as male or female to reflect the image of God and that the Bible defines healthy and appropriate sexual relationship in the context of marriage between a male and female. Therefore, all sexual education is guided by and taught in the context of these Biblical beliefs and principles at PPCS.

Preschool

In Preschool grades there are no formal or informal presentations of sexual education topics.

Elementary

In grades K-5, there are no formal organized presentations of sexual education topics. Students at these age levels are in the Latency Stage of psychosexual development. It is during this time that sexual feelings are inactive, and any presentation of explicit material can cause disruption of the normal pattern of growth. While questions will arise in various subject areas such as Bible, science, and health, the teachers in each grade level will answer the questions appropriately for the students' level of understanding. All discussions of topics dealing with sexual behavior encourage abstinence, are Biblically based and may include notification of parent/guardian.

Middle & High School

In Middle and High school grades, students are provided biblical, abstinence-based presentations on a periodic basis and various resource materials are used at age-appropriate levels as needed. Human reproduction and anatomy are topics taught in middle school Life Science and in high school Health, Biology and Anatomy/Physiology classes. Various

sexual issues and topics may naturally arise in scientific, historical, or literary subjects and are managed by the instructor at an age-appropriate level with biblical principles as a guide.

CORE ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

Students use texts and materials that have been selected through an evaluation process involving the teacher(s) and the administration. Pikes Peak Christian School strives to provide a strong curriculum in every subject for every grade level. This philosophy requires the adoption of texts from several different publishers, and occasionally utilizing college texts. Some of the current publishers with special strengths are: A Beka, Bob Jones University Press, Purposeful Designs, Summit Ministries, Houghton-Mifflin, Prentice Hall, Scott Foresman, Addison-Wesley, Glencoe/McGraw Hill, Lifeway, and Shurley Instructional Materials.

COURSES OF STUDY

A current listing of classes offered can be found in our curriculum listings and course catalogs for each school level, available in the school office and on our website.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACADEMICS

The academic standards for an Elementary student to pass from one grade to the next grade are as follows (core subjects include math, reading, English, writing, science, and history):

- Passing: All A, B and C grades
- Passing with requirement of tutoring in a failing subject: One F grade in core a class with the rest A, B, and C grades
- Passing with requirement of tutoring in subject(s) of struggle: Two or more D grades in core subjects
- Failing with requirement of repeating the grade: Two or more F grades in core subjects

HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMICS

HONORS CLASSES

Students assimilate knowledge at different rates. For those high school students (ninth-twelfth grades) in a given class who the teacher determines are ready for deeper and more challenging work, an honors program of study has been instituted. The honors work will be based on a 5.0 scale versus the normal 4.0 scale to reflect the more challenging studies taken by the student. Each class in this category will have an "H" for Honors annotated on the transcript.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES

AP courses provide a head start on college-level work. They improve students' writing skills and sharpen their problem-solving techniques. Additionally, students develop the study habits necessary for tackling rigorous course work that will be expected of students in college. Through AP exams, students can earn credit or advanced standing at most of the nation's colleges and universities. AP exams are not prepaid through tuition.

DROPPING OF CLASSES

A high school class may be dropped for another class with teacher recommendation and administrator approval if it does not adversely affect the student's graduation plan and if it is within one full week of the beginning of the class. Dropping of classes after the first full week of the class will normally result in an "F" for the dropped class.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Pikes Peak Christian School is very pleased to have a chapter of the NHS. The NHS strives to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in the nation's secondary students. Membership in this organization is open to students in the tenth grade or higher who meet all the requirements for selection and complete the necessary procedures. Please refer to the NHS Selection Guidelines available from the school office for more information.

COURSE CREDIT

Any courses taken outside of PPCS will only be credited to a student's transcript for the purposes of:

- The normal transfer of credits for a newly enrolled student from another school
- Making up a previously failed course for credit
- Advancing in mathematics to take a higher-level course at PPCS with instructor and administrator approval

Parents and students must contact the school prior to taking a summer or online course to know if the course meets PPCS requirements.

HIGH SCHOOL BRIDGE OF SERVICE

Each student is expected to participate in a minimum of 12 hours of service each year in high school. While the school will offer opportunities for service hours, the student is expected to earn many of those hours on their own. Each school year, the amount of service hours completed by a student will be recorded on their official transcript.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Graduation Requirements

Students will select a graduation program from one of the following two options. The administration strongly recommends that students complete the requirements of the Advanced Program. Parents must submit written approval of their student's chosen graduation program. General requirements are as follows:

Regular High School Diploma Program

- English 4.0 credits
- Mathematics 3.0 credits
- Science 3.0 credits
- Social Studies 4.0 credits
- Foreign Language 2.0 credits
- Health 0.5 credits
- P.E. 0.5 credits
- Speech 0.5 credits
- Bible 2.0 credits

- Electives 7.5 credits

TOTAL 27 credits

Advanced High School Diploma Program

- English 4.0 credits
- Mathematics 4.0 credits
- Science 4.0 credits
- Social Studies 4.0 credits
- Foreign Language 2.0 credits
- Health 0.5 credits
- P.E. 0.5 credits
- Speech 0.5 credits
- Bible 2.0 credits
- Electives 7.5 credits

TOTAL 29 credits

Selection of Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The selection of valedictorian and salutatorian will be done when all senior year, second semester grades are final before graduation.

- The valedictorian must be:
 - a senior
 - a full-time student, taking a minimum of five approved semester credits, for the last four consecutive semesters at PPCS
 - the student having both the highest weighted and unweighted grade point average to the nearest hundredth. If a student does not have both the highest unweighted and weighted grade point average, then the student having the highest average of weighted and unweighted grade point averages to the nearest hundredth will be the valedictorian.
- The salutatorian must be:
 - a senior
 - a full-time student, taking a minimum of five approved semester credits, for the last four consecutive semesters at PPCS.
 - the student having both the second highest weighted and unweighted grade point average to the nearest hundredth. If a student does not have both the highest unweighted and weighted grade point average, then the student having the second highest average of weighted and unweighted grade point averages to the nearest hundredth will be the salutatorian.

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS & ACTIONS

PPCS can accommodate children of various academic abilities; however, PPCS does not have adequate resources or qualified personnel to accommodate children with exceptional learning, physical, or emotional challenges. **If such challenges/needs develop or are identified after admission, PPCS must have a professional assessment, diagnosis, and recommendations prior to providing any accommodations.** PPCS may also initiate disenrollment and recommend that such children be placed in schools that are specifically designed to meet such needs.

PRAXI PARENT & STUDENT PORTAL

The *Parent & Student Portal* is our secure, private site that provides families with essential information: student, contact, medical, financial account information, events calendar, announcements, and future enrollment for all current PPCS students. It also provides grades, homework, and attendance information for grades 1 – 12. Use of the *Parent & Student* requires online registration using an email address on file with the school. Accounts can then only be accessed with a user ID and password. Each family is expected to register and use the *Parent & Student Portal*; help in doing so can be provided by the School Office and information can be found on our website under [About/Parent & Student Portal Information](#).

GRADE REPORTING SYSTEM

The purpose of grading is to provide a communication link between the school and home regarding a student's academic and social progress. Grades serve as a tool in helping develop the whole child.

The school year is divided into four quarters (approximately nine-week grading periods). For sixth - twelfth grades, all grade and homework information, except for report cards, will be communicated via *Parent Portal*. In grades K through 12, report cards will be issued on the Wednesday following the end of each quarter or at parent conferences. Please discuss the report card with your child. At the midpoint of each quarter, progress reports will be available via *Parent Portal* for all students in grades 3 through 12. First and second graders will only receive a progress report if they earn a grade average lower than a B. Preschool progress reports are sent home at least three times a year.

Numerical Grades

A+ - 98-100	C+ - 78-79
A - 93-97	C - 73-77
A- - 90-92	C- - 70-72
B+ - 88-89	D+ - 68-69
B - 83-87	D - 63-67
B- - 80-82	D- - 60-62
	F - Below 60

HONOR ROLLS

The honor roll programs at PPCS begin in second grade and are announced the week after the end of a quarter.

Elementary Honor Rolls

- Little Scholars' Club: Second grade students who earn all A's, S+'s and S's.
- A/B Honor Roll: Third through fifth grade students who earn A's, B's, S+'s and S's.
- Principal's Honor Roll: Third through fifth grade students who earn all A's and S+'s.

Middle School Honor Rolls

- A/B Honor Roll: Sixth through eighth grade students who earn all A's and B's.
- Principal's Honor Roll: Sixth through eighth grade student who earn all A's.

High School Honor Rolls

- Merit Honor Roll: Ninth through twelfth grade students who earn a 3.5 GPA.
- Principal's Honor Roll: Ninth through twelfth grade students who earn a 4.0 GPA.

HOMEWORK

Teachers will make students and parents aware of their individual homework policies at the beginning of the school year. Students will be assigned homework as necessary. regular and higher homework loads can be expected as students move to the next grade level. When possible, homework is kept to a minimum on Wednesday evenings due to church activities. The weekend will count as one night's allotment. Advanced Placement and honors courses may require additional effort and time on homework.

Studies have shown that when students complete their homework assignments, students can achieve at least one letter grade higher than if they do not assume this responsibility.

RETENTION

If the teacher recommends that a student be retained in the same grade for the following year, a conference will be arranged with the parents in April. All aspects are studied carefully, and individual differences are considered.

TESTING

In addition to the regular academic assessments given by the teachers, PPCS has a regular program of standardized testing. These benchmarked tests allow us to have a more complete picture of your student's academic progress and the scope of our instruction. These tests are informative, and do not dictate our curriculum, nor are they used for the basis of promotion/retention of students nor to determine the effectiveness of teachers.

IOWA Assessments

The IOWA Assessment is given to students in 1st through 11th grades during April of each year. The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) is given to students in 3rd – 11th grades in conjunction with the IOWA Assessments.

PSAT

High school sophomores and juniors also take the PSAT test, a precursor to the SAT test. Juniors are strongly encouraged to take the ACT and/or the SAT tests, with the opportunity to retake them their senior year. The SAT and ACT tests are independently scheduled, funded, and are administered off campus.

Other

Preschool students are provided vision, hearing and speech tests when available. Older students may be tested on an as needed basis through teacher recommendation.

Elementary students also experience the DIBELS reading and math assessment program as well as the STAR reading assessments in conjunction with our Accelerated Reading

program to effectively track and encourage student skills in those areas.

The IOWA Assessments, CogAT, PSAT, and other test costs (with exception to SAT and ACT) are included in the PPCS General Fee and are not refundable.

LIBRARY POLICIES

Books are checked out for a two or three-week period and may be renewed unless another student has requested the book. Elementary students can check out two books at one time. Middle and high school students can check out multiple books at one time.

The librarian may issue overdue book and fine notices, as a courtesy, but the primary responsibility for returning borrowed materials in a timely manner rests with the students. A replacement fee will be charged for lost or damaged books. Final report cards will not be issued until all library books are returned or fees are paid.

Library Books Rating

The Pikes Peak Christian School Library Book Review Committee designates all library books in four categories for each library:

- Category One books are available to all PPCS students.
- Category Two books are available to all students unless parents request in writing that their student not read the book.
- Category Three books are stored in a place that is not readily available to students. These books may only be read with the parent's written permission.
- Category Four books are those not approved for the library.

If a parent or staff member wants to request that a book be changed to Category Three or Four, forms for this service are available from the office or the librarian. The Library Book Review Committee will then study the request.

CLASSROOM TEXTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL READING BOOK SELECTION

The responsibility for selecting textbooks (to include supplemental materials) that meet the class and curriculum objectives for a particular subject lies with the subject classroom teacher with the review/approval of the appropriate administrator. In those cases where a textbook's educational values cause it to be selected for use despite it having strong secular characteristics that are clearly in conflict with Christian values, the following actions will be taken:

- The teacher will ensure the primary text's non-Christian material is not ignored, but rather used as a basis for contrasting and emphasizing the Christian world view.
- When possible, the teacher will make available to the students an alternative study text for any who are bothered by the primary book.

Objections to the texts that are not satisfied by the above approach should be communicated to the area Principal, the Director, and the Board, in that order. The Board will hold

ultimate decision authority over the final disposition of such objections.

TEXTBOOKS

Books and workbooks for the students in all grades will be issued and checked in by the teacher. All texts are loaned to students for their use during the school year. Students are always to keep hardbound books covered with size-appropriate covers. Fines or full payment may be assessed for books that are lost or damaged.

TECHNOLOGY

PPCS provides technology resources to students to promote the development of competence, conscience, and compassion through an integrated academic, spiritual, and extracurricular program. It is an expectation that PPCS technology resources are to be used in a reasonable, efficient, ethical, moral, and legal manner in accordance with the mission, values, understandings, and beliefs of PPCS. Specific guidelines are stated in the PPCS Acceptable Use Policy, Social Media Policy and Mobile Device Agreement. Any user who violates PPCS policy or any applicable local, state, or federal laws, faces the loss of technology privileges, risks school disciplinary action, and may face legal prosecution.

Users should not expect their files or devices to be private. Students are not permitted to upload personal files onto PPCS computers. PPCS has the right to review files and devices to maintain system integrity and to be sure that technology resources are being used within established policies. Students and parents are required to sign annual consent and policy forms before students are allowed use of PPCS technology, networks and sites.

TV/VIDEO VIEWING

Students may occasionally watch a TV show or see a video that is curriculum related. All programs shown will be "G" rated. Exceptions to these guidelines will only be granted with administration and parent approval.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

PPCS offers several extracurricular and co-curricular activities for its students. Activities include after-school academic clubs, music and choral programs, musical theater, band, drama, athletics, cheerleading, science fairs, spelling bees, art, literary opportunities, field trips, student council, Matchwits, and National Honor Society. Each activity may be offered only to specific grade levels. These activities help to enhance the students' choices and broaden their base of interests.

REGISTRATION AND WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES

ADMISSION POLICIES

Pikes Peak Christian School admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, athletic programs, hiring, and other school-administered programs.

Falsification of any information provided to the school during the admissions process will be grounds for non-enrollment of the student.

PPCS admits students of good character and positive behavior record.

PPCS can accommodate children of various academic abilities; however, PPCS does not have adequate resources or qualified personnel to accommodate children with exceptional learning, physical, or emotional challenges. Students with any such challenges, special needs, past IEP's or 504 plans may be considered on an individual basis. PPCS may refuse admissions to such students, or if challenges/needs develop or are identified after admission, PPCS may initiate disenrollment and recommend that students be placed in schools that are specifically designed to meet such needs.

Existing or in-coming students must reside with their parent(s) or legal guardian(s). Exceptions must be approved by the Director.

REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee is not refundable unless admission is not approved by the school. The registration fee reserves a class seat until the first day of school. After the first day of school the registration fee may reserve a class seat if there is no waiting list, otherwise tuition must be paid to reserve a seat.

Registered students not attending the first day of school will be disenrolled as soon as the second day of school if there is a waiting list for that specific class. Exceptions may be made based on communication regarding an absence or a prearranged future date of attendance while tuition is being paid.

If Pikes Peak Christian School receives a copy of orders for a military transfer or a written notice from the employer of a mandatory move decision before the first day of school, a refund of one-half the enrollment fee may be granted.

In the event the school does not approve admission, the fee will be refunded.

WAITLIST REGISTRATION

Due to a class or grade level being full, a student may be placed on the waitlist. Students may be placed on the waitlist at any time of the year. Payment of the full registration fee will be required if parents want a student placed on a waiting list. The waitlist is built based on time of registration. Students on the waitlist for a 2-year-old class must be two years old at the time an opening occurs, otherwise the opening will be provided to the next student on the waitlist. For all grades, parents will have 72 hours to respond after being contacted by the office when an opening occurs. After 72 hours the opening will be offered to the next student on the waitlist.

Waitlist registration fees are refundable when requested by the parents any time after the school year begins and an opening has not occurred. Waitlist registration fees are not refundable if an opening occurs, is offered, and is turned down by the student/parents.

RE-REGISTRATION FOR CURRENT STUDENTS

Current students will be automatically registered with no registration fee for the next school year in mid-January for the next appropriate grade level, *unless* the Family Account related to the student is delinquent, and/or has an

outstanding balance greater than \$500 for the current month of charges not yet due.

Current families will have a publicized and documented amount of time after automatic registration to notify the school office of a current student's *intent not to return for the next school year*, prior to a fee being applied to their account upon withdrawing.

The following requirements continue to apply for automatic re-registration of a student:

- Preschool – First grade students must meet age and other requirements listed under NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION section.
- Students must meet academic standards for promotion to the next grade

The following requirements must be completed for students to be fully registered and accepted after automatic registration, prior to the next school year:

- Completion of updating essential account information via Praxi's Parent Portal.
- The Family account related to the student is to be paid in full, with no outstanding balance.

Updated Immunization records and Physical examination records, as required, must be submitted prior to the first day of school for subsequent attendance.

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

New Student registration is initiated online through our website. Registration procedures and requirements are listed below by age group.

Before/After School Care/Study Hall

For a student to be in Before/After School Care or afterschool Study Hall, they must be a currently enrolled student at PPCS; younger students must be 3 years old, and toilet trained. Please review the Before/After School Care and Study Hall Student-Parent Handbook for more information.

Preschool

Preschool students must meet the following requirements for each grade to be enrolled and to attend:

Early Start (2-years old)

Students must be two years old **by September 1st** to enroll. **Students must be two years old to attend class.** Students are not required to be toilet-trained (for the 2-year-old class only).

Preschool (3-years old)

Students must be three years old **by October 1** and **toilet trained.**

Prekindergarten and Ready-Set-Go (4-years old)

Prekindergarten students must be four years old **by October 1.**

Ready-Set-Go students must be four years old **by May 15.**
All students must be **toilet trained.**

Registration Process

1. The following requirements must be completed and submitted online for a new student to be registered and for a place to be initially secured in the classroom:
 - a. New Student Registration Form/Contract
 - b. Registration Fee (non-refundable)

2. Provide the following Required Documents to the school office as soon as possible after registration:
 - a. No later than the first day of school:
 - i. Current and updated Immunization Record Card or Exemption Form
 - ii. Sunscreen and Ointment Form
 - b. If circumstance exists:
 - i. Legal Documentation of Guardianship/Custody if student does not live with biological parent(s) or there is any form of shared custody or guardianship.
 - c. The following must be submitted to the school office within 30 days of registration:
 - i. Current physical examination (required annually)
 - d. To be provided upon request:
 - i. Verification of Birthdate (Birth Certificate, Passport, Government/Military ID)
3. Review & Interview
 - a. A new student is conditionally accepted when the office processes the online registration forms and fee.
 - b. Full acceptance will be communicated after review and an in-person interview is conducted by the Preschool Director.

Elementary

Kindergartners must **be five years old by October 1.**

First graders must show successful completion of **kindergarten or turn 6 years old by October 1.**

Registration Process

1. The following requirements must be completed and submitted online for a new student to be registered and for a place to be initially secured in the classroom:
 - c. New Student Registration Form/Contract
 - d. Registration Fee (non-refundable)
2. These documents must be provided to the school office:
 - a. Prior to full acceptance:
 - i. Teacher Confidential Reference for Math & English
 - ii. Principal/Counselor Confidential References
 - iii. Copy of most recent Report Card
 - iv. Records Release form
 - v. If circumstance exists:
 - a. Most recent Individualized Education Plan (IEP)/504 plan or Medical/Emotional diagnosis with recommended accommodations by a licensed professional
3. To be provided upon request:
 - a. Verification of Birthdate (Birth Certificate, Passport, Government/Military ID)
4. Testing
 - a. Testing is required for elementary students. A date for the test will be scheduled after receipt of the above items.
5. Prior to the first day of school:
 - a. Current and updated Immunization Record Card
 - b. Current Physical Examination
 - c. If circumstance exists:
 - i. Legal Documentation of Guardianship/Custody if student does not live with biological parent(s) or there is any form of shared custody or guardianship.

Middle & High School

Registration Process

1. The following requirements must be completed and submitted online for a new student to be registered and for a place to be initially secured in the classroom:
 - e. New Student Registration Form/Contract
 - f. Registration Fee (non-refundable)
2. These documents must be provided to the school office:
 - a. Prior to full acceptance:
 - i. Teacher Confidential Reference for Math & English
 - ii. Principal/Counselor Confidential References
 - iii. Copy of most recent Report Card
 - iv. Records Release form
 - v. If circumstance exists:
 1. Most recent Individualized Education Plan (IEP)/504 plan or Medical/Emotional diagnosis with recommended accommodations by a licensed professional
3. To be provided upon request:
 - a. Verification of Birthdate (Birth Certificate, Passport, Government/Military ID)
4. Testing and Interview
 - a. Testing is required for middle school students and may be required for high school students.
 - b. Upon receipt of all the above items, an interview with the middle or high school principal will be scheduled. Applicants are to accompany parent(s) to the interview.
5. Prior to the first day of school:
 - a. Current and updated Immunization Record Card
 - b. Current Physical Examination
 - c. If circumstance exists:
 - i. Legal Documentation of Guardianship/Custody if student does not live with biological parent(s) or there is any form of shared custody or guardianship.

PART-TIME MIDDLE OR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

To enroll part-time at PPCS a student...

- must be of school age (11-18 years old)
- must be in good behavioral standing with other current programs
- must apply annually via the normal enrollment process for middle or high school
- may take up to three (3) courses during a quarter
- can be enrolled on a semester basis for core courses and a quarterly basis for elective courses
- must provide evidence of completing any required prerequisite courses
- will be expected to follow and adhere to all school policies
- will need to provide their own basic school supplies
- is only eligible to participate in field trips or excursions directly related to classes being taken
- is eligible to participate in school-sponsored social and class events (ex. Homecoming week, Prom)
- is not eligible to participate in the PPCS graduation
- is eligible to play a sport as a PPCS student only while concurrently taking a class.

For part-time students, sibling discounts will be honored, but no proration or other discounts available.

Tuition and fees include texts, lab supplies, a school iPad if required for high school classes, Google for Education account

and resources, and access to the *Parent & Student Portal* for online grade, financial, and communication access with the school for the duration of enrollment.

MEDICAL EXAM

Preschool

The Colorado Department of Health and Human Services requires that children must have a health/physical exam by a medical provider prior to every year attending Preschool.

K-12

Students are to have a health/physical exam by a medical provider prior to starting school as a new student in any grade and returning students prior to kindergarten, third, sixth and ninth grades.

Students who want to participate in athletics/sports must complete a health/physical annually.

IMMUNIZATION RECORD

This record must include a Colorado Certificate of Immunization showing the dates and number of doses for all immunizations required by the Colorado Department of Health and Human Services.

PPCS accepts non-immunized students when parents have followed the state required exemption process and can provide the appropriate certificate of exemption.

Failure to provide certification of immunization or exemption by the first day of school requires the school to follow Colorado statutes in denying student attendance. Thus, for students who are not compliant, the school will contact the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian will have 14 days to provide a written plan of action to pursue and provide proof of vaccination or exemption. Failure to provide a plan, follow it and/or provide proof of vaccination or exemption will be cause for the school to deny attendance.

ACADEMIC PROBATION AT ENROLLMENT

Middle and high school students entering Pikes Peak Christian School from other schools with a grade point average below 2.5 may be placed on academic probation for the school year. The appropriate administrator may require the student and parents to sign an Academic Probation Contract. The administrator will maintain contact with the student and parents each quarter to verify that contract conditions continue to be met. Failure of the student to fulfill the contract requirements may lead to suspension, expulsion, or the inability to return to PPCS for the next semester or school year.

PARENT-INITIATED WITHDRAWALS

Parents who wish to withdraw their students from Pikes Peak Christian School should use the following procedures:

Call or come by the business office to complete the form and initiate withdrawal. A \$50.00 administrative fee will be assessed in the event a student is withdrawn after the first calendar day of school (waived for required military transfers only). When the withdrawal steps have been completed, records will be released.

All books, uniforms, and equipment must be returned prior to withdrawal, or applicable charges will be added to the account.

If a student's account balance is not cleared at the time of withdrawal, grades and records will not be released.

PPCS-INITIATED WITHDRAWALS

When evaluating students for PPCS-initiated withdrawals, the following criteria will be used, but are not limited to:

- Emotional problems that affect the learning environment
- Long-term defiant attitude
- Ongoing bullying behavior
- Poor moral example
- Continued neglect in academic endeavors and thus disrupting the learning environment
- Learning problems that hinder a student from progressing in a normal classroom setting
- Any continued problem with parents or the student that disrupts the smooth operation of PPCS to include repeated behaviors that generate parent or student dissension

Each spring a committee of administrators will receive recommendations from the teaching staff regarding whether a student should return to school in the fall.

DEPARTING STUDENTS

The activities of students who are withdrawing from the school will be restricted to activities necessary to the withdrawal. The students must be accompanied by an office staff member or an administrator.

TUITION AND FEES

PPCS charges Comprehensive Tuition, a single tuition charge that covers the essential PPCS educational experience for the entire year. Optional Extracurricular, After School and Personal Experience activities are separately billed or paid as used (e.g. sports, clubs, specialized electives, student lunch, limited school supplies, social events, school pictures, lost or damaged items.)

Due to the structure of the one rate Comprehensive Tuition there are no *al a carte*/individual credits or refunds for any non-participation or absences. Late student entries or early withdraw tuition charges or credits will be prorated based on days enrolled.

TUITION & FEE PAYMENTS

In the 9 payments plan the first tuition payment is due on the first day of school; the second tuition payment is due October 1; with the remaining payments due the first of each month thereafter and a late charge of \$20.00 will be assessed after the fifth day of each month a payment is not received. In the 12 payments plan the first tuition payment is due on June 1; with the remaining payments due the first of each month thereafter and a late charge of \$20.00 will be assessed after the fifth day of each month payment is not received. The Athletic/extracurricular fees are due on the first day of the month after being posted to accounts.

DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS

An account is considered delinquent if there is any unpaid balance previously due (current balance subtracted by any new charges not yet due).

The Office Manager will notify parents whose accounts are delinquent monthly, and payment will be expected immediately.

Accounts that are delinquent in tuition or general fees for 60 days will be considered in arrears, and a referral to the Director for disenrollment will be made. Failure to remediate accounts in arrears effectively and in a timely manner within PPCS requirements will lead to student disenrollment any time after referral to the Director. Accounts that are delinquent in other charges (extracurricular, Before/After Care, lunch, etc....) for 60 days will be considered in arrears and will be subject to action regarding loss of participation or services until full payment.

In the event that an account is delinquent and/or in arrears at the time of disenrollment or during a request for records, the school will not release or issue student records (including but not limited to attendance, report cards, transcripts, diplomas, recommendations, etc.) physically or verbally until the balance is paid in full. Since PPCS accounts are family based, this applies to the entire account and all students represented therein.

Insufficient or Stop Payment of Funds

A returned check charge of \$30.00 will be assessed for the first returned check or any stopped payment of funds. Subsequent returned checks or stopped payment of funds will result in restricting payment to cash only.

Exceptions to the policies listed above may be made for emergency circumstances provided a request is submitted to the Director, the Board approves it, and a letter of documentation is on file.

TUITION DISCOUNTS

Prepayment Discount

A prepayment discount listed in the tuition contract will be applied to accounts involving traditional students of a full school year where 100% of the original tuition is paid in full by the first day of school in August.

Accounts that are established or paid after the first day of school, or that receive assistance, scholarship, or any other discount (except the Family Discount) are not eligible.

Family Discount

Additional children in the family receive discounts as listed in the tuition contract for the second, third, and fourth or more (respectively) children attending. Discounts are given in descending order of the children's grade levels.

Discount is not eligible with any scholarships, assistance, or any other discount with the exception to the Prepayment discount.

Referral Discounts

Each family who refers another student to PPCS will be granted a tuition discount per new student registered that remains in school for a minimum of two months. \$500 per full-time K-12 referred student and/or \$250 per preschool or part-time K-12 referred student. The referring family or referred family should submit this information to the school office. Referral discounts are credited after the two-month requirement to the referring family account only (non-transferrable) and are not subject to be included in any form of refund at any time.

Host Family Discount

For those families who host a PPCS student from another country, tuition discounts will be afforded to any children in their family as if the foreign student were their first child. Discounts are given in descending order of the non-international children's grade levels.

Eastside Church of Christ Member Discount

Children of parents who have placed membership at, and regularly attend, Eastside Church of Christ as verified by ECOC leadership, will receive a 21% discount on tuition. Verification must be completed each year of enrollment. Discount is applied to remaining tuition after any scholarships, assistance or other eligible discount is calculated.

PPCS Alumni Discount

Children of parents who have graduated from PPCS will receive a 21% discount on tuition. Discount is applied to remaining tuition after any scholarships, assistance or other eligible discount is calculated.

Discount Stacking

The only discount eligible for stacking is the Prepayment Discount with the Family Discount, applicable to the first and second children only. Discounts applied in that order.

ADDITIONAL FEES

Two-Year-Old Late Pick-Up Fee

Two-year-old students are not allowed, due to age, to attend Before & After School Care. Thus, for any two-year-old students picked up after 11:40 am the following fees apply:

Pick up anytime from 11:41-11:50am a \$20 late fee will be assessed to the family account.

After 11:50am an additional \$2.00 per minute late fee will be assessed to the family account.

REFUNDS

Any credit on a Family Account will be transferred as a credit to a continuing student/family's account from one year to the next. Upon a student withdraw from PPCS, refunds will be processed within 30 days for any credit remaining on the Family Account if no other student remains registered, minus the \$50 withdraw fee, and any credits (referral, scholarships, tuition assistance, RaiseRight). Refunds will be provided to the original payor if different from the parent(s).

STUDENT ATTENDANCE/ABSENCES

Regular, punctual attendance in all classes is very important to a student's success. PPCS strongly discourages the planning of family vacations that require extended absences for the students. Student absences thwart the educational process, causing both teachers and students the added difficulties of organization, additional instruction, evaluation, and modification of some assignments.

EXCUSED/UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

All absences are considered unexcused until there is parental contact. Parents have **24 hours (until the end of the following school day after the absence)** to contact the school office to

excuse an absence. Beyond that 24-hour timeframe absences **will remain unexcused with rare exceptions** needing approval by the appropriate administrator.

Students absent for more than 3 consecutive days, or on a regular basis over the course of a quarter must provide medical/doctor documentation supporting the absence to be considered excused. Absences will be excused for the following reasons:

- Student illness
- Doctor's appointments
- Death in the family
- Special circumstances receiving prior approval by the appropriate administrator
- Absences with approval requests submitted after the absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis

Students are permitted to make up academic work only when an absence is excused. At the beginning of the year, each teacher will send home a copy of their classroom policy regarding make-up work for student absences.

Any requests for make-up work should be made with the school office by 9:00 a.m. to ensure that the teachers have time to honor the request. Elementary, middle, and high school students' homework assignments should be picked up in the office between 3:15 and 4:00 p.m.

ABSENCE & PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Students absent from school are not allowed to attend or participate in events/programs on the day of their absence. Attendance is required the ENTIRE day of school on event/program days. Exceptions will be made only for non-illness medical appointments or with approval from the appropriate administrator.

ELEMENTARY ABSENT WORK POLICY

Planned Absences: Notification of a planned absence should be given to the teacher and principal at least two weeks prior to the absence. Class work for the absence will need to be picked up one week prior to the first day of the absence in order to allow the student an opportunity to begin working on the absent work. All absent work must be turned in no later than two days after the student's return to school. Work not turned in by that time will not receive credit.

Illness Absences: All missed work is due the Monday following the student's return to school.

EXCESSIVE HIGH SCHOOL ABSENCES

Students absent for more than 5 days in a quarter may be placed in additional/after school study halls to make up missed work. Students may not receive credit if they have more than fifteen absences (eight block schedule classes) from any class during a semester. Appeals of this policy may be made to the Director as defined by the Appeals Procedure.

TRUANCY

Absence from school without parental permission will result in disciplinary action and possible suspension.

STUDENT CHECK IN/OUT POLICY DURING THE DAY

Anyone checking out a student during the school day should have a form of government issued identification on their person, as it may be required by office staff request to verify identification and permission on file prior to student check out.

Elementary, middle, and high school students arriving after 8:30 am must come to the office and sign in before going to class. The student will be excused if the parent has called or sent a note. Otherwise, the tardy/absence is unexcused.

Any time any student is checked out of school during the day, there must be direct parent contact with the office staff before the student leaves. An on-file parent permission form is required for seniors and other driving students in order to sign themselves out during the day. A parent must sign the student out in the log provided, and upon returning to school, the student must be signed back into the log. Pikes Peak Christian School will not release students to friends, other students, or strangers without assurance of parental approval. Any student who leaves the school premises without checking out in the office will be subject to suspension, and the student will receive zeroes in classes missed.

TARDY STUDENTS

The education process is thwarted whenever students arrive late, distract the other students, and interrupt the teacher. If an unusual incident occurs and your child is late to class, please do not linger to talk to the instructor and delay the progress of the other students.

Preschool

A preschool student who is consistently late will miss many important activities. Many of the preschool special classes (Computer, P.E., Spanish, Library and Music) begin by 8:35am. Punctual arrival is of the utmost importance.

Elementary

All students are to be in class before the bell rings. If not, the teacher will give students a tardy. Five tardies per quarter will warrant a pink slip.

Middle/High school

All students should be, at a minimum, in the classroom, before the bell rings. Teachers may require students to be in their desks before the bell rings. Discipline slips will be issued after a student has three tardies per class per quarter. Any student in the halls during classes must have a signed or staff approved hall pass.

SCHOOL DELAY/CLOSURES FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

The primary notification method for delayed starts and closures will be via a text message from 1-833-568-6892. We will also provide an email, along with messages on our school website and Facebook page. Secondly, we will notify local television stations 5/30, 11, 13, and 21 as well as most major Colorado Springs radio stations.

PPCS will place a great deal of reliance on the road conditions information gathered by Districts 11 and 20. We must, however, make PPCS decisions based on the entire local area because of the large number of our families living outside the district in which the school resides.

Delayed start classes will begin at 10:00 am. Parents should have alternate plans as there will be no school, Day Care, or Detention prior to 10:00 am on days with delayed starts. Morning Preschool will be dismissed at 12:00 pm instead of 11:30 am on delayed start days. Middle/High school students should report to their first period classes when PPCS has a delayed start.

PPCS does not delay or cancel school solely due to cold temperatures. This is due to PPCS students being transported by parents or guardians vs a bus system or walking regularly to school.

Parental discretion is always advised as to whether conditions are sufficiently safe to bring students to school.

The tardy and missing assignment policies will be relaxed whenever weather conditions affect the time a student arrives.

Athletic Events

Decisions regarding scheduled sports activities are made on a case-by-case basis. Decisions to cancel evening sports activities are made by 2 pm on game days, upon mutual agreement by the athletic directors. The Athletic Department will communicate cancellations via email and the sports schedule on our webpages.

TELEPHONE CALLS

Unless a message is unusually urgent, teachers will not be paged to receive a call. Students will not receive telephone messages unless there is an emergency.

Students must have a pass from the teacher to use the office telephone in an emergency situation. The office phone is available for student use before school, at lunch, and after school. Use of the phone for personal reasons is disruptive to both the school and office environments and is not allowed.

ATHLETICS & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY

Competitive sports are available for students beginning in fifth grade with the exceptions of cross country, and track. Sports are offered as interest and student population allows. **Parents with high school students at Pikes Peak Christian School should be aware that every student in Colorado has the right to try out for a public high school team in their district of residence for any sport that PPCS does not offer.** Some of our high school teams require a try out.

KINDERGARTEN – 4TH GRADES

Grades will be checked bi-weekly. A student must maintain a "C" average in core classes (English, Reading, Bible, Math, Social Studies, Science, Spelling) to be eligible to participate. A student will be ineligible for one game if he/she is below a "C" average.

5TH GRADE & MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades will be checked weekly. A student can have one "D" and still participate. A student will be ineligible for one game if he/she has a single "F". With a second "D" the student can

only play with administrator's approval. An ineligible player must attend all practices and home games during his/her ineligibility period.

HIGH SCHOOL

Eligibility is determined by both a mandatory Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) standard and a required Pikes Peak Christian School (PPCS) standard.

CHSAA Minimum Standard

CHSAA standards require a student to be enrolled in five full-time classes to be eligible. CHSAA also requires a semester grade check. A student may only fail one class the previous semester to be allowed to participate in interscholastic activities the following semester. If a student has more than one "F" during the previous semester, he/she is ineligible until a set date each new semester. See the athletic director for a brochure outlining this policy. CHSAA further requires each school to conduct periodic grade checks in addition to the above standard.

PPCS Minimum Standard

PPCS standards require a grade check every week. If a student has one "F" grade or two or more "D" grades at the time of the grade check, he/she will be ineligible for the two-week time period. This eligibility standard applies to all CHSAA governed interscholastic activities.

Eligibility for extracurricular activities that are not governed by CHSAA, and/or are essential parts of the curriculum will be determined by the appropriate administrator and sponsor.

A behaviorally or academically ineligible participant is required to attend all practices and home games/events during his/her ineligibility period unless the appropriate principal determines otherwise for the sake of improving academic performance. For home games an ineligible player must be on the bench but not in uniform.

NON-TRADITIONAL ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

Athlete's School Status

Homeschool Athlete must either:

- live in the **District 11** Attendance Zone, OR
- provide proof of registration as a homeschool student with **Colorado Springs District 11**

Charter/Private School Athlete

- provide proof of attendance at such a qualifying school in **Colorado Springs District 11** that does not offer the sport of interest or a sports program

Process for Participation

1. One (1) Week Prior to Practicing with a PPCS Team

- Complete and be approved through the *Non-Traditional Athlete Application*
 - Must be completed and approved every academic year
- Meet all CHSAA and Black Forest League eligibility requirements
- Pay sports fee (each season as participating)
- Provide documentation of satisfactory physical exam

2. After Non-Traditional Athlete Application is Approved and Prior to Practicing

- Complete and submit *Non-Traditional Athlete Contract* and related documents

3. For Continued Participation on PPCS Team

- Meet CHSAA and PPCS academic eligibility standards
 - Parent/student must provide academic grade reports to the Principal at scheduled times and formats
 - Student must always be taking an adequate number of classes per CHSAA requirements

General Policies

Non-traditional athletes are not eligible for teams that already have enough players from the full-time student body. PPCS student illness/injury policies will be followed for non-traditional athletes. Behavior deemed unacceptable in a non-traditional athlete's school/program of attendance, in public settings, on social media, or while participating in PPCS athletics will be cause for disciplinary action, including probation or removal from a PPCS team.

ATHLETE BEHAVIOR

Students must also maintain a level of acceptable conduct. Students with frequent tardies, disciplinary meetings, etc., may be placed on probationary status.

ATHLETE ATTENDANCE

Students absent from school are not to attend or participate in practice on the day of their absence. Attendance is required the ENTIRE day of school on game days. Exceptions will be made only for medical appointments or with approval from the athletic director or the appropriate administrator.

Participation in and/or travel to an athletic activity will not be considered grounds for an excused tardy or absence on the following day. Exceptions may be made primarily for those events where travel is exceptionally late, e.g., post-midnight. Excused tardies are only made to a specific time stated by the Athletic Department.

The appropriate Principal will be involved in matters relating to eligibility. In the event the appropriate Principal is not available or there is an area of disagreement, the Director will oversee the eligibility status of students.

STUDENT LIFE

The policies, procedures and expectations regarding student life serve to promote and preserve healthy Biblical relationships, academic and personal integrity, and a safe learning environment. PPCS reserves the right to discipline or dis-enroll students who refuse to abide by or violate these policies.

SCHOOL HOURS

AM Preschool:	8:30 am - 11:30 am
Elementary (K-5):	8:10 am - 3:00 pm
Middle School:	8:10 am - 3:30 pm
High School:	8:10 am - 3:30 pm

REST/LOCKER ROOM FACILITIES USE

PPCS believes that gender is immutably and originally bestowed upon each person as male or female to reflect the image of God. Therefore, as part of providing a safe environment for students, any restrooms, locker rooms, and showers that are designated for one biological sex shall only be used by members of that biological sex. In addition, in any school sponsored settings where a student may need to be in a state of undress or involved in an overnight accommodation, school personnel shall provide separate, private areas designated for use by students according to their biological sex.

CLASSROOM RULES

Each teacher posts a list of basic classroom rules that will enhance the smooth operation of the classroom procedures, promoting learning and respectful interaction among students. The chewing of gum on campus will be treated as a privilege that may be withdrawn by either the administration or a teacher for a specific classroom.

LUNCH PROGRAM

Parents are encouraged to send a nutritious lunch from home; however, vendors from fast food establishments are available for your convenience via our lunch program.

The school lunch program is run through Parent Portal where weekly menus are available and orders must be made.

Orders must be placed by 8:30 am for them to receive lunch that day. Orders can be placed up to 2 weeks in advance and must be paid for in full before orders are placed. Accounts will not be allowed to go into the negative. Orders must be placed through Parent Portal, students will not be allowed to come into the kitchen to place orders. No orders will be accepted after 8:30 am, including delayed starts.

- If a Preschool student does not have an order in or a lunch from home, the standard lunch will be provided. Parents will be notified, charged for the cost of the lunch plus a \$10 fee.
- If an Elementary student does not have an order in or a lunch from home, they will be sent to the office where they will receive a small snack such as goldfish and apple sauce. Parents will be informed by email and charged if this happens.
- Middle school and high school students will not be offered anything if they do not get their order in on time or bring lunch from home.

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

If a parent wishes to celebrate a student's birthday at school (preschool through fifth grade), arrangements must be scheduled with the teacher for a 15-minute refreshment period. No games should be planned since classes will proceed as usual in other classrooms. Please do not exchange gifts at school, and do not send invitations to school unless the entire class will be invited.

STUDENT ARTWORK/CREATIVE WRITING

Faculty and staff members take care that students do not portray violence, guns, knives, etc., in their artwork or creative writing. Students are encouraged to choose more beneficial and uplifting subjects to think about and share with their fellow students.

DISRUPTION OF THE ACADEMIC PROCESS

PPCS does not sanction or support any senior class prank, nor any other pranks, involving and/or affecting school property or staff because of the costs of school interruption, clean-up expenses, and facility repair. Any prank that does occur will be treated with the response normal to such activities. Absences from classes that are the direct result of participation in the pranks will have normal academic consequences. Costs of repair to the facilities and grounds, and to the disruption to the staff and school schedules, will be billed to those responsible for the losses. Disciplinary action will also be considered in any prank activity.

PPCS does not sanction any student initiated or student enacted "skip days" as they interrupt the normal academic environment and process. In such cases when it is evident to the administration that such a day is occurring, normal academic consequences will be followed, and no excused absences will be recognized.

DAMAGE TO SCHOOL PROPERTY

It is expected that all damage to school property will be acknowledged by the person involved and reimbursement made to the school. It is suggested that parents check their homeowner's insurance to see if such damages are covered.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell Phones

- Preschool – Middle School: Not permitted to be seen, heard, or used on campus nor during after school Study Halls or Day care periods.
- High School: Not permitted to be heard or used in the classroom or in chapels.
 - Violation of this policy will result in confiscation of the cell phone. First occurrence the student may recover the phone at the end of the day from the office. Second or more occurrences will require recovery of the phone by the parent from the office.

Other Electronic Devices (including smart watches and air pods/ear buds):

- Preschool through middle school, use is not permitted on campus, nor during after school Study Halls or Day Care periods.
- For high school, only use of school issued iPads are permitted in classrooms or chapels.
- Photographic devices of any type are not permitted to be used or seen in any locker room or restroom.

DIGITAL/SOCIAL MEDIA RESPONSIBILITY

Students must take great care in all forms of communication, especially as it relates to digital media. The same standards of face-to-face communication while on the PPCS campus or at PPCS events apply to all forms of digital communication. Vulgar/profane/threatening/or otherwise inappropriate social media postings/emails/texts, or the perpetuation of such (forwarding, reposting) will result in serious disciplinary consequences. Any student who posts/sends information (factual or rumored) about a disciplinary proceeding, or

obstructs an adjudication using digital media, will be subject to serious disciplinary consequences.

PERSONAL ITEMS FROM HOME

Students are not to bring toys and any non-educational personal items from home. Students are responsible for their personal property and must keep track of glasses, watches, and other valuables. Students should not bring expensive items to school. Pikes Peak Christian School will not be held responsible for personal items and may restrict and confiscate any personal item considered a distraction or inappropriate for the school environment.

LOCKERS

Hall lockers are provided for most students. The student is responsible for keeping the locker clean and orderly. Any school-spirit items attached to the outside of the lockers must be removed at the end of the week. Each student's items (including backpacks) will be kept inside the lockers or placed in provided receptacles. Middle and high school students are expected to keep lockers locked. Valuables should not be stored in these lockers. PPCS is not responsible for lost items.

Lockers are the property of Pikes Peak Christian School and students should not expect that locker content will always be private. It is important that students keep locker combinations secure and private. PPCS has the right to search lockers to maintain school safety and to be sure that the lockers are being used within the stated limits.

SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS AND SKATES

Students may not use skateboards, scooters or any type of skates in the building. A designated outdoor area has been provided for middle and high school students for after school use until 4:00 p.m. This privilege is reviewed annually and can be revoked by the administration at any time.

SOCIAL EVENTS (HIGH SCHOOL)

All girls attending a semi-formal social event must have their dresses pre-approved for dress code. This action relieves students from the awkwardness of not being admitted the night of the dance and overall makes for a smooth and more enjoyable social event for both students and staff. **Students whose dresses are not pre-approved by the Dress Committee will not be admitted to the event.**

- Female students will wear their dress in person, in a private setting with three appointed female high school staff members (Dress Committee) to review with the student present. If something does not meet dress code the student is informed of what must be done, and a second review is held. This process is private, short, and respectful. Any further oversight/review is provided by a female administrator.
- Dress Reviews will be scheduled and held on several days prior to the social event. Specific expectations for the review process can be requested by students and parents from the front office and will be presented to the students several weeks prior to the social event.

Students who desire to bring a guest to a school-sponsored social event (Homecoming, Prom, etc...) must have their guest

complete a Guest Pass and receive approval from their administrator prior to purchasing tickets and attending. For a guest to be considered the following must apply:

- Guest must be of high school age (no older than 19)
- Guest must be of the opposite gender
- Guest must be in good standing with their current school
- Guest must agree to abide by all PPCS rules and policies
- Female guests must have dresses preapproved for dress code via the PPCS Dress Committee

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE AND STUDY HALL

The Pikes Peak Christian School Day Care Program is available to PPCS preschool through fourth grade students before or after regular school hours. Study hall is available after school for fifth grade and middle school students. Please ask the front office for an informational brochure.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL BEFORE SCHOOL PROCEDURES

Pikes Peak Christian School offers to middle and high school students the privilege to be in the building in a designated area from 7:00-7:30 a.m. Failure to remain in designated areas will result in either being placed in Before & After School Care and being charged regular rates and/or discipline to include the revoking of before school privileges.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL PROCEDURES

Middle school students are to be off campus by 3:45 each school day unless they are in sports practices or under the supervision of a staff member or parent. The pick-up point for middle school students after school is the north side entrance. If a student is not picked up by 3:45, he/she will go to after school study hall. A study hall drop-in fee will be charged to the student's account. If a middle school student is waiting for a sibling to finish sports practice, he/she is to go to after school study hall. Middle school students are not allowed to arrive early to after school sporting events without a parent or adult and are to remain in the vicinity of their parents while on campus. Parents are to pick up their student by 3:45 and return later for the sporting event. All middle school students are to be at the event site and not in other areas of the school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS/STUDY HALL POLICY

Middle school students who are engaged in PPCS sports may request an exemption from P.E. for the duration of a sports season from the principal. If granted the exemption, the student will be required to enroll in study hall for each school day in order to remain current in their grades and classes without undue pressure from the demands of practices and games.

HIGH SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL PROCEDURES

High school students should be off campus by 4:00 each school day unless they are in or waiting on sports practices or are under the supervision of a staff member. High school students who are not under direct adult supervision will be in the commons area at the west end of the building. This privilege will be withdrawn if student behavior dictates. High school students may attend after school events without a parent or adult. All high school students are to be at the event

and nowhere else in the school. Students found in the school and not at the event will be escorted off the school premises and can lose after school privileges.

DISCIPLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

STUDENT CONDUCT

The policies, procedures and expectations regarding student conduct serve to promote and preserve healthy Biblical relationships, academic and personal integrity, and a safe learning environment. PPCS reserves the right to discipline or disenroll students who refuse to abide by, or who violate these policies.

The Pikes Peak Christian School philosophy of discipline encompasses the maxim: "No student should keep another student from learning, and no student should keep the teacher from teaching." No corporal punishment will be used.

PPCS believes the Bible is the inspired Word of God and establishes clear guidance concerning the loving, respectful and appropriate way our students should act toward and with one another. Students have the responsibility to not only conduct themselves properly but to encourage proper conduct by other students and to report improper conduct by other students when appropriate.

Student conduct on campus at any time, or off campus during school-sponsored activities or while representing the school is subject to PPCS discipline procedures. Student conduct off-campus that significantly interferes with, disrupts, or endangers the PPCS educational environment may be subject to PPCS discipline policy.

PPCS expects student conduct during school-sponsored activities, such as field trips, athletics, fine arts programs, and student clubs and organizations to be proper and appropriate. Participation is a privilege and failure to comply with school policies and standards may result in the loss of the privilege and other disciplinary action.

STUDENT MISCONDUCT

There can be no place at PPCS for humiliation or any violation of the dignity of a fellow student. PPCS is committed to providing a positive and safe learning environment free of fear, intimidation, and hostility. Thus, PPCS does not tolerate bullying, physical, or sexual misconduct.

BULLYING - A person is bullied when he or she is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons. A negative action is an intentional infliction of injury or discomfort upon another person, through physical contact, spoken word, written word, or any other method of contact.

If a student is subjected to any form of bullying, he or she should confront the offender and make it clear that he or she is uncomfortable with the behavior. This solid stance will often make the offender stop his or her offensive behavior. If the offensive behavior does not instantly cease, or if the student does not feel comfortable with confronting the offender, the offended student should report the misconduct to a PPCS staff member.

PHYSICAL MISCONDUCT -includes, but is not limited to, physical contact that is inappropriate, unwanted, or harmful

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT – behavior that involves a) intentional physical contact or exposure of private areas for the purpose of sexual gratification or pleasure; b) intentional possession and/or communication of sexually explicit material; c) intentional threat of intending to act or intentional coercion of another to act as described in a) or b).

PPCS believes the Bible defines healthy and appropriate sexual relationship solely in the context of marriage and therefore the above definition applies to both non-consensual and consensual behavior.

Reporting

Any student who believes they or another student have been subjected to misconduct by another student and any parent or guardian who believes their student has been subjected to misconduct by another student, is encouraged to report their concern as soon as possible to a PPCS staff member/administrator.

Any employee of the school who has or receives notice that a student has or may have been subjected to misconduct by another student is required to immediately report the alleged acts to their direct administrator.

Face to Face Resolution

When appropriate and possible, the priority of PPCS for student-to-student incidents is to seek resolution first through a student-to-student meeting in the presence of a staff member, and/or administrator, with parent involvement determined by the student's age and situation. Student discipline may be included in such resolution attempts. More serious incidents of misconduct will follow the below procedures.

Investigation

Upon receiving a report/complaint of alleged bullying, physical, or sexual misconduct, the student's school level Principal will begin an investigation, unless relationship or circumstance creates a conflict of interest, then the School Director will assign another staff/administrator to conduct the investigation.

The time frame to complete an investigation will vary depending on the complexity of the investigation and the severity and extent of the misconduct. An investigation should be completed within 1 to 14 calendar days from the date of the formal complaint or report, with the possibility of an extension of this deadline able to be granted by the School Director.

The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the complaining student, the alleged perpetrator and any other individuals who may have knowledge of the alleged incident(s) or circumstances giving rise to the complaint. The investigation may include the school collecting additional pertinent evidence and documentation (written, electronic, recorded) relating to the complaint.

Student age, developmental level, gender, and the nature of the complaint will be used to determine timing and level of parental involvement in interviews. During the course of the investigation the school will evaluate and determine any need to establish separation of the complaining student and the alleged perpetrator, ranging from separate seating,

classrooms or building areas; to mandatory stay at home requirements until the investigation is completed.

In evaluating the alleged misconduct, the investigation will consider the surrounding circumstances; any relevant documents or electronic records; witness statements; the nature of the behavior; past incidents or continuing patterns of behavior; the relationships between the parties involved; the context in which the alleged incidents occurred; and the age, developmental and maturity levels of the students involved.

Whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of school policy requires a determination based on all the facts and circumstances.

The complaining student and parents/guardians, as well as the alleged perpetrator and parents/guardians shall be informed of the results of the investigation and any disciplinary action in a timely manner.

Confidentiality

PPCS recognizes that both the complaining student and the alleged perpetrator have strong interests in maintaining the confidentiality of the allegations and related information. The privacy of the complaining student, the alleged perpetrator, and the witnesses will be respected as much as possible, consistent with the need to investigate, to take remedial action, and to comply with any discovery or disclosure obligations.

Confidentiality cannot be guaranteed in all circumstances.

Retaliation

It is a separate and distinct violation of school policy for any member of the school community to retaliate against any person who reports alleged misconduct, against any person who testifies, assists or participates in an investigation, proceeding or hearing relating to such. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment and may be redressed through the same reporting, investigation, and enforcement procedures.

False Reporting

A person who knowingly makes a false report will be subject to separate disciplinary action.

Referrals/Reporting

It is important for parents to understand that nonaccidental, unwanted, physical contact between students seven (7) years of age and older can be considered reportable to CO4Kids hotline by school personnel. Related behavior that is not recognized as developmentally normal for students under seven (7) years of age can be considered reportable by school personnel. Each situation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis in context of mandatory reporting training and guidelines. Reporting may result in child protective service or law enforcement investigation.

Behavior that would reasonably constitute physical assault with serious harm, sexual violence, sexual assault, or sexual harassment can be directly referred to law enforcement by school personnel, which may result in law enforcement investigation. If a criminal investigation is initiated, PPCS will

temporarily delay the fact-finding portion of the school investigation and may promptly resume its investigation as needed at the conclusion of the criminal investigation. However, such delay shall not prevent PPCS from taking measures to protect its students and staff.

Consequences

Disciplinary actions for student misconduct may include but is not limited to the following:

- Admonishment
- Pink Slip Issuance
- Loss of privileges
- Temporary or long-term removal from a class or classroom
- Detention
- Red Slip referral and issuance
- Behavior Probation/Contract
- In School Suspension
- Out of School Suspension
- Restriction or Expulsion

PRESCHOOL DISCIPLINE

The Preschool at PPCS uses positive guidance when working with students in which most inappropriate behaviors are avoided. If this technique is not successful, the teacher may guide the child away from the group to work on an activity away from the group. This is not used as a punishment, but to help the children refocus and when they are ready, they may rejoin the group.

Behavior Issues

If the child is having a continuing problem with disruptive behavior during teacher directed learning the teacher or Preschool Director will work in partnership with the parents to help the child succeed in appropriate behavior. If the inappropriate behavior continues the child will be placed on a behavior plan which may lead to dismissal if a behavior change does not occur.

A general behavior plan works as follows: First time the child will be asked to stop the inappropriate behavior. If the behavior continues the Preschool Director will meet with the parents to work on a solution and be put on a behavior plan. Once the child is on a written behavior plan there will be two more meetings with the parents before the child is disenrolled.

Bites, Bumps and Falls Incidences

Biting is a common stage in early childhood environment. We understand that is upsetting and dangerous for children and their families. Our policy is designed for safety and to teach appropriate behavior in the classroom. We strive to maintain clear communication between teachers, administrators and parents.

Biting will be addressed as follows: We will comfort the child that has been bitten. The student doing the biting will be removed from the situation and their actions addressed within our behavior policy. We will assess the bite and fill out an incident report and send a message on Brightwheel. If the skin is broken, we will contact the parents by phone and have an incident/injury report filled out. After washing the area and no medical care is needed, we will communicate to the parents at pick up time what happened.

Bumps and falls due to incidental contact, accidents, or student interactions are very common occurrences in the early childhood years. When we see that a child has fallen and is hurt, or injured in some other incident, PPCS Staff will evaluate the child and address the injury, address any inappropriate behavior with students, write an incident report, send a quick message to parents via Brightwheel and communicate in detail with the parents at the end of the day. If the incident requires medical attention or the child has hit their head PPCS Staff will follow appropriate medical procedures, call the parent and write up the appropriate head injury/incident report.

As an aide to staff and families regarding student behavior, in the Preschool Directors office there is a list of mental health consultants and other specialists as needed.

GRADES K – 12 BEHAVIOR SYSTEM

The Pikes Peak Christian School discipline system employs a point system with each student beginning every quarter (semester for HS) with **100 points**. At the teacher's or administrator's discretion points may be deducted for misbehavior (demerits). If a student chooses a negative behavior or attitude, they will receive a discipline slip with appropriate points/demerits deducted from their total. The point system and discipline slips provide a trail of behavior patterns and keeps parents informed with a copy of every deduction from the student's total. The system also provides immediate consequences by the teacher or administrator.

Disciplinary action will be administered as uniformly and consistently as possible; however, each student and each incident will be assessed individually according to previous infractions, attitude, and offenses.

Discipline Notice Points

- Pink discipline slip: :1-4 demerit points based on infraction
- Red discipline slip: 5-10 demerit points
 - requires administrator referral

Whenever a student's total points drop to the following totals per quarter (semester for HS), the following consequences occur:

- 90 points (10 demerits): **Detention** - Served Friday mornings 7:00-8:00am.
- 80 points (20 demerits): **Suspension/Contract** - A conference with the parents, student and teacher/administrator is convened regarding a behavior contract and/or the middle or high school student may serve an all-day, in-school suspension. Possible suspension or expulsion.
- 70 points (30 demerits): **Probation/Suspension** - The administrator may meet with the teacher, parents, and student. A probationary contract may be written. Possible in-school suspension, suspension, or expulsion.
- 60 points (40 demerits): **Suspension/Expulsion** - Parents will be notified by telephone or letter by the administrator.

If the point total of a student in first to eighth grades drops below 80 points for two or more quarters the following cumulative consequences may result: loss of privileges, hours

for community (school) service, detentions, suspension, probation, and/or expulsion.

Elementary School

The main form of teacher communication regarding basic Elementary student behavior is done through the *Classroom Dojo* app. Students earn points or lose points based on behavior and classroom rules. Parents are notified via the *Classroom Dojo* app when a change in points occurs and for what reason.

For more serious behavior issues, physical discipline slips are used. Disciplined students are required to bring home, have signed, and return the discipline slip the following day. If a student fails to return the discipline notice with the parent's signature, the teacher will follow up with a second discipline slip and eventually a contact with the parent as needed. Student point totals renew to 100 points at the start of each quarter.

Middle School

Students will receive a discipline slip; parents will be notified of the basic discipline via the *Parent Portal* & email notification. More serious discipline will merit phone contact or an in-person meeting with the administrator.

The first quarter will be the only quarter where 1-point demerits may be used. Beginning the second quarter, discipline slip demerits will be a minimum of 2 points.

Student point totals renew to 100 points at the start of each quarter.

High School

Students will receive a discipline slip; parents will be notified of the basic discipline via the *Parent Portal* & email notification. More serious discipline will merit phone contact or an in-person meeting with the administrator.

All discipline slip demerits in high school are a minimum of 2 points. The high school employs a 2-4-4 system of demerits, meaning for a repeated or similar infraction, the point total increases automatically by that pattern.

Student point totals renew to 100 points at the start of each semester.

Disciplinary action will be administered as uniformly and consistently as possible; however, each student and each incident will be assessed individually according to previous infractions, attitude, and offenses.

Pink Discipline Notices

These rules are important to the smooth functioning of the classroom and school. Students are expected to:

1. Show proper respect during prayers and chapel.
2. Refrain from interruptions, especially during instruction.
3. Respect other students and refrain from put-downs.
4. Practice self-control to promote a safe environment.
5. Protect property of the school, staff, and other students.
6. Give diligent attention to the task of learning.
7. Promote an environment of learning in the classroom.
8. Be responsible in relaying communication between teachers and parents.
9. Observe the dress code.

10. Observe the rules for classrooms, playground, hallways, rest rooms and cafeteria.
11. Be respectful of the staff person in authority.
12. Be punctual for classes. Five tardies or more per quarter will warrant a pink slip for elementary, three tardies for middle/high school.
13. Not be in possession of any incendiary device, e.g. matches or lighters, on campus.
14. Not plagiarize or cheat on academic work (1st offense).

Red Discipline Notices

These areas are high priority and include a referral to the appropriate administrator. The teacher describes the infraction and the administrator researches the incident including all involved to determine the number of points deducted and additional consequences.

1. Open defiance of proper authority.
2. Willful destruction or defacing of school/church property.
3. Behavior which is detrimental to the health, safety, welfare or morale of others – including behavior which creates a threat of physical harm.
4. Providing a negative example for other students.
5. Disrupting the learning environment.
6. Truancy.
7. Inappropriate public displays of affection.
8. Language, gestures, pictures, audio/video media, or writing which do not reflect a Christian attitude.
9. Encouraging or inciting negative behavior from other students.
10. Refusal to participate in classroom assignments or activities.
11. Any behavior that is deemed by the administration to be clearly in conflict with Christ-like behavior.
12. Plagiarizing or cheating on academic work (Repeated offenses).

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

In-school suspension (ISS) is an in-house program to which a student may be assigned for a short period of time in lieu of out-of-school suspension (OSS). It is designed to counteract many of the negative effects of suspension. ISS is a viable alternative to OSS for Pikes Peak Christian School students because they can remain in a structured, supervised environment while segregated from the general population. The student is provided with a relevant functional academic and social skills curriculum to continue their learning.

ISS is conducted in a room with a desk and an adult supervisor. A student in ISS has work given by his or her regular teachers that will be completed during the day. The student has lunch in the room and remains there until the end of the day. The supervisor only engages in conversations about the work with the student. The administrator fills out a referral that includes student data and the nature of the offense for each student assigned to ISS. ISS typically extends from 1 to 2 days.

SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS

The following behaviors may be grounds for immediate suspension and/or expulsion:

- Possession and/or use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco (including vaping)

- Possession and/or use of pornographic or sexual materials
- Possession and/or use of explosives or weapons in any form
- Bullying (including cyber-bullying) via verbal or non-verbal communication
- Causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause physical injury to another
- Demonstrating abusive behavior or aggression
- Creating a dangerous, unsafe, or threatening environment for students or staff
- Facilitating, encouraging, or inciting a fight
- Engaging in sexual behavior
- Cheating or plagiarism

Suspensions are considered unexcused, and thus academic work may not be made up by the student. Exceptions may be made by the involved Principal.

Expulsion may be based on other ongoing detrimental behavior. Expulsion will be normally preceded by a probation period; however, immediate expulsion may also be imposed. Expulsions will normally be a minimum of one year in duration.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Rationale

Students live in a world of growing instant access to information resources on almost any subject, by anyone, from most anytime be it digital or physical. Furthermore, they function in a culture of rapidly increasing use of artificial intelligence to perform tasks and operations of all kinds. Concurrently, students face an environment in future academia and the workforce of stringent intellectual property rights, copyrights, and growing expectations for efficient, polished results and products. How then, is a student to operate both efficiently and honestly with the vast resources and tools at their disposal?

Purpose

The purpose of the PPCS Academic Integrity Policy and Procedures is to teach and prepare students how and when to properly and effectively use the vast digital resources and tools available to them with honesty and effectiveness for academic purposes and potential professional contexts.

Definitions

Cheating is being intentionally deceptive and dishonest regarding one's work.

Academically, cheating is the unauthorized use or attempted use of people, material, information, notes, study aids, devices, technology or communication in relation to any coursework, projects, or assessments to receive undeserved credit.

Cheating occurs when:

- Copying or attempting to copy someone else's work.
- Engaging in unauthorized collaboration on an assignment, project, or assessment.
- Submitting work completed entirely or in part by others, to include use of free or paid essay/paper writing services or downloaded essays/papers or parts of essays/papers,
- Using unauthorized materials or aids during an assessment, including but not limited to: notes in any format, textbooks, and study guides.

- Using any unauthorized electronic devices that retrieve, store, create, or send information during an assessment.
- Use of sources beyond those authorized by the teacher in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments.
- Obtaining confidential information about assessments other than that released by the teacher.
- Securing, giving, or exchanging information during examinations.
- Tampering with an exam after it has been corrected.
- Claiming any work was submitted when it was never submitted.
- Cooperating with another or assisting in any of the above.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person's ideas, research, production, or writings as your own when proper acknowledgment of the source is required.

Plagiarism can be intentional, where the person is aware that they are plagiarizing, or unintentional, where the person does not know that they have plagiarized.

Plagiarism occurs when:

- Copying another person's actual words without the use of quotation marks and properly acknowledging the source.
- Presenting another person's ideas or theories in your own words without properly acknowledging the source.
- Paraphrasing or summarizing a source's ideas without properly acknowledging the source.
- Paraphrasing information from digital/internet sources without citing the source.
- Copying from various sources without properly acknowledging the source.
- Replicating a visual presentation, representation, or performance without properly acknowledging the source.
- Using any information from a source without permission (when use without permission is prohibited, i.e., copyright).

Student Responsibilities to prevent cheating and plagiarism regarding AI generated resources:

The use of AI is considered a tool now available to students in the same way technological resources are available (i.e.: YouTube tutorials, Khan Academy, etc.). The heart of the issues of AI-generated content is one of academic honesty. The goal is to use it as a tool to enhance learning rather than to replace the genuine teaching and learning process. Students are permitted to use AI-assisted resources (**primarily Trek AI**), unless otherwise directed by the teacher, in the same way a student might appropriately use other technological resources such as Google, tutoring services, or even a calculator.

- Students must cite **any AI-generated content other than Trek AI** by submitting AI conversations alongside the student work if AI was used at any point in the creation process. Failure to do so will result in cheating and plagiarism consequences.

Procedures and Consequences for Cheating and Plagiarism:

1. Suspicion of cheating or plagiarizing academic work will initially disqualify the assignment.
2. Each initially disqualified assignment is subject to a review by the teacher and Principal.
 - a. This includes an initial conversation by the teacher with the student to discern and clarify any suspicions of how the work was accomplished. The teacher will then bring the situation and as needed the academic work to the Principal for review.
3. If suspicion of cheating or plagiarizing is upheld:
 - a. a plan will be created for the student to complete the assignment within the parameters given by the teacher at a reduced amount of credit,
 - b. parents will be informed,
 - c. if the act is determined to be intentional, the student will be on an academic integrity contract for a specific amount of time to build back trust with the faculty.
4. Any further or repeated acts of cheating or plagiarism during the school year will be subject to the above process, AND behavioral discipline by the Dean of Students. Disciplinary consequences may include one or more of the following:
 - a. Minimum 4-point pink slip.
 - b. Red slip of 6-10 points.
 - c. Detention.
 - d. In school suspension.
 - e. Multiple or egregious acts of plagiarism or cheating can lead to suspension or expulsion.

K – 8 ACADEMIC POINT SYSTEM

For student accountability and effective parent communication the Elementary and Middle School grades use a separate point system for missing and late academic work. The main communication tool for this is a Blue Slip, valued at 1-2 demerit points per occurrence.

Elementary School

An Elementary student will receive a Blue Slip for not turning in an assignment. Students are required to bring home, have signed by parent/guardian, and return the Blue Slip (with the missing assignment) the following day. A student who accrues 10 points in Blue Slip demerits will be required to work on missing assignments during recess and free times until work is completed.

Middle School

Students will receive a Blue Slip when they neglect to hand in a completed assignment when it is due. The parents will be notified of the missing assignment via Family Portal & email notification. Whenever a student's Blue Slip total drops 10 points, he/she will be assigned an In School Study Hall. The In School Study Hall will be served from 12:35-3:30 so that it will not affect their morning core subject classes. Students will use this time to eat lunch and complete any missing assignments, as well as using the time to work on current assignments and projects.

DRESS CODE

Purpose

PPCS believes modesty is an important concept and virtue for every student to understand and practice. Current culture promotes versions of self-esteem that are self-centered, encouraging the flaunting of physical attributes, wealth, style, or personality differences even to extremes. Whereas Biblical modesty is an attitude of Christ-centered value and humility with a thoughtfulness for others that is revealed in outward actions.

At PPCS we believe this includes how one dresses (clothing, jewelry, hairstyle, body art, footwear, etc..).

Thus, the PPCS Dress Code and its enforcement serves to help students:

- Practice a God-centered esteem vs false secular versions of esteem and confidence
- Express their own uniqueness, interests, and style with thoughtfulness and care
- Understand mindfulness and respect of others in dress and appearance
- Understand practical, effective, and/or safe dress for different occasions, activities, and circumstances
- Preserve for the marriage relationship dress that may encourage physical/sexual attraction
- Proactively protect from embarrassing and/or unintended situations impacting physical privacy

Procedures

PPCS understands and manages an age-appropriate application of our dress code in a school ranging from students of toddler ages to young adults.

1. A student will be referred to an administrator (6-12th grade to a same gender administrator) by a staff member who has any concern the student may be out of dress code.
2. The administrator will evaluate the student's dress in an appropriate and respectful environment and make a determination based on the policy requirements.
3. Any violation of the dress code is subject to disciplinary action and requirement that the student change into more acceptable clothing. Students may not return to class until they are able to change into appropriate clothing (parent or student provided). Such time out of class will be unexcused for more than the one violation in a quarter.
4. Students violating the dress code more than once in a quarter will receive a pink slip with increasing demerits per violation. Students may not return to class until they are able to change into appropriate clothing (parent or student provided). Such time out of class will be unexcused for more than the one violation in a quarter.

In situations where differences of opinion arise, the decision of the administrator will be final.

Requirements and Expectations

The dress code applies at school and activities where the student is under school supervision. Students should show good judgment in choosing items of dress, accessories, and hairstyles that do not call undue attention to the individual. Pikes Peak Christian School students should be clean, neat,

well groomed, not disheveled, and dressed in an acceptable manner consistent with their biological sex. Students, while voluntarily at school events and not under school supervision, should be mindful of the dress code as they continue to represent the school in such situations.

- **Shoes or sandals** suitable for outdoor wear must always be worn while at school. Slippers or house shoes are not permitted. For safety reasons, closed-toed shoes must be worn in P.E. and athletic style shoes are to be worn in the gymnasium and on the sports field.
- **Any garment or jewelry** bearing a message or design that is inconsistent with the PPCS mission and philosophy will not be permitted. This would include, but not be limited to: advertisements, symbols, words, slogans or pictures that are sexually suggestive, obscene, profane, offensive, or libelous; that denigrate others on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, or disability; that promote violence; or are drug, alcohol, tobacco, witchcraft/occult, or gang related.
- **Undergarments** must be worn and not be visible through outer garments or exposed.
- **Brief and revealing clothing** are not appropriate apparel in school. The following guidelines are examples and do not cover all situations.

Students shall not wear:

- Sleeveless clothing with straps or shoulder coverage of less than 3 inches in width.
- Halter, muscle, or tube tops
- Backless or strapless garments
- See through, fishnet, or mesh garments
- Low cut garments or shirts that expose one's midriff or lower back while standing or sitting

In all cases modesty will be the determining factor in acceptability.

- **P.E. uniforms** are only permitted in P.E. and sports related classes.
- **Tight shorts or short shorts** are not allowed during school hours or during school activities.
- **Clothes may not be extreme** in style or length, must not have immodest holes, and must fit appropriately – no excessive sagging, bagging, or extreme tightness is permitted.
- **Clothing with design or placement** of lettering that calls undue attention to certain body parts is not allowed to be worn.
- **Hats or sunglasses** may not be worn indoors, except for medical purposes requiring a physician's note.
 - **High School Only Privilege:** Hats and basic head coverings that are not distracting and do not cause undue attention may be worn indoors. Hoods on clothing may not be worn covering the head while indoors.
- **Visible jewelry** worn in pierced body parts is limited to the ears, eyebrows, and the nasal area. All visible jewelry and piercings are to be minimal and must not bring undue attention to the individual. Visible lip, tongue, and septum piercings are not permitted. Limited jewelry may be worn during P.E. or during school athletic activities, dependent on the supervisors judgment for safety purposes.
- **Hair** must be of a natural color, be neat and clean, and not call undue attention to the individual.
- **Visible tattoos** are to be minimal, are not to call undue attention to the individual, and cannot be of a

message or design that is inconsistent with the PPCS mission and philosophy.

- **Skirts, shorts, dresses** or slits in such clothing must fall no less than 4 inches from the top of the kneecap when standing. Modesty will be the determining guideline.
- **Pants worn with revealing holes** located 4 inches above the kneecap while standing must be worn with appropriate compression shorts/spandex underneath above that point. Revealing holes may not be located in the pocket areas, both front and back.
- **Leggings and legging style "pants"** (thin, stretchy material, tight fitting, e.g., yoga pants) may only be worn with a dress of appropriate code length.
- **Athletic/P.E. Dress Code (6th-12th Grades):** Due to the active nature and multiple positions required in athletic sports and P.E. classes, as well as the challenge in finding dress code appropriate shorts, the following is in place to maintain modesty and comfort in all situations.

Athletics:

- Every 6th-12th grade student, both boys and girls, are required to wear compression shorts (athletic type spandex/bicycle shorts) that have a minimum 7" inseam or cover a minimum of the top half of the thighs. These are to be worn under any athletic shorts worn during sports practices and as part of any uniform requiring shorts. Clothing such as yoga-style tights/pants or compression shorts alone are not allowed.
- Athletes should wear loose-fitting t-shirts that cover the midriff while standing with hands above their head. No spaghetti straps allowed.

P.E. and P.E.-related classes:

- Students should wear sweats or the required maroon PE shorts.
- Students should wear loose-fitting t-shirts (plain gray, black, white, or PPCS shirt) that cover the midriff while standing with hands above their head. No spaghetti straps allowed.
- For safety reasons, **closed-toed shoes** must be worn in P.E. and athletic style shoes are to be worn in the gymnasium and on the sports field.

Social Events Dress Code

The dress expectation is business casual to semi-formal:

- Boys: Dress pants, collared shirts, ties encouraged
- Girls: Dresses, or dress pants and a blouse.
 - All dresses must be preapproved for dress code via the PPCS Dress Committee. (Please refer to the High School Social Events section)

The standard PPCS Dress Code is in effect with the following exceptions:

- Girls can wear a dress with spaghetti straps as well as a modest halter-top dress.
- The back of all dresses should come to the top of the bra line. Limited, modest openings in the back or sides (i.e. openings covered with mesh or lace material – no bare skin) are allowed below that point.

ACADEMIC PROBATION DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

Middle and high school students whose grades fall below a 2.5 grade point average in a quarter may be placed on academic probation for the next two quarters. The appropriate administrator will communicate with the student and parents regarding ways for the student to improve his/her grades. An Academic Probation Contract may be required. The administrator will maintain contact with the student and parents each quarter to verify that contract conditions continue to be met. Failure of the student to fulfill the contract requirements may lead to temporary or permanent dismissal from the school.

APPEALS PROCEDURE

Appeals of decisions concerning procedures, discipline decisions, or any policy interpretation should begin with the teacher(s) involved, then progress to the appropriate administrator, the Director, and then to the Board of Directors as outlined below.

RESOLVING GRIEVANCES/CONFLICT

To resolve parent/employee grievances in accordance with Matthew 18:15, the following procedures will be followed.

1. Parents should take classroom concerns directly to the teacher, athletic concerns directly to the coach. An earnest effort must be made to resolve the concern by holding at least one formal, in-person conference with the teacher/coach.
2. If not resolved, parents and teacher/coach may take the concerns to the appropriate administrator/athletic director, who may arrange another conference with all parties involved. Every effort is to be made to resolve the matter by all parties. The administrator's/athletic director's role is to examine each situation considering the spiritual principles involved, the school's environment and policies and the impacted student's needs. The administrator is to make a decision on how to proceed and to ask all parties who are affected to submit to that decision.
3. As needed, an athletic concern not resolved with the athletic director is to then be referred to the appropriate school level administrator.
4. If the concern is still not resolved due to a party being unable to agree to the decision of the school level administrator or otherwise, parents may request a meeting with the School Director, who may also set up a conference with all involved parties or meet with each privately.
5. If the matter is not resolved, the parents may provide a written request to the School Director for a meeting with the Board of Directors. The Board will meet with the parents and the School Director at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. If necessary, the Board may choose to meet privately to discuss the proper action and in such a case communication will be made in a formal letter and mailed to the parents.

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

PARENT/GUARDIAN SUPPORT

Pikes Peak Christian School provides a quality academic education in an environment that is based on a strong, Christian faith. We welcome students of all beliefs, but with

the expectation that all students and their families will be supportive in word and action of the school, its philosophy, and its policies. Parents and guardians are encouraged to join their student for lunchtime and/or special events in the classroom.

Volunteering

Parents and guardians are encouraged and needed to volunteer in their student's classrooms and for special events. Please arrange times to volunteer through your student's classroom teacher.

STUDENT INTERACTION

Parents or other persons desiring to have interaction time, e.g., enrichment programs, with PPCS students other than their own children before, during or after school hours must make a written request to, and receive written approval from, the administration prior to any such interaction.

The request should detail the purpose of the interaction, its timing, and its planned facility usage. It must also include a sample of the letter or memo that will be used to gain parent permission prior to the activity. That document must clearly point out that the activity is not initiated or sponsored by PPCS, and that the parent is putting their child in the care of the person sponsoring the activity and removing PPCS from any such responsibility. A copy of the documents, signed by the parents giving permission, must be provided to the school office.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

Communication about privately sponsored events whose activity details are communicated in writing on PPCS grounds, or which use PPCS communication systems for information dissemination, must be approved by a school administrator in writing prior to such communication use. The subject memo or letter must specify the sponsoring parent or person and clearly state that the activity is not a PPCS-sponsored activity.

PERSONAL & SMALL BUSINESS SOLICITATION

Parents or other representatives with a small or personal business that wish to engage PPCS students, families, and staff for business purposes must submit a written request to the Development Officer. Written requests must have the approval of the School Director prior to any party engaging in business activity (including for profit, at cost, or non-profit) at or with any relation to PPCS, its students, families, and staff.

INAPPROPRIATE PARENT BEHAVIOR

Pikes Peak Christian School has the expectation that all students and their families will be supportive in word and action of the school, its mission, beliefs, philosophy, policies, and purposes. Examples of behavior not consistent with this expectation include but are not limited to:

- Calls or other contacts (especially repetitive) with other school families whose intent is to denigrate the school, its families, or its students.
- Calls or other contacts with students or other school families or staff that are intimidating, bullying or aggressive in nature.

- Being on campus while possessing, using, or under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana, and vaping or smoking paraphernalia/items.
- Being on campus in dress or appearance that is inappropriate for the school setting, is counter to school beliefs and standards, and/or is of significant distraction to the educational environment.

A parent may be restricted from campus and/or a student may be dismissed from the school if the actions of the student, the parents, or guardians, in the opinion of the school, seriously interfere with the school's ability to accomplish its educational and spiritual purposes.

PARENT SPONSORED ORGANIZATIONS

PPCS encourages and is blessed by parent support organizations. All such organizations must receive a Charter of Operation from the School Director to operate in any way within the school. In order to receive a Charter of Operation, a parent sponsored organization must submit a constitution and/or bylaws of the organization to the School Director for review and approval. An organization's Charter of Operation must be renewed each year.

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Pikes Peak Christian School has an active parent organization. We encourage you to support the school by being involved in your student's education as a member of the PTO.

SAFETY

ALLEGED CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT

All Parents and Guardians need to be aware of the following, which are in accordance with federal, state, and local laws concerning alleged child abuse or neglect.

- The El Paso County Health Department of Human Services/Child Protection Services (DHS/CPS) has the right to make an unscheduled visit to PPCS and require that a student who is the subject of a child abuse/neglect report be interviewed during school hours without any obligation to notify, or seek permission of, the parents/guardians of the student.
- All PPCS employees are mandatory reporters by Colorado law. Thus, if a PPCS employee has reasonable cause to know or suspect that a PPCS student has been subjected to abuse or neglect, or observed the student being subjected to circumstances or conditions that would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, the mandatory reporter shall immediately upon receiving such information report or cause a report to be made of such fact to the county department, the local law enforcement agency, or through the child abuse reporting hotline system. PPCS is not required to notify parents of any such reporting, and any mandatory reporter has the right to anonymity.

REASONABLE FORCE

There are circumstances under which employees of Pikes Peak Christian School are permitted to touch students appropriately, such as maintaining a safe and orderly school

environment, administering first aid, and attending to health needs. Typical examples of these circumstances include intervening in fights, preventing accidental injury, protecting oneself, providing appropriate care to disabled students, moving through a crowd to address an emergency, or employing passive restraint with emotionally disabled students.

PLAN FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

A detailed emergency procedure is on file in the Pikes Peak Christian School office and staff training is conducted for the following incidents: fires, severe weather, hazardous material accidents, electrical malfunctions, confrontations, disturbances, intruders and assaults.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

In the event of an emergency and it becomes necessary to evacuate Pikes Peak Christian School students from the property, parents may pick up preschool students at the Sunridge Retirement Residence, 5820 Flintridge Drive. The elementary, middle and high school students will evacuate to the gym of King Elementary, 6110 Sapporo Drive, and remain until parents pick them up. If the school needs to evacuate more than 3 miles from the school all students will be taken to Vista Grande Baptist Church, 5680 Stetson Hills Blvd. Students with a disability who need assistance out of the building in an evacuation situation will have a non-teaching staff member pre-assigned to assist in getting the student out of the building to safety and reunited with their class. Announcements about evacuations will be made on the radio and television stations that announce PPCS closings for inclement weather, as well as through the Parent Alert phone system.

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION THROUGHOUT THE DAY

All teachers and staff continually count the students in their care, with special notice being given when students move from one location to another.

Preschool and Before & After School Care Procedures

Parents will sign their children in when being dropped off and will sign them out when being picked up. The teacher will record every 30 minutes the children's attendance in the class until they are picked up by an authorized person or go to Day Care where the child is signed in. If a child is moved to another classroom, it will be noted in the record.

Preschool – 12th Grade Missing Student Action

If at any time the student count is less than it should be, the staff member in charge will stop the current activity and concentrate on locating the absent student in the immediate area. If the student is not immediately found, the staff member will notify administration and security to initiate the Missing Student Action Procedures to search and find the student.

SCHOOL VISITATION

Entry Control

During regular school hours all parents and visitors must enter through the north door. The only exception is for Elementary families who may enter via the east doors during morning

arrival time. All other doors remain locked during the school day.

Visitors (including parents/family members)

Anyone visiting PPCS is required to check in at the desk in the school office to sign in, to include individuals performing early drop-off or pick-up of students. All visitors will be issued a visitor's pass and assisted with the visit. Please do not be offended by the requirement to sign in or not being allowed to visit due to special situations. We believe that one of our most important responsibilities is to provide for the safety of our students, faculty, and staff. Your cooperation is needed in this area to help us ensure your student is safe from unauthorized visitors to PPCS.

- **Class visitation, other than parent/guardian volunteering and lunch visits**, is prohibited without prior approval of the school level administrator.
- **Visitors are to remain in the immediate area of their purpose for visiting** (i.e. lunchroom, child's classroom, restroom, office, chapel). Failure to do so is cause for removal and/or visitation restrictions.
- **Students wishing to host a visitor** during the school day must obtain permission from their administrator at least 24 hours prior to the proposed visit. High School students may only host a preapproved visitor during the lunch hour.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

The Speed Limit on our campus is 10 MILES PER HOUR. Please follow all posted and painted traffic directions in the parking lots. Please exercise extreme caution when driving through the parking lot. It is difficult to see students and they may not exercise good judgment or watch for oncoming cars.

Always stop at crosswalks and only proceed if the crosswalk is empty. The lanes nearest the building are ONE WAY only.

Student Drop Off

Preschool parents are asked to park in the parking lot and escort their Preschool students to the safety of the building. K-12 parents may drop off their student(s) within the loading zones at the appropriate entrance.

Student Pick Up

Preschool parents are asked to park in the parking lot and enter the building to pick up their student.

K-5 parents are to use the Car Line to pick up their student.

6-12th Grade parents are asked to park in the parking lot or to use the entire length of the North side loading zone to wait for and pick up their student.

DO NOT LEAVE CARS UNATTENDED IN LOADING ZONES OR DROP-OFF AREAS. DOING SO POSES A SIGNIFICANT SAFETY RISK TO OUR CHILDREN.

Handicapped Parking

Handicapped parking spaces are designated outside the north and east entrances. Please leave these spaces available for people who are authorized to use them.

High School Students

High School aged students driving to school should park in the designated Student Parking Area. Each student driver must have a copy of their driver's license, car registration, and proof

of insurance on file in the school office. Both students and parents are required to sign an annual School Parking Lot Access Application before the student can drive to school. To maintain school safety and to be sure the conditions of the School Parking Lot Access Application are being met, PPCS has the right to search a student's vehicle when it is parked on school property. Discipline action, to include loss of parking privileges, may occur for failure to comply with parking regulations.

Students may not sit in parked cars during school hours. All 9th and 10th grade students have a closed campus at lunch. Students in the 11th and 12th grades may leave campus at lunchtime with a parent's written permission. Students leaving campus at lunchtime must sign out and sign in at the school office. All students must have written permission from parents/guardians to ride with or drive other students to or from lunch, school, etc. Violations of the rules or tardies at lunchtime may result in closed campus and/or suspension of driving privileges. Additional information for student drivers is available from the high school administrator.

ANIMALS AT SCHOOL

For health and safety reasons, family/household pets are not allowed on campus. Special circumstances such as ADA defined service animals or educational related purposes are welcomed but must be pre-approved by the school level administrator. Due to their increased disease-carrying potential, at no time will reptiles and amphibians be allowed on campus.

ASBESTOS

A minimal amount of asbestos containing material has been identified in the original building. As a school, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires us to perform asbestos re-inspections every three years on areas of school use. In compliance with the AHERA act, in February of 2018, we performed an asbestos re-inspection of Pikes Peak Christian School. An accredited management planner reviewed the results of the inspection and recommended actions we should take to safely manage each asbestos material in our building. PPCS actively manages the limited areas affected according to the plan to ensure there is no health risk to our students, staff or families. Inspection findings and the asbestos management plan are on file in the school administrative office. This information is available for your review during school hours and any questions regarding asbestos in our building should be addressed to the School Director.

FIELD TRIPS AND OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Students with medical conditions requiring care by trained staff during the day, or in a medical emergency, must have their parent, or a parent-provided trained adult, to accompany them in any off-campus activities.

Permission slips will be sent home with sufficient time to allow their return before departure. Parent drivers are often needed for these occasions. The following criteria must be met prior to driving on a trip:

- All drivers must be over 21 years of age, licensed for the type and size of vehicle they are driving, and insured.
- A copy of each driver's valid, non-expired license and proof of non-expired insurance must be on file in the school office.
- Any parent or staff member driving a personal vehicle with students on a field trip must understand in the event of an accident the driver's personal insurance provides the primary coverage.
- All cars must be in good working condition, and the correct number of seat belts must be present. No students can be double-belted.
- Preschool students less than four years old and weighing less than 40 pounds must be properly restrained in a forward-facing child restraint system. Parents will provide the necessary child restraint system.
- Students between the ages of four and eight must be properly restrained in child booster seats. Parents will provide the necessary booster seats.
- Authority over and responsibility for all students on a school-sponsored trip resides with the school-assigned representatives.

If a student should arrive late and the group has departed for a trip, the student may leave with an authorized adult if available, otherwise the student must return home until the group returns to school.

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

PPCS has developed a referral listing for families and students in need of or interested in mental health or counseling services. PPCS administration and staff are prepared to work in cooperation with mental health professionals regarding student diagnosis, recommendations and needs as much as possible. PPCS staff will partner with and keep parents informed of developing mental health concerns as much as possible within the State of Colorado's Minor Consent and Confidentiality Laws, which detail the privacy rights of students in mental health situations.

STUDENT MEDICAL NEEDS

STUDENT ILLNESS

At Home Expectation

Every Parent/Guardian is expected to monitor themselves and their student(s) for signs of illness every morning.

Adults or students are not to come to school if they are ill.

The **minimum stay at home symptoms** are as follows:

- If **within 24 hours** one has experienced:
 - Fever (temperature of 100 degrees or higher)
 - Vomiting or Diarrhea
 - Started antibiotics for an illness
 - Flu, cold or Covid symptoms including any combination of:
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle Pain
 - Headache

- Sore throat
- Persistent Cough
- Runny nose or congestion
- Gastrointestinal symptoms
- Eye discharge

Illness at School

Ill students are referred to the office for care:

- Students with a temperature of 100° or higher, who are vomiting, or have flu-like symptoms, or have symptoms of a suspected contagious illness will be separated and the parent or guardians called for the student to go home immediately.
- **Parents or guardians must immediately pick up their student when contacted by the office. Failure to do so will result in equivalent late Daycare charges to the family account.**

Please ensure expedient and proper care for your child by keeping all information on the emergency form current.

Injury at School

Injured students are referred to the office for first aid care. Parents/guardians are notified of all head injuries, and other injuries/illnesses of consequence. The person on duty at the time of the accident and the person most knowledgeable about the student's permanent record file will complete an Accident Report. Please ensure expedient and proper care for your child by keeping all information on the emergency form current.

PRESCHOOL - 12TH GRADE STUDENT MEDICATIONS

Whenever possible, please schedule medications to be given at home. Dosages to be given three times a day should be given before school, after school, and at bedtime. If the medication must be given at school, try to arrange it to be given at lunchtime to avoid disruption of the instructional program.

All drugs and other medicines brought on campus must be checked into, maintained, and dispensed by the school office. Exceptions to this must be administered via a self-help permission slip issued by the office.

- **Prescription medication** must come in the pharmacy bottle and include the name of student, doctor, date, drug, and dosage.
- **Over the counter medicines** such as Tylenol or cold medications must be in the original container.

Before any medication can be dispensed, PPCS must have a signed permission note from the parent and, unless otherwise waived by the school office, WRITTEN PERMISSION from the doctor's office. Please do not send the medicine in a baggie or plain envelope.

Standing Order OTC Medications

The school physician has approved that certain nonprescription/OTC medications may be stocked in the nurse's office and administered to PPCS students by the nurse or approved designee, under certain circumstances, if student is not allergic, and with written parental permission. Over-the-counter (OTC) medications are drugs that do not require a prescription and are purchased "over-the-counter". A form with parental permission is required before over-the-counter medications can be administered at school.

Preschool Emergency Medications

If your child has an allergy and needs an inhaler or an epinephrine pen it must be turned into the office upon enrollment. This medication is considered emergency medications and will be stored in the classroom accessible and identifiable to staff but out of reach of children. When away from the classroom, staff must carry emergency medications in a bag on their person. Staff carrying this medication will be trained by the School Nurse on how to administer.

Medical Special Needs

Parents who desire to communicate any on-going special needs for their children that are related to illnesses, injuries, food allergies, etc. must do so in writing to the front office on the registration form at the beginning of each year, or by letter if done later in the year. Prior to that student starting their school year, a plan specifying the care needed for that student must be provided by the parent(s) and agreed to in writing by the School.

Students with medical conditions requiring care by trained staff during the day, or in a medical emergency, must have their parent, or a parent-provided trained adult, to accompany them in any off-campus activities.

STUDENT ALLERGIES

In the specific case of peanut allergies, Pikes Peak Christian School tries to ensure that snacks provided by its preschool and daycare do not contain peanuts, but we cannot guarantee that no peanut products will ever be on campus.

Parents who provide snacks for students at school other than their own children, e.g., party favors and Easter egg candies, are asked to make sure that they do not include food products with peanuts in them. Similarly, parents with children who have peanut allergies are asked to check all snacks brought home by their children or their siblings to ensure there are no peanut products included.

NON-PARTICIPATION IN P.E., RECESS AND SPORTS

Clear, written instructions from parents/guardians for medical reasons must be presented to the PPCS Office for students to be limited in P.E. and recess activities. Any such limitations will be enforced for P.E., recess, and sports practices. For any limitations involving more than 3 consecutive days, a medical professional's note or referral to the School Nurse or the appropriate administrator for extension is required.

SCHOOL NURSE

In accordance with State of Colorado regulations, Pikes Peak Christian School currently maintains on staff an individual who is a registered nurse with experience in pediatrics. Their responsibilities include overseeing the administration of medication and consulting during school hours with staff members and parents regarding students' health needs. Parents may contact the school office if they wish to communicate with our School Nurse.

FUND RAISING

Fund-raising activities are a critical part of PPCS's financial well-being; however, the number of fund raisers each year will be limited as much as is reasonable to minimize the impact frequency on parents and friends.

SCHOOL-WIDE FUND-RAISERS

All school fund-raisers will normally be limited to two per year, currently including a fall Auction and the spring Boosterthon. Additional fund-raising events for the entire School, or any one of its major areas such as the Preschool or the Elementary School, will be strongly discouraged and each such event must receive specific Board approval. Typically, individual grade fund raisers, except those approved for the Senior Class, will not be conducted.

SMALL FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES

Fundraising for other school areas, e.g., student councils and clubs, will be held on an as-approved basis. Those fund raisers must be specific in purpose and typically be for items outside the scope of the budget. They must also be specifically approved either by Board action, or by clear history and precedence for the fund-raising area and activity. Over scheduling of any approved fund-raising activities, when deemed to be such by the administration, may result in the partial or full loss of that area's fund-raising status. Restaurant fund raisers will be limited to a maximum of one per month, must be consistent with the above guidelines, and must be scheduled through the Development Office.

FUND-RAISER PLANS

All groups planning fund raisers should keep an updated plan on file with the Development Office that details the specific fund raisers planned for that school year. At the start of each school year, that plan should be submitted for approval to the Board via the School Director no later than two weeks prior to their first fund raiser or by the first of October, whichever comes first. The submission should include a description of the area's planned fund raisers and dates, a financial plan describing the purposes of the fund raisers, and a financial statement for the prior year reflecting all income and expenses.

Fund raisers that are exceptions to the annually approved plans will be handled on an individual basis. An approval request should be submitted to the Board thirty days prior to the exception fund raiser and should include the items listed in the plan outline above.

MISCELLANEOUS

LOST AND FOUND

Please label all coats, hats, gloves, lunch boxes, back packs, etc. Lost and found items will be placed in the designated area near Room 101, or in the gym for athletic items. Some small items such as jewelry, glasses, and car keys may be turned in at the office. If owners cannot be found for clothing and other items of value, they will eventually be donated to charity.

COLD WEATHER CLOTHING

All coats, sweaters, and hats should be worn according to the weather and each student's individual needs. Outdoor activities are a part of each school day except in extremely bad weather (29 degrees, actual or wind chill). Please clearly mark the student's name on all removable clothing.

EXCESSIVELY HOT WEATHER OR POOR AIR QUALITY

On days when the outside temperature is excessively high (96 degrees) or air quality is considered hazardous (200 AQI or higher), students may remain indoors, or outdoor activities may be curtailed. Students are encouraged to drink additional amounts of water.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

All suggestions for improvement should be given to the Director. Should an item require Board input, it will be placed on the upcoming Board Meeting Agenda. We welcome your ideas regarding school policies and procedures.

STUDENT IMAGE/MEDIA PRIVACY

Several families at PPCS, for reasons of personal and/or professional privacy, have requests on file for student pictures/images not to be shared by the school in any public format. To help provide that protection of minors and respect parental wishes, while a student is on campus or in a school related event, it is within school purview to caution and expect visitors and parents to follow the below guidance:

- While on campus we request visitors and parents refrain from taking pictures or video that include students other than their own. Exceptions to this are large group or public assemblies and activities that involve audiences (i.e., concerts, plays, ceremonies, field trips, sporting events).
- Parents are cautioned about and are asked not to post to any publicly accessible social media (i.e., Facebook, Instagram) any pictures/video taken involving PPCS students other than their own children, especially with any identifiable information in the posting (i.e., names, locations).

PRIVACY OF INFORMATION

It is the policy of PPCS to not share the personal contact information of its staff, students or their families. PPCS parents or students seeking another PPCS individuals' contact information may submit a request containing their own personal contact information for delivery to the other party. Reply communication from school staff outside of normal school hours should not be expected. Outside entities' access to information is governed by the PPCS Right of Access to Records policy.

RIGHT OF ACCESS TO RECORDS

Although not directly subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 that grants parents the right of access to educational records accumulated subsequent to December 21, 1974, Pikes Peak Christian School is guided by its principles.

A written request must be submitted to the Director. Available records include grades, written evaluations, diagnostic testing reports, and results of achievement/intelligence scores. Access will be granted within 45 days of making the request.

The educational institution will not release educational records to others except in the following specific situations:

- School officials, including teachers, within the educational institution who have legitimate educational reasons.
- Officials of other schools in which the student seeks to enroll, upon the condition that the parents be notified of the transfer of records. PPCS deems mailing notification of said request to parents' last known address as sufficient notice.
- Certain government and educational agencies.
- In connection with a student application for, or receipt of, financial aid.
- Certain organizations conducting studies for educational agencies or institutions.
- Accrediting agencies.
- In connection with an emergency, appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons.
- To comply with a judicial order if the parents are notified.

Certain information is considered general information and is subject to release without notice unless the parents request confidentiality in writing to the administration. The information includes:

- Student's name
- Address - past and present
- Telephone listing
- Age and place of birth
- Gender
- Participation in recognized activities and sports
- Date of attendance
- The most previous educational agency or institution attended by the student
- Grade level
- Parent's names, addresses, and telephone numbers
- Church membership
- Photographs

FERPA affords the right for challenging the accuracy of recorded information. A parent making a written statement of his or her positions may challenge the content. The statement will be inserted in the records.

A copying fee of \$1.00 will be charged for the first page and 10 cents for each additional page of a student's records.

If the educational institution desires to release records to anyone not within the realm of releasable information, a request will be submitted to the parents for approval before records are released.

STATE OF COLORADO REGULATIONS FOR DAYCARE AND PRESCHOOL

The following two paragraphs are taken verbatim from the Colorado Department of Human Services policies:

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

Your child is enrolled in a childcare program that is licensed by the State of Colorado. The license indicates that the program has met the required standards for the operation of a childcare facility. Most licensed facilities make every effort to provide a safe and healthy environment for children. Unfortunately, on rare occasions, an incident of physical or sexual abuse may occur. If you believe your child has been abused, you should seek immediate assistance from your county department of social services. The telephone number to report child abuse for El Paso County Social Services is 444-5700. Colorado law requires that childcare providers report all known or suspected cases of child abuse or neglect.

LICENSING COMPLAINTS

Childcare services play an important role in supporting families and strong families are the basis of a thriving community. Your child's education, physical, emotional, and social development will be nurtured in a well-planned and run program. Remember to observe the program regularly, especially with regard to children's health and safety, equipment, play materials and staff. For additional information regarding licensing or if you have a concern about the childcare facility, consult with the Colorado Office of Child Care Services at 303-866-5948.