



A Traditional Academy with Emphasis on Arts and Humanities

Student Handbook 2024-2025

Dilworth Traditional Academy

6200 Stanton Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pa 15205

Phone: (412) 529-5000

Fax: (412) 665-5012

www.pghschools.org/dilworth



Students first
Always, in all ways.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Pittsburgh Dilworth Families,



As we embark on the 2024-2025 school year, I am excited to share Pittsburgh Dilworth's School Handbook with you. This comprehensive guide is designed to provide essential information about our district's policies, procedures, and expectations, ensuring that we create a safe, supportive, and effective learning environment for all students. The school handbook is a valuable resource for understanding Pittsburgh Dilworth's daily operations, including attendance policies, academic standards, code of conduct, and extracurricular activities. We believe that clear communication and mutual understanding between the school and families are crucial for student success, and this handbook is a key tool in fostering that partnership.

We encourage all families, parents, students, and caregivers to review the handbook thoroughly and discuss its contents with one another. Familiarizing yourselves with these guidelines will help reinforce the values and standards we uphold at Pittsburgh Dilworth.

An electronic copy of the school handbook is also available on the school's website.

Your involvement and support are vital to our students' success, and we are grateful for your partnership in their education. If you have any questions or need further clarification on any aspect of the handbook, please do not hesitate to contact the main office.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. We look forward to a fantastic school year ahead.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wayne N. Walters
Superintendent

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

At Dilworth, we are committed to nurturing every child's unique talent and interest in the arts and humanities. Whether your passion lies in science, mathematics, painting, dancing music, writing, or

exploring the depths of history and culture, our dedicated faculty and staff are here to guide and inspire each student on their educational journey. Our magnet program offers a specialized curriculum that integrates the arts and humanities into every aspect of learning. Through hands-on projects, performances, exhibitions, and interdisciplinary studies, students not only excel academically but also develop critical thinking skills, creativity, and a deep appreciation for the arts and cultural diversity.



As we begin this new school year, I encourage you to embrace the opportunities ahead, to engage actively in our school community, and to support one another in our shared pursuit of knowledge, philanthropy, and artistic expression.

Please reach out to our dedicated staff if you have any questions or need assistance. Together, we will ensure that every student at Dilworth thrives and achieves their full potential.

Here's to a successful and enriching school year ahead!

Peace. In education,

Qualisha Zyhier, M.A.
Principal
Pittsburgh Dilworth Traditional Academy
(412) 529-5000
qzyhier1@pghschools.org

“Together we stand. One band! One sound!”

OUR VISION AND MISSION

We are a boundless school of creativity, eliminating traditional walls to reveal the limitless opportunities for our students to impact society. We are committed to illuminating the brilliance of every student. We challenge and disrupt inequity through innovative systemic change. We activate academic curiosity. We are committed to inviting and amplifying student voice through the intersectionality of justice and joy. We produce lifelong learners

by intentionally intertwining the arts and humanities with rigorous academic activities. We collaborate with community partners to elevate learning. Family is foundational. We are emotionally and professionally invested in making the culture of Dilworth rich, respectful, and student centered.



Pittsburgh Dilworth Traditional Academy PreK-5
6200 Stanton Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Phone: (412)529-5000
Fax: (412)665-5012
Parent Hotline: (412)529-4357
<https://www.pghschools.org/dilworth>

Ms. Qualisha Zyhier, Principal

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

Parent/Teacher Communication

Pittsburgh Dilworth strongly encourages consistent communication between parent/guardian and teachers concerning a student's progress. Parents/guardians may contact teachers to schedule conferences and/or parent classroom observations which would be held before/after school or during the teacher's break by leaving a message with the main office at (412) 529-5000, sending a message via Talking Points, or by emailing the teacher directly. Please do not ask to be connected directly to any classroom during

instructional time. These two methods are the most efficient during busy school days, as we devote our time and attention to students throughout most of the day. We will respond as quickly as possible. If you do not hear back from staff within 24-48 hours, contact the main office for support.

Teacher and staff communication is best received during the school week. We know emergencies happen and will do our best to respond to emergencies outside of this timeframe. The schedule send option can be utilized via email and Talking Points. As we focus on community care, it is important that we respect one another's family and personal space and allow time to rejuvenate so that we can all perform our duties with joy and excitement.

Talking Points App

Please download the Parents Talking Points School Communication App. You will receive electronic communications regularly from Principal Zyhier and staff. No code is necessary to sign up. Please email our SDSS, tlowery1@pghschools.org if you experience difficulties with the app, so that she can update your contact information if necessary. Talking Points works with our district wide data system and is utilized by all staff to quickly communicate with families.

Smore Newsletter

A bi-weekly newsletter is sent home via email, TalkingPoints, and via our Facebook and X social media channels.

Social Media

Please follow us on the following social media channels for school and district updates and to access images, videos, and livestreamed events throughout the school year:

Facebook- www.facebook.com/PPSDilworth

X- @PPSDILWORTH

Instagram- @dilworthpittsburgh

Parent Involvement

Parent/School/Community Partnership

Understanding the vital importance of parent and community involvement in a student's educational journey, Pittsburgh Dilworth's parental involvement plan supports the participation of parents/guardians in numerous ways:

- Monthly meetings with the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and the Parent School Community Council (PSCC)
- Regular notifications by way of monthly school calendars, school blasts (Panther Press Newsletter), and TalkingPoints
- Encouragement for parents to volunteer within the school.

*Clearance information can be found in the [HERE](#). Criminal Background and Child Abuse Clearances can be found online for free to volunteers. Please contact the Pittsburgh Dilworth Main Office at (412)529-5000 with any other questions.

Updated Contact Information

Due to the importance of being able to contact parents in cases of emergency as well as safely releasing a child to an adult (other than their parent/guardian), parents/guardians are required to keep the school informed of any changes to their contact information. This information includes all names listed in the student information as an approved adult for pick-up. It is the responsibility of the parent to inform any persons listed as an emergency contact of any pick-up procedures (including proof of ID), for a student to be released to them.

Please keep a record of your child's school username and password to access class instructional materials on Schoology.

Phone Messages for Students

Except in cases of dire emergency, messages from parent/guardian to student will be relayed during the change of classes or lunch time, not during instruction.

Cancellations/Delays

During inclement weather, please refer to the local news media, district social media, Talking Points, and Robocalls for information regarding any district school delays or cancellations.

If there is a two-hour delay, all schools and buses will operate exactly two hours later than usual. All field trips are cancelled on delays. Communication regarding after school activities will be sent during the school day.

STAFF ROSTER

Principal

[Ms. Qualisha Zyhier](#)

Administrative Services

Secretary

[Mrs. Katrina Long](#)

Student Data Specialist

[Mrs. Tatyana Lowery](#)

Student Services

Social Worker/SAP Coordinator

[Mrs. Nneka Hart](#)

Counselor

[Mr. Brandon Phillips](#)

School Psychologist

[Ms. Brittany Weid](#)

Speech Pathologist
Special Education Program Officer
Nurse Practitioner

[Mrs. Bethany Baxter](#)
[Dr. Megan Nelson](#)
[Nurse. Tia Ellis](#)

Faculty

Librarian
Art Teacher
Music Teacher
Instrumental Music Teacher
Physical Education/Health Teacher
PSE Learning Support Teacher
PSE Learning Support Teacher
PSE Learning Support Para
PSE Gifted & Talented Teacher

[Ms. G. Albanese](#)
[Mr. Chris Snyder](#)
[Ms. R. Dougan](#)
[Ms. L. Russo](#)
[Mr. B. Maund](#)
[Mrs. J. Wechuck](#)
[Mrs. D. Barr](#)
[Mrs. K. Bryant](#)
[Mrs. J. Desiderio](#)

Kindergarten Teachers

Rm. 103
Rm. 005
Rm. 106

[Mrs. S. Gearhart](#)
[Mrs. S. Durham](#)
[Mrs. T. Seitz](#)

First Grade Teachers

Rm. 104
Rm. 102
Rm. 105

[Ms. S. Baskin](#)
[Mrs. S. White](#)
[Mrs. T. Glemba](#)

Second Grade Teachers

Rm. 113
Rm. 111
Rm. 112

[Mrs. A. Liberto](#)
[Mr. M. White](#)
[Mrs. C. Remmick](#)

Third Grade Teachers

Rm. 211
Rm. 212
Rm. 213

[Mr. C. Bradley](#)
[Mr. C. Herschk](#)
[Mrs. H. Lemon](#)

Fourth Grade Teachers

Rm. 203
Rm. 202
Rm. 206

[Mrs. S. Wilson](#)
[Dr. L. Freeman](#)
[Mr. R. Clegg](#)

Fifth Grade Teachers

Rm. 205
Rm. 201
Rm. 214

[Mrs. K. Thompson](#)
[Mrs. S. Russell](#)
[Mr. N. Longobardi](#)

Early Childhood Staff
 Pre-K I Teacher
 Pre-K I Educational Asst.
 Pre-K II Teacher
 Pre-K II Educational Asst.

[Mrs. C. Parker](#)
[Mrs. Motley-Barnes](#)
[Mrs. A. Stupi](#)
[Mrs. L. Albanese](#)

Building Substitute

[Mrs. T. Hughes](#)

Breakfast/Lunch Supervisor
 Lunchroom Assistant

[Ms. Brea Porter](#)
[Ms. Stephanie Day](#)

Head Custodian
 Night Custodian

[Mr. Dan Strafalone](#)
[Ms. Jaquayla Crew](#)

BELL SCHEDULES

[Dilworth 2024-2025 Bell Schedule](#)

Pittsburgh Dilworth Bell Schedule 2024-2025		
**ESEP 8:30 AM-8:55 AM Staff Meetings 8:00 AM-9:00 AM Breakfast/Auditorium 8:55-9:10		
Opening Exercises	9:10-9:25 AM	
School Wide Differentiated Instruction	9:25-9:50 AM	
Period 1	9:50 AM	10:35 AM
Period 2	10:35 AM	11:20 AM

Period 3 K and 1 Lunch	11:20 AM	12:05 PM
Period 4 2 and 4 Lunch PreK Lunch (In classroom)	12:05 PM	12:50 PM
Period 5 3 and 5 Lunch	12:50 PM	1:35 PM
Period 6	1:35 PM	2:20 PM
Period 7	2:20 PM	3:05 PM
Period 8	3:05 PM	3:50 PM
Homeroom and Dismissal	3:50 PM-3:55 PM	

LUNCH AND RECESS SCHEDULE

PERIOD	GRADE	LUNCH	RECESS
3	Kindergarten	11:20 – 11:40	11:40 – 12:05
3	First Grade	11:40 – 12:05	11:20 – 11:40
4	Second Grade	12:05 – 12:30	12:30 – 12:50
4	Fourth Grade	12:30 – 12:50	12:05 – 12:30
5	Third Grade	12:50 – 1:15	1:15 – 1:35
5	Fifth Grade	1:15 – 1:35	12:50 – 1:15
6	Pre-K Classes	12:15-12:45 **In classroom	

Pittsburgh Dilworth Half Day Bell Schedule 2024-2025

Sept. 20, Oct. 25, Nov. 15, Dec. 13, Feb. 7, Feb. 21, Mar. 7, Mar. 21

Class and Bell Schedule

**ESEP 8:30 AM-8:55 AM
Staff Meetings 8:00 AM-9:00 AM
Breakfast/Auditorium 8:55-9:10
PreK 9:15 AM-3:15 PM
Staff Dismissal 4:00

Opening Exercises	8:55 AM	9:10 AM
Period 1	9:10 AM	9:40 AM

Period 2	9:40 AM	10:10 AM
Period 3 K and 1 Lunch	10:10 AM	10:40 AM
Period 4 2, and 4 Lunch	10:40 AM	11:10 AM
Period 5 3 and 5 Lunch	11:10 AM	11:40 AM
Period 6 PreK Lunch	11:40 AM	12:10 PM
Homeroom and Dismissal	12:10-12:30	
Staff PD	PD 1:00-4:00	

LUNCH SCHEDULE			
PERIOD	GRADE	LUNCH	NO RECESS
3	Kindergarten	10:10-10:40 **In classroom	
3	First Grade	10:10-10:40 **In classroom	
4	Second Grade	10:40-11:10 **In classroom	
4	Fourth Grade	10:40-11:10 **In classroom	
5	Third Grade	11:10-11:40 **In classroom	
5	Fifth Grade	11:10-11:40 **In classroom	
6	Pre-K Classes	11:40 **In classroom	

**Pittsburgh Dilworth
2 Hour Delay Bell Schedule 2024-2025**


Class and Bell Schedule		
**ESEP 10:30 AM-10:55 AM		
Opening Exercises	All students go straight to 1 st period	All students go straight to 1 st period
Period 1	11:10 AM	11:45 AM

Period 2	11:45 AM	12:20 PM
Period 3 K and 1 Lunch	12:20 PM	12:55 PM
Period 4 2, and 4 Lunch	12:55 PM	1:30 PM
Period 5 3 and 5 Lunch	1:30 PM	2:05 PM
Period 6 PreK Lunch	2:05 PM	2:40 PM
Period 7	2:40 PM	3:15 PM
Period 8	3:15 PM	3:50 PM
Homeroom and Dismissal	3:50 PM-3:55 PM	

SCHOOL AND PPS CALENDARS

Students will receive a copy of their homeroom schedule at the beginning of the school year. Pittsburgh Dilworth follows a six (6) day schedule. The school calendar always indicates the rotation day number on the calendar. A monthly school calendar is sent home to families. The calendar lists special activities, parent meetings, and other important information. The school calendar is also posted on the [school webpage](#). The District Calendar can be downloaded and printed [here](#).

2024–2025 District Calendar
Commencing August 26, 2024 and concluding June 10, 2025

August 2024							September 2024							October 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

November 2024							December 2024							January 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30						26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025							March 2025							April 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1						1			1	2	3	4	5	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			

May 2025							June 2025							July 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

[PPS Policy 204](#)

Arrival

Students will be permitted to enter the building beginning at 8:55am for breakfast. Any student arriving after 9:50am will be considered late and receive a late note from the main office. To encourage a sense of early independence and a building of self-esteem we ask parents to permit their children to enter the building on their own. To maintain a safe school environment, parents are not permitted to walk students beyond the main office.

*Students arriving AFTER 9:50am should be accompanied by an adult to the front entrance, located on Stanton Avenue.

Breakfast & Lunch

All students at Pittsburgh Dilworth receive free breakfast and lunch. Breakfast begins at 8:55am and ends at 9:25am. We encourage all students to arrive promptly to receive breakfast daily.

Dismissal

Students are dismissed at 3:55pm. Students who ride the bus or are picked up by an after-school program will be walked by an assigned adult to the auditorium where they will sit until the bus is ready to depart. All walkers and pick-ups will be in front of the school with their teacher.

*In the event of an emergency that does not permit your child to be picked up on time, please contact the main office immediately.

2 Hour Delays/School Closings

On days in which a 2-hour delay is determined, students will NOT be able to enter the building earlier than 10:55am. There will be NO staff available to assist before this time. Students arriving AFTER 11:35am on such days, will be marked tardy. There is no late breakfast this day. Unscheduled school closings due to inclement weather or other emergencies, 2-hour delays, snow days and remote days are announced on most local stations, television stations, PPS website, and PPS social media accounts, as early as 6:00am.

Transportation

School Bus Regulations

All students must be approved by the Board of Education in order to receive transportation to and from school. Without approval from the PPS Transportation Office, students will not be permitted to ride a school bus. Students will only be picked up and dropped off at bus stops approved by the Transportation Office and must only ride the bus to which they are assigned. In order to continue to receive transportation privileges, students are expected to display appropriate behavior at all times, including remaining in assigned seats.

Changes in Transportation

If a student's mode of transportation needs changed for dismissal on any given day, the parent/guardian must provide the main office with a note and send a TalkingPoints message to the teacher detailing the following:

- Student's first and last name
- Homeroom teacher
- Requested change for dismissal.
- Date for requested change
- Parent/guardian printed and signed name.

The main office will contact the parent/guardian to confirm the requested change. If for any reason the main office is unable to get in contact with anyone, the student will follow their typical dismissal practice.

Parking

When dropping students off please do not park on Collins Street. This helps to keep our students safe and traffic flowing. Our parking lot is for STAFF ONLY. Parents will be subjected to being ticketed if parking in the lot for any length of time. On street parking must be found during student drop off, pick-up, and during school hours for parent meetings. This is a safety concern.

In the event a student is absent

Non-Medical Absences – a written note must be submitted by a parent/guardian within 3 days of the student's return. Without a note, the absence will remain unexcused.

Family vacations will not be listed as excused absences. Please refer to the

After 3 unexcused absences a Student Attendance Conference will be scheduled with the Social Worker/Counselor.

After 5 unexcused absences a citation for truancy will be issued.

Medical Absences – a medical excuse must be received from a doctor providing reason for absence, within 3 days of the student's return. Without a medical excuse the absence will then be categorized as a non-medical absence. In this case, steps for non-medical excuses must be followed.

Tardies

Tardiness affects a student's attendance, as well as interrupting instructional time. All students who arrive at school late must receive a tardy pass from the main office.

Tardiness due to a school bus/van arriving late or with a medical excuse from a doctor/dental appointment, will be marked as excused.

Early Dismissal Requests

Parents/guardians are encouraged to schedule doctor/dental appointments outside of school hours. If an appointment must be scheduled during school hours, send a written note in with your child, contact the main office and send a TalkingPoints to your child's teachers. In addition, an approved adult listed on the student's Emergency Contact Form must be present to pick up the student. All early dismissals must occur BEFORE 3:30 pm so as not to interrupt the safety of our dismissal procedures. Overcommunication is best when planning for early dismissals.

Withdrawing a student

In the event of students moving and being enrolled in another school, a records request must be received by Dilworth from the new school. This request serves as confirmation that the student has been enrolled elsewhere, permitting the student to be removed from Dilworth's roster. Until such a request is received, the student will continue to accumulate unexcused absences. Also, if you are moving to a new district, student computers/iPad's must be returned to the school before any records can be released to the enrolling school.

Attendance Related Terms Defined

Unexcused Absence: When Student is not at school, a written excuse is not provided within 3 days.

Tardy: Arriving after the posted start time for class or school without a written excuse.

Truant: Student has had 3 or more unexcused absences.

Habitually Truant: Student has had 6 or more unexcused absences.

SAIC School Attendance Improvement Conference: Conference during which reasons for missing school are reviewed in an effort to improve a student's attendance.

SAIP School Attendance Improvement Plan: The plan outlining efforts to improve student's attendance.

ACADEMICS

Curriculum

PPS has partnered with Imagine Learning for the adoption of the new Imagine Learning Illustrative Mathematics (IM) K-8 curriculum. This research-based program fosters deep conceptual understanding and critical thinking skills, preparing all students for success in math.

IM for K-8 offers:

Engaging, problem-based learning: Students develop a love of math through real-world problems and collaborative activities.

Focus on mathematical reasoning: Students learn to explain their thinking, justify their solutions, and make connections between concepts.

Rigorous content aligned to standards: The curriculum ensures students master essential math skills and knowledge.

Supporting Families:

We understand the importance of family involvement in student learning. The Imagine Learning Family Support Hub provides families with resources to understand the curriculum and support their child's math journey at home.

Visit the Family Support Hub: [Imagine Learning Family Support Hub](#)

Dilworth will continue utilizing the Open Court Reading curriculum for all ELA classes. We also provide opportunities for our students to explore their artistic talents outside of the classroom with a distinct focus on the arts and humanities. Dilworth will continue to utilize Wayfinder for our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) instruction. Elementary students receive a minimum of 20 SEL lessons throughout the school year.

English Language Learner (ELL)

It is the policy of Pittsburgh Public Schools to provide an appropriate planned instructional program for identified students whose dominant language is not English. The purpose of the program is to increase the English language proficiency of eligible students so that they can attain academic standards and achieve academic success.

The ELL program provides total English immersion for students, who receive one to three ELL classes daily, depending on their English proficiency level. ELL students are provided with the support needed to effectively adjust to American culture through an individualized, student-centered learning environment. ELL students can participate fully in general education classes as quickly as possible and in extracurricular activities.

Course Offerings

Pittsburgh Dilworth Pre- K-5 students who are eligible for special education services are supported through the Program for Students with Exceptionalities.

- Emotional Support, grades K-5
- Learning Support, Grades K-5
- Speech and Language services are available for eligible students in grades K-5.
- Science, Social Studies, ELA, Math, Art, Music, Gym, Library, are available for all students.
- Students can sign up for instrumental in grades 4 and 5.

School-Issued Materials

Technology

Each student has access to computers/iPads and are the property of PPS with the expectation of usage for the completing of school assignments only. All devices are subject to inspection, in the event a teacher or administrator suspects misuse of the device. Parents are responsible for the replacement fee of \$200.00 for any device damaged or lost while in the care of their child. There is a \$25.00 fee for all dell chargers and \$35.00

for iPad chargers that are lost. Students are responsible for bringing their charged computers/iPads to school daily with the charger. All students are asked to acknowledge the PPS Office of Information Technology [Acceptable Use Form](#).

Library Books & Textbooks

Parents/guardians will be responsible to cover the cost of any library or textbook that is lost or damaged while in their possession. In the event a lost book is found, a refund will be issued. (Cash or money orders only)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

[PPS POLICY 226](#)

At Pittsburgh Dilworth, we believe in the importance of academic integrity as a fundamental part of our learning community. Our administration and staff have developed four universal PBIS expectations for all students in Grades K-5, emphasizing the core values that guide our daily interactions and learning experiences.

1. **Be Safe:** Ensure that your actions contribute to a safe and supportive environment where everyone can learn and grow.
2. **Be Engaged!:** Actively participate by proactively using your voice to contribute to discussions and by sharing your gifts and talents when opportunities arise.

3. Be Responsible: Take ownership of your actions and your learning. This means doing your best, completing your work honestly, and admitting when you need help or have made a mistake.

4. Be Kind: Show respect to your classmates, teachers, and yourself. This includes valuing others' work and ideas and using uplifting words and actions towards yourself, peers, and adults.

In our classrooms, teachers may also implement additional procedures to support these expectations, ensuring that every student understands and practices academic integrity. By adhering to these principles, we create a community where everyone can succeed and feel valued. Let's all commit to being safe, engaged, responsible, and above all, kind!

DRESS CODE

[PPS POLICY 221](#)

Dilworth Student Uniform

Shirts: White Shirt with a collar, White Blouses, Turtleneck Shirts, Polo shirts

Bottoms: Navy Blue Pants, Navy Blue Skirt, Navy Blue Jumper, Navy Blue Walking Shorts or Capris

**** Additional Information**

- Belts may be worn with pants or skirts
- Ties with shirts that have collars (optional)
- White or navy socks/tights
- Jeans are not a part of the uniform. Please save jeans for special occasions.
- Students must have tennis shoes for gym classes
- Students should have a sweater (white or navy blue) for the winter months.
Students are not permitted to wear hooded sweatshirts or hats in the building.
- Students may wear Dilworth T-shirts or sweatshirts that have been purchased from our shirt sales that demonstrate school pride (spirit wear).

- Flip-Flops, Crocs, open toe sandals, slippers, and slides are NOT permitted.
- **Students will have the opportunity on specified dates to dress up or dress down out of uniform. Students may only dress out of uniform on communicated dress down days. These do not take place every Friday and are carefully planned to align with particular school events and expectations.**

Performance Attire:

Students that participate in our music program will be expected to wear the following:

- White Shirt with a collar
- Black Bottoms
- Dress Shoes (Black)

Uniform Exchange Program

Families often donate new/gently used uniform items to our uniform exchange closet. If you are in need of clothing, please contact our Social Worker, Mrs. Hart @nhart1@pghschools.org, or by calling the main office for assistance. We will work together to ensure that every child is properly and adequately outfitted for school.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

[*PPS POLICY 216*](#)

Cell Phones, Smart Watches, & Tablets

All students' personal technology is collected as students arrive to school, placed in secured classroom bin (in an envelope with the student's name), and returned during the homeroom at the end of the day.

EXTRACURRICULAR OFFERINGS

[*PPS Policy 119*](#)

Pittsburgh Dilworth offers numerous extracurricular activities to students in grades K-5, with most options opening in grade 3, following several years of introductory lessons presented through our Talent Enrichment Activities (TEA) period. TEA provides students with self-selected options such as American Sign Language, Storytelling, World Drumming, Art Exploration, Gardening, Math Games, Knitting, Coding & STEM, Yearbook, and more. In addition to TEA, there are several digital programs that students can access, using their district provided laptops and iPads.

Information will be provided to families as each extracurricular activity arises throughout the school year.

Extracurricular Offerings (subject to change)

Co-ed Basketball 3-5

Track 3-5

Swim Team 3-5

Fishing Club K-5

Spanish Club 1-5

Theatre (DMis) 4-5

Student Envoy 3-5

Recycling Club 3-5
Girl Scouts K-5
Male Mentoring 3-5
Strong Women Strong Girls 3-5
African Drumming K-5
Chorus K-5
Curriculum Embedded Theatre & Arts via Pgh Cult. Trust Arts Partnership

Our students also have daily opportunities to exercise leadership skills and perfect their showmanship by leading and/or performing during morning meeting.

Dilworth has partnerships with community organizations such as The Spanish Place, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Arts, Mawatu Male Mentoring Program, Oasis Tutors, Strong Women Strong Girls, and many local universities to provide additional opportunities for meeting the needs of a diverse student population. We partner with Deakings Daycare to provide families with before- school care and after- school care until 6:00 P.M.

All students in grades K-5 are scheduled for physical education, art, and music. Students are also scheduled with the librarian weekly for book circulation. The choral and instrumental music students prepare annual winter and spring concerts
All of our programs support academic achievement, as well as the development of the whole child.

Field Trips

Field trips provide cultural, social, and educational enrichment for students; however, they can involve risks that are different from a regular school day. For this reason, we sometimes request parental attendance and/or students may be required to meet safety, behavioral, and academic criteria.

GRADING

[*PPS Policy 209*](#)

At Dilworth, we believe that consistent communication and review of data is essential for helping our students achieve their personal educational goals. Our grading policy is designed to provide valuable insights into your child's progress, allowing teachers, students, and parents to work together effectively. Consideration is taken to focus more on the learning journey and growth, than on letter grades. We aim to build students' confidence and to communicate frequently with parents so that there is clear two-way communication on each child's academic performance and potential.

By staying connected and working together, we can make sure that every child at Pittsburgh Dilworth receives the support and encouragement they need to thrive.

HOMEWORK PROCEDURES

[*PPS Policy 115*](#)

Homework and/or independent practice, which reinforces learning by way of additional dedicated time and practice, has been identified as a vital factor in increasing student

achievement. It has been proven that parental support in the process of learning through studying and practicing at home can aid students in critical thinking and skill application. Additional benefits include developing self-regulation, work habits, independence, and a sense of personal responsibility. It also stimulates imagination, originality and creativity.

HEALTH SERVICES

[PPS Policy 206](#)

Nurse Tia Ellis, who is dedicated to the health and well-being of our students, will return to Dilworth as our veteran full time health care provider. Our health protocols and procedures are established by the district to ensure a safe and healthy environment for everyone. Please note that there may be instances where a nurse may not be available for the full school day. On those occasions, we utilize our First Aid Kits as appropriate and contact parents/guardians.

We strongly encourage parents to keep your child's immunization and health records up to date. All health-related communication should be directed to Nurse Ellis to ensure that we have the most accurate and current information for your child.

Medications

Over the counter and/or doctor prescribed medications, must be brought to the school by an adult. Students should NOT bring medications of any kind to school. All prescribed medication must be accompanied by a doctor's order and in the original bottle for it to be accepted by the school nurse.

Illness/Injury

Any student injured/ill in school will be treated by the school nurse who will in turn notify the parent/guardian of the injury/illness. In the event the school nurse is unable to reach a parent/guardian, all attempts will be made to contact the emergency numbers listed on the student's Emergency Contact Form. Students who are seriously ill or contagious must be picked up from the school by an approved adult. Please establish several emergency contacts prior to the start of the school year.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a healthy school environment!

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

[PPS POLICY 813.1](#)

At Dilworth, we are committed to integrating technology into our curriculum to enhance learning and prepare students for the digital world. We follow the district's acceptable use policy to ensure that all technology is used responsibly and safely.

Students are encouraged to use technology as a tool for learning, creativity, and collaboration. They are expected to adhere to guidelines that promote respectful, ethical, and safe use of digital resources. This includes not sharing personal information, respecting the privacy of others, and using devices and internet access only for educational purposes. When assigned to a virtual learning day, students will be expected to log on DAILY to engage in learning from 9:10 AM – 3:55 PM. Attendance is taken by subject and/or period during Virtual Learning Days.

Each student has access to individually assigned computers/iPads which are the property of PPS and are to be used for academic purposes only. All devices are inspected if a teacher or administrator suspects misuse of the device. Parents are responsible for the replacement fee of \$200.00 for any device damaged or lost while in the care of their child. There is a \$25.00 fee for all Dell chargers and \$35.00 for iPad chargers that are lost. Students are responsible for bringing their charged devices to school daily with the charger.

Parents, please review the district's [acceptable use policy](#) with your child and reinforce the importance of responsible technology use. If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to contact our school office. Together, we can ensure a positive and productive digital learning environment for all our students.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

At Dilworth we are dedicated to serving the whole child by providing comprehensive support services. Our full time social worker, Mrs. Hart and our full time counselor, Mr. Phillips work together to address the social and emotional needs of our students and families.

Our approach includes universal supports for all students, informed by data to identify specific needs. We have robust systems in place for tiered support, such as the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and the Student Assistance Program (SAP). These frameworks ensure that every student receives the appropriate level of intervention and support to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Below is list of additional resources that families can explore. Additional resources may be referred based on specific needs. We aim to create robust experiences and opportunities for students and families beyond the walls of our building.

Alliance for Community Respite Care - 1(888) 954-2424

A collaborative network of families, providers, community members and advocates who work to ensure the availability of quality respite care.

www.classcommunity.org/how-we-help/alliance-community-respite-care

Allegheny Family Network (AFN) - 1(888) 273-2361

Supports and partners with families raising children with emotional and mental health needs to improve their quality of life.

www.alleghenyfamilynetwork.cfsites.org

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - (412) 622-3114

The Carnegie library has multiple branch locations offering special services such as job career and educational centers.

www.clpgh.org

Child Care Information Services - CCIS of Allegheny County – (412) 261-2273 or 1(800) 392-3131

CCIS serves as a primary resource to assist families with child care referrals, emergency childcare, subsidized care for qualifying families, and promotes quality child care by offering training in subjects such as early literacy.

<http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/findfacilsandlocs/childcareinformationservices/>

Children’s Health Insurance Program - CHIP - 1(800) 986-5437

Pennsylvania’s program to provide health insurance to all uninsured children and teens who are not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance.

www.chipcoverspakids.com

Family Resources - (412) 363-1702

Family Resources offers many services to help parents and children improve their relationship along with youth enrichment activities at its centers.

www.familyresourcesofpa.org

The Mentoring Partnership of Southwestern Pennsylvania - (412) 281-2535

Helps mentoring programs by providing training, recruiting, quality assistance, and support to increase the number of mentors in the community.

www.mentoringpittsburgh.org

Parent Education & Advocacy Leadership (PEAL) Center - (412) 281-4404

The PEAL Center is an organization of parents of children with disabilities reaching out to assist other parents and professionals.

www.pealcenter.org

Pittsburgh Public Schools - (412) 529-4357 (Parent Hotline)

The Pittsburgh Public Schools believes in regular, two-way, meaningful communication connecting student academic learning and other school activities; to this end the Parent Hotline is one of a number of resources to assist parents and families in engagement.

www.pps.k12.pa.us

Right to Education Task Force – (412) 529-2300

The Local Task Force provides opportunities for parents, guardians and community members to ask questions about special education services as well as address concerns that affect students with disabilities in the Pittsburgh Public School District.

Program for Students with Exceptionalities PSE/Oliver

2323 Brighton Rd.

Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212

ltf2pgh@gmail.com

<http://on.fb.me/1vtwvYK>

United Way of Allegheny County - 211 (HelpLine), (412) 261-6010

United Way of Allegheny County provides information to families through their online resource Help Connections; agency funding, planning, and community problem solving for health and human services agencies operating with in Allegheny County.

www.unitedwaypittsburgh.org

Children's Services

Achieva - (412) 995-5000

A world-renowned leader in the field of disabilities, known for its innovative programs, and dedication to children with disabilities and their families.

www.achieva.info

Alliance for Infants and Toddlers - (412) 885-6000

This program provides service coordination, screenings, assessments, family support services, and early intervention service coordination to families with children between the ages of birth to three years of age.

www.afit.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh - (412) 363-6100

Big Brothers Big Sisters increases the self-confidence of children and the probability that they will become fully integrated members of society, leading productive and rewarding lives through mentoring and enrichment programs.

www.bbbspittsburgh.org

Boys and Girls Clubs - (412) 782-5710

The BGC is a unique organization consisting of 8 Club facilities, a Charter H.S., Outlet Connection retail venture, Campfire USA, and extension programs. Our goal is to provide every child with the essential tools needed for a successful & bright future.

www.bgcwpa.org

Catholic Charities, Child Care Support Services - (412) 456-6999

Catholic Charities provides counseling, refugee resettlement, respite care, utility assistance, emergency relief, tangible assistance services and makes referrals for clients. In 2007 it expanded services by opening a Free HealthCare Center.

www.ccpgh.org

Children's Institute - (412) 420-2400

The Children's Institute is a nonprofit pediatric rehabilitation facility which provides education services for children ages two to 21 with cognitive or physical disabilities with in-home services for children and families with special needs.

www.amazingkids.org

Girl Scouts - Trillium Council - (412) 566-2570 or 1(800) 248-3355

The Girl Scouts inspires girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens.

www.gswpa.org

Greater Pittsburgh Council Boy Scouts of America - (412) 471-2927

The Boy Scouts trains young people in citizenship, service, and physical fitness through the Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing programs, & more.

www.gpc-bsa.org

Junior Achievement of Southwest PA Inc. – (412) 208-4747

JA's purpose is to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise and understand business & economics to improve the quality of their lives.

<https://www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-westernpa>

Parks and Recreation - (412) 255-2539

Parks and Recreation offers a wide variety of recreational programs and facilities for use by Pittsburgh citizens.

<http://pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks/>

Pittsburgh Toy Lending Library - (412) 682-4430

The Pittsburgh Toy Lending Library, a cooperative run by volunteers, is an indoor play-space for children, prekindergarten, and their caregivers.

www.pghtoys.org

Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh - (412) 227-4802

The Urban League is the largest social and educational service provider and advocacy agency devoted to empowering African Americans to enter the economic and social mainstream community in Pittsburgh through its diverse programs.

www.ulpgh.org

YMCA- (412) 227-3800

YMCAs serve America's children, families and communities by "building healthy spirit, mind and body for all."

www.ymcaofpittsburgh.org

Youth Places - (412) 434-0851

Youth Places promotes the positive cognitive, social, physical, emotional and moral development of youth by providing a safe place for them to engage in a range of activities.

www.youthplaces.org

Youth Works Inc. - (412) 281-6629

Youth Works builds a community solution to help young people whose potential might be overlooked to pursue employment and career development opportunities.

www.youthworksinc.org

YWCA Greater Pittsburgh - (412) 391-5100

YWCA works to improve our community by increasing the status of women, girls, families and advancing racial justice by tackling homelessness, childcare needs, unemployment, fair housing and civil rights issues.

www.ywcapgh.org

Student Expectations/Procedures

[*Policy 212*](#) [*PPS Code of Conduct*](#)

At Dilworth, we are committed to fostering a culture of high support and high expectations for our students both on and off school grounds, including district-provided transportation. Bus safety is a top priority for us, and we emphasize the importance of responsible behavior while traveling to and from school.

Our approach to student behavior and discipline is guided by the district code of conduct, which informs how behavior is labeled and addressed. We manage discipline directly at the school level, employing a progressive discipline approach when appropriate.

Parent support visits are scheduled as necessary, to support students exhibiting significant behaviors of concern. This ensures that students are held accountable for their actions, and gives parents insight into the general operations and activities taking place in the school, so that parents and staff can align messaging and support to address and support students with correcting behaviors of concern.

Depending on the nature and frequency of referrals, bus suspensions may be issued to maintain the safety and well-being of all students.

Our goal is to create a supportive and structured environment where every student can succeed.

Positive Behavior Incentive System

Pittsburgh Dilworth utilizes a Positive Behavioral Intervention System (PBIS) to recognize positive student behavior. The goal of our PBIS Program is to create a learning environment where students can learn and grow. The PBIS expectations matrix is uploaded on the school website. Classroom-based and school-wide monthly incentives are planned to celebrate our students achieving positive behavior goals. The expectations are our students will: Be Kind, Be Responsible, Be Safe, Be Engaged.

Every month students learn about a specific character trait to support our PBIS. Students are recognized monthly for demonstrating positive student behavior through the Dilworth Student of the Month Program. Students will also be recognized for other areas of holistic achievement during these programs. Parents will receive notification and are welcome to attend these ceremonies.

Restorative Practices

All students engage in formal and informal processes of Restorative Practices.

Outside Expectations

To ensure the safety of all, students are expected to practice respectable behaviors walking to/from school, and during recess. During weather conditions that include rain or snow, students are asked to refrain from horseplay such as hitting students with umbrellas, picking up snow for ANY reason, etc.

Valuables & Toys

Students are to leave all valuables, large sums of money, and toys at home. In the event these items are brought to school, upon arrival, they will be taken and returned only to a parent/guardian. Items that are not retrieved will be discarded at year's end. Pittsburgh Dilworth will not be responsible for any items lost or stolen from students while in school, including computers and chargers.

VISITOR POLICY

[*PPS Policy 1104*](#)

To ensure a safe and productive learning environment for all students, we ask that all visitors adhere to our school policy. Visitors to the building must follow building and district safety guidelines. All visitors must report to the front of the building and ring the bell to the far left. Once your appointment or purpose for visit is confirmed by our clerical staff, you will be buzzed into the building. All visitors must keep their visitor's badge visible, and wait in the main office to be escorted to their meeting location.

In the event of a full lockdown, all exterior doors and windows will be locked, keeping all staff, students, and any visitors inside the building until cleared by School Police. No entry or exit will be permitted, except approved by emergency/administrative crisis teams. Any visitors inside of the building during a Full Lockdown must follow the direction of our School Safety Team, failure to do so puts everyone's safety at risk and may result in loss of any/all visiting privileges to our building.

We encourage parents to volunteer within the school and classroom. Opportunities will be communicated and links for sign-ups will be provided. To ensure the safety and well-being of our students, all volunteers must have up-to-date clearances on file with the main office before participating in any school activities. For detailed information on our volunteer policy and clearance requirements, please visit our [district website](#).

ADDITIONAL PPS DISTRICT POLICIES

Please click on the link below to learn more about our District's Code of Conduct

- [Code of Conduct](#)
- Please click on the link below to learn more about our District's Non-Discrimination Policy
- [Non-Discrimination Policy](#)
- Please click on the link below for information about Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness
- [Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness](#)

- Please use the link below to find out more about Special Education Services and Programs, Services for Protected Handicapped Students (504), and Services for Gifted Students:[PSE \(Special Education\) / Child Find Annual Notice \(pghschools.org\)](#)

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

Phone Messages

Except in cases of dire emergency, messages from parent/guardian to student will be relayed during the change of classes or lunch time, not during instruction.

Safety Practices & Drills

Standard Response Protocol/I Love U Guys Protocol

Fire Drills

Fire drills are necessary to ensure the safety of all students and staff. Information to aid all during a fire drill is posted in each room of the school.

Evacuation

Evacuations may occur in the case of a threat, fire, or any other event that may compromise the safety of students and staff. Students and staff will be evacuated from the school and taken to a designated evacuation site in the event administration determines such plan to be the safest. The safe location of all students will be communicated by way of the district phone blast system. During this time, attendance is taken to ensure all staff and students are present and safe.

In order for an approved adult to pick-up students from the evacuation site, the following procedures must be followed:

- Provide valid identification.
- Sign out student.
- Wait patiently as a staff member retrieves the student.

- Parents/Guardians are encouraged not to report to school in case of a threat, fire, or any other event to prevent compromise of personal safety. Families are to wait for notification from the Board of Education.