

Arsenal PreK-5



Student Handbook 2024-2025



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SUPERINTENDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 Families,

As we embark on the 2024-2025 school year, I am excited to share Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5'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 Arsenal PreK-5'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 Arsenal PreK-5.

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

Greetings Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 Community,

Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 is a neighborhood school with a diverse population. We provide an academic environment that focuses on developing the whole child and supporting students in becoming problem solvers, leaders, and the best version of themselves. We believe that every child can achieve excellence, and it is our goal to provide students with the skills, knowledge, tools, and supports they need to excel in life.



We strive to be a caring school that emphasizes effort, creates hope, builds relationships, and collaborates effectively. We are committed to a culture of excellence by producing academic and social growth and achievement where everyone is valued as a learner and leader, contributing to the global society.

As principal of Arsenal Pre K-5, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone back for another wonderful school year. I am excited to have students return to our classrooms and hallways filling them with energy

and enthusiasm for learning. This year's theme is "On Point: Productive, Optimistic, Innovative, Noble, and Tenacious. We are thinkers, readers, writers, and problem solvers! We will work efficiently to establish a learning culture focused on continuous improvement so that students will demonstrate academic growth and achievement.

Our teachers utilize research-based best practices and frequently analyze academic data to determine current skill levels, set goals, and identify specific actions for growth and improvement. We believe that all students should leave Arsenal prepared for the academic and social demands of middle school. I am honored to witness the growth and achievement of your child! This year will be one to remember!

Sincerely,

Dr. Ruthie Rea
Principal

SCHOOL VISION AND MISSION

Vision

We are committed to a culture of excellence by producing academic and social growth and achievement, where everyone is valued as a learner and leader, contributing to the global society.

Mission

Arsenal PreK-5 will be a caring and high performing school by creating equitable conditions that engage all students, teachers, parents, and community members in positive learning experiences that are data driven, innovative, differentiated, culturally relevant and rigorous.



SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION



Arsenal PreK-5

215 39th Street

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15201

Phone: 412-529-5738

Fax: 412-622-7307

<https://www.pghschools.org/arsenalprek-5>

COMMUNITY SCHOOL INFORMATION

Mission Statement

Community schools promote student achievement, positive learning conditions, and the well-being of families and communities through tailored programs and partnerships.

Vision Statement

Empowering Minds, Building School Community while Sustaining Transformative Impact

Belief Statement

Strong partnerships between District schools and community resources are essential to offering comprehensive programs focusing on academics, enrichment, health and social support, youth and community development, and family engagement. We are deeply committed to promoting student achievement, fostering positive conditions for learning, and enhancing the well-being of families and communities based on each school's unique needs. This commitment ensures that students receive the best education.

Pittsburgh Public Schools Policy: <https://tinyurl.com/PPSCSPolicy>

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

Calendars

A monthly calendar is distributed to each student/family detailing special school events, club meetings, field trips, after-school programs, and other items of interest to the students and their families. Calendars are distributed the last Wednesday of every month for the upcoming month.

Parent Communication

Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 staff share upcoming events and other relevant information that parents need to know through Talking Points, Facebook, PBIS Rewards, Class Dojo, and through the Wednesday folders. Students are given a communication folder for homework and school notices. These folders are sent home every Wednesday with correspondence from the school.

Conferences

Conference sign-up letters will be sent home the last week in September for Parent/Teacher conferences that occur every October. Parents are encouraged to arrange conferences at any time during the school year by contacting the teacher or school secretary.

There are opportunities for parents to serve or participate within the school. Please consider joining the PSCC by emailing Dr. Rea at rea1@pghschools.org. If interested

in volunteering, please contact Mrs. Chernay at jchernay1@pghschools.org.

- Parent School Community Council (PSCC)
- School Volunteers

Family Nights

A quarterly family night occurs for the students, parents, and community members. These activities provide the parents with an evening to engage with curricular resources, meet other parents, learn in a fun way, and engage in experiences with their children. These events are included in a year-long parent engagement calendar sent home and posted to the website and social media in September.

STAFF ROSTER

Grade Level	Teacher	Teacher's Email Address	Phone Number
Pre-K Teachers	Carly Richardson	crichardson1@pghschools.org	412-529-5758
	Stephanie Cryor	scryor1@pghschools.org	412-529-5776
	Jill Strong-Phillips	jstrongphillips1@pghschools.org	412-529-5766
Pre-K Paraprofessionals	Gabriella Vieira	gvieira1@pghschools.org	
	William Stephens	wstephens1@pghschools.org	
	Maryann Nene	mnene1@pghschools.org	
Family Service Specialist	Raeshonda Wellen	rwellen1@pghschools.org	412-529-5771
Kindergarten Teachers	Jessica Chernay	jchernay1@pghschools.org	412-529-6321
	Holly Williams	hwilliams2@pghschools.org	412-529-6318
First Grade	Megan Ohler	mohler1@pghschools.org	412-529-4536

	Michelle Ebeck Elizabeth Baker	mebeck1@pghschools.org ebaker1@pghschools.org	412-529-5794 412-529-5783
Second Grade	Robyn McCoy Amanda Strawder	rmccoy2@pghschools.org astrawder1@pghschools.org	412-529-3072 412-529-3074
Third Grade	Jennifer Frisco Danielle Keyes	jfrisco1@pghschools.org dkeyes1@pghschools.org	412-529-6424 412-529-2957
Fourth Grade	Shaunte Johnson-ELA Allison McLean-Math	sjohnson2@pghschools.org amclean1@pghschools.org	412-529-6422 412-529-6411
Fifth Grade	Jennifer Martinez-Math Jade Singleton- ELA (English Language Arts)	jmartinez2@pghschools.org jsingleton1@pghschools.org	412-529-5278 412-529-6336
Program for Students with Exceptionalities	Brianna Barbarino- Autistic Support Amanda Noll- K-3 Schuyler Pratkanis- Speech	bbarbarino1@pghschools.org anoll1@pghschools.org spratkanis1@pghschools.org	412-529-6358 412-529-6347 412-529-5748
PSE Paraprofessional	James Johnson	jjohnson2@pghschools.org	
PSE Classroom Asst	Gina Lee	glee1@pghschools.org	
PSE Classroom Asst	Linda McKelvia	lmckelvia1@pghschools.org	
ELA Coach	Matt Kruth	mkruth1@pghschools.org	412-529-6434
English as a Second Language Teachers	Kristine Brennan- 2 nd & 4 th grade Ginger Thompkins- 3 rd grade Michelle Srednicki- 4 th & 5 th grade Demi Stonick- K & 1 st grade Lily Manganiello- Math 2 nd -5 th grade Lusambo Muderhwa	kbrennan1@pghschools.org gthompkins1@pghschools.org msrednicki1@pghschools.org dstonick1@pghschools.org lmanganiello1@pghschools.org lmuderhwa1@pghschools.org	412-529-5777 412-529-2959 412-529-2960 412-529-5778 412-529-5272
ESL Paraprofessional			
Related Academic Teachers	Edward Ashi- Physical Education Ann Lewis- Art John Robertson- Science Nyomin Hatok - Music Elizabeth Peel- Library	eashi1@pghschools.org alewis3@pghschools.org jrobertson1@pghschools.org nhatok1@pghschools.org epeel1@pghschools.org	412-529-4534 412-529-6355 412-529-2958 412-529-6352
Instrumental Music	Louis Strobel	lstrobel1@pghschools.org	
School Counselor	Shanekka Mason	smason2@pghschools.org	412-529-5796
School Nurse	Cherri Rogers	crogers1@pghschools.org	412-529-5566
Community in Schools Site Manager			
Principal	Dr. Ruthie Rea	rrea1@pghschools.org	412-529-5739
SDSS	Deanna Mitchell	dmitchell2@pghschools.org	412-529-5738

BELL SCHEDULE

**ARSENAL PreK-5
BELL SCHEDULE
2024- 2025**

Period	Start Time	End Time	Total Time
Teacher Arrival	8:00		
Paraprofessional Arrival Report to Duty Warning Bell	8:20		
Student Breakfast	8:25	8:40	15 minutes
Homeroom	8:40	8:46	6 minutes
1 <i>3rd grade Intervention</i>	8:46	9:29	43 minutes
2	9:29	10:12	43 minutes
3	10:12	10:55	43 minutes
4 LUNCH for PreK-1 st grade <i>5th grade Intervention</i>	10:55	11:40	45 minutes
5 LUNCH for 2 nd - 5 th grade <i>Kindergarten Intervention</i>	11:40	12:25	45 minutes
6 <i>1st - 2nd grade Intervention</i>	12:25	1:10	45 minutes
7	1:10	1:53	43 minutes
8	1:53	2:36	43 minutes
9 <i>4th grade Intervention</i>	2:36	3:19	43 minutes
Homeroom/Transition	3:19	3:25	6 minutes
Student Dismissal	3:25		

ARSENAL PreK-5
 HALF DAY BELL SCHEDULE
 2024-2025

Half Day Schedule 9.20.2024, 11.15.2024, 2.7.2025, 3.7.2025

Period	Start Time	End Time	
Student Breakfast	8:25	8:40	15 minutes
Homeroom	8:40	8:46	6 minutes
1	8:46	9:29	43 minutes
4 K & 1 Student Lunch	9:29	10:12	43 minutes
5 2-5 Student Lunch	10:12	10:55	43 minutes
9 Students return to HR	10:55	11:40	45 minutes
Student Dismissal	11:40 11:45 11:55	All-call to begin transitioning Walker dismissal Bus dismissal	
Staff Professional Learning	12:30	3:30	3 hours
Teacher Dismissal	3:30		

ARSENAL PreK-5
 HALF DAY BELL SCHEDULE
 2024-2025

Half Day Schedule 10.25.2024, 12.13.2025, 2.21.2025, 3.21.2025

Period	Start Time	End Time	
Student Breakfast	8:25	8:40	15 minutes
Homeroom	8:40	8:46	6 minutes
7	8:46	9:29	43 minutes
4 K & 1 Student Lunch	9:29	10:12	43 minutes
5 2-5 Student Lunch	10:12	10:55	43 minutes
9 Students return to HR	10:55	11:40	45 minutes
Student Dismissal	11:40 11:45 11:55	All-call to begin transitioning Walker dismissal Bus dismissal	
Staff Professional Learning	12:30	3:30	3 hours
Teacher Dismissal	3:30		

ARSENAL PreK-5 2-hour delay BELL SCHEDULE

2024- 2025

Schedule A

Period	Start Time	End Time	Total Time
No Breakfast Program Student Arrival	10:30	10:40	10 minutes
Homeroom/ Restorative Circle	10:40	10:55	15 minutes
4 PreK – 1 st grade Lunch	10:55	11:40	45 minutes
5 2 nd -5 th grade Lunch	11:40	12:25	45 minutes
1	12:25	1:10	45 minutes
2	1:10	1:53	43 minutes
3	1:53	2:36	43 minutes
9	2:36	3:19	43 minutes
Homeroom/Transition	3:19	3:25	6 minutes
Student Dismissal	3:25		
Teacher Dismissal	3:30		
Paraprofessional Dismissal	3:35		

ARSENAL PreK-5 2-hour delay BELL SCHEDULE

2024- 2025

Schedule B

Period	Start Time	End Time	Total Time
No Breakfast Program Student Arrival	10:30	10:40	10 minutes
Homeroom/ Restorative Circle	10:40	10:55	15 minutes
4 PreK – 1 st grade Lunch	10:55	11:40	45 minutes
5 2 nd -5 th grade Lunch	11:40	12:25	45 minutes
6	12:25	1:10	45 minutes
7	1:10	1:53	43 minutes
8	1:53	2:36	43 minutes
9	2:36	3:19	43 minutes
Homeroom/Transition	3:19	3:25	6 minutes
Student Dismissal	3:25		
Teacher Dismissal	3:30		
Paraprofessional Dismissal	3:35		

SCHOOL AND PPS CALENDARS

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



Calendar Key (All dates may be subject to change.)

 First/Last Days of School	 Parent-Teacher Conference Days PreK-5, PreK-8, 6-8 Monday, October 14, 2024 6-12, High School, Special, EHS- Friday, October 18, 2024	↘ Quarter Interim Progress Report	 Pay Date: 12-Month Semimonthly
 Professional Development Days	 All PPS Employee Holidays	📄 Report Card Distribution	 Pay Date: Bi-weekly
 School Only Vacation Days	 Clerical Days	🎓 High School Graduation	 Pay Date: Non-Administrator Semimonthly
 School Board Meetings	 Snow Make-Up Days: TBD		

The Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender (including gender identity or expression), sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or disability in its programs, activities or employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504/ADA Title II Coordinator at 341 S. Bedford Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, 412-329-3950; TitleIXCoordinator@ppschools.org or 412-329-4627.

August 2024 Student Calendar



August 2024 STUDENT CALENDAR

Pittsburgh Arsenal Pre K-5
215 39th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
412-529-7307
Dr. Ruthie Rea, Principal



Arsenal PreK-5 will be a caring and high-performing school by creating equitable conditions that engage all students, teachers, parents, and community members in positive learning experiences that are innovative, differentiated, culturally relevant, and rigorous.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20 Teachers return from summer break Clerical Day	21 Teachers Professional Learning Day Welcome Back Event 4:00—6:00 pm	22 Teacher Professional Learning Day	23 Clerical Day
26 <i>DAY 1</i> First Day of School for students in PreK & 1st-5th Grade Kindergarten testing 8:30—11:30 am or 12:30—3:30 pm	27 <i>DAY 2</i> Kindergarten testing 8:30—11:30 am or 12:30—3:30 pm	28 <i>DAY 3</i> Kindergarten testing 8:30—11:30 am or 12:30—3:30 pm	29 <i>DAY 4</i> First Day of School for Kindergarten	30 <i>DAY 5</i>

REMINDERS:

School begins at 8:40 am and ends at 3:25 pm daily.

Our school doors open daily at 8:25 am for student breakfast. Breakfast occurs from 8:25—8:40 am daily.

Walkers are dismissed daily from the courtyard at the corner of 39th & Butler Street.



Important Dates


- September 2nd NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)
- September 17th Parent School Community Council Meeting via ZOOM at 10:00 am
- September 20th Half day of school for students
- October 3rd NO SCHOOL (Rosh Hashanah)
- October 14th Parent/Teacher Conference Day

ARSENAL PreK-5 BELL SCHEDULE

Document last modified: 20m ago 24- 2025

Period	Start Time	End Time	Total Time
Teacher Arrival	8:00		
Paraprofessional Arrival Report to Duty Warning Bell	8:20		
Student Breakfast	8:25	8:40	15 minutes
Homeroom	8:40	8:46	6 minutes
1 <i>3rd grade Intervention</i>	8:46	9:29	43 minutes
2	9:29	10:12	43 minutes
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4 LUNCH for PreK-1 st grade <i>5th grade Intervention</i>	10:55	11:40	45 minutes
5 LUNCH for 2 nd , 5 th grade <i>Kindergarten Intervention</i>	11:40	12:25	45 minutes
6 <i>1st - 2nd grade Intervention</i>	12:25	1:10	45 minutes
7	1:10	1:53	43 minutes
8	1:53	2:36	43 minutes
9 <i>4th grade Intervention</i>	2:36	3:19	43 minutes
Homeroom/Transition	3:19	3:25	6 minutes
Student Dismissal	3:25		


September 2024 Student Calendar




September 2024 STUDENT CALENDAR

Pittsburgh Arsenal Pre K-5
215 39th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
412-529-7307
Dr. Ruthie Rea, Principal

School Begins at 8:40 am
School Ends at 3:25 pm



Our School Theme: On Point: Productive, Optimistic, Innovative, Nobel & Tenacious
We are thinkers, readers, writers, and problem solvers.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
No School Labor Day HAPPY LABOR DAY	3 DAY 6	4 DAY 1	5 DAY 2	6 DAY 3
9 DAY 4	10 DAY 5	11 DAY 6	12 DAY 1	13 DAY 2
16 DAY 3	17 DAY 4 <i>Parent School Community Council Meeting (PSCC) @ 10:00 am via ZOOM</i>	18 DAY 5	19 DAY 6	20 DAY 1 Half Day Students will be dismissed at 11:55 am
23 DAY 2	24 DAY 3	25 DAY 4	26 DAY 5	27 DAY 6
30 DAY 1				



Our students are kicking off this year's Social Emotional Learning focus area by using our District's SEL platform, **Wayfinder**, we will work to support SEL skill building related to emotion regulation. The **self-regulation of emotion or emotion regulation** is the ability to respond to the ongoing demands of experience with the range of emotions in a manner that is socially tolerable and sufficiently flexible to permit spontaneous reactions.



ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

[PPS Policy 204](#)

Class attendance and participation in classroom learning activities are the basic underlying components of a student's academic work and are necessary for the accomplishment of curriculum objectives.

Pennsylvania State Law requires an explanation from a parent/guardian or physician each time a child is absent from school.

Attendance Policy and Guidelines

What Is A Legal Excuse?

- Illness (absences beyond 10 total days requires an excuse from a doctor).
- Weather emergency, impassable roads.
- Religious holidays recognized by the Board of Education
- Bereavement - temporarily excused for family members death.
- Health care (doctor's note medical/behavioral health)
- Principal approved reasons for absence from school
- Involuntary exclusion (i.e., suspension from school, court summons)

***It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to make up all school work missed during his/her absence.**

When your child is absent from school it is important that you write a note that includes the following information:

- Your child's name and homeroom teacher
- The date the note is written
- The date (s) that your child was absent
- The reason for the absence (please be specific)
- Your signature and a phone number where you can be reached

Truancy and School Attendance in Pennsylvania

In Pennsylvania, all children of “compulsory school age” - i.e., children between the ages of six (6) and eighteen (18) - must attend school.

Once your child has three (3) or more unexcused absences in the current school year—meaning your child is “truant”—your child’s school must send you written notice explaining that your child is truant. The school must send this notice within ten (10) days of your child’s third unexcused absence.

Once your child becomes habitually truant, the school must take certain actions depending on whether your child is under fifteen (15) or is fifteen (15) or older. These actions include:

- Referrals to a community based or school-based attendance improvement program
- A truancy citation filed with the local Magisterial District Courts
- A referral to the county Children, Youth and Family Services (CYF) agency

POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES FROM THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURTS

- A fine: You may be fined up to \$300 for the first offense, up to \$500 for the second offense, and up to \$750 for the third and any subsequent offenses
- Community service
- Completion of a course or program designed to improve school attendance
- Jail for up to 3 days if you:
 - o Fail to comply with a lawful sentence ordered by the judge
 - o Had the ability to comply with the penalty imposed
 - o Willfully failed to comply with the sentence

We would like your cooperation in the following areas:

- Do not permit absences, which include tardies and early dismissals, from school unless it is necessary (personal illness or serious family emergency). Legal absences include illness, bereavement/death in family, weather emergency (impassable roads or quarantine), religious holidays, hospitalization, and principal-approved reasons for absence from school or class.
- Know the attendance policy and make school attendance a priority.
- Help your child maintain daily routines such as finishing homework and getting proper rest and keep communication lines open with the school.
- Send one of the excuse forms, completed, to school with your child upon his/her return. If absence notes are not received within three days, these absences will remain unexcused.
- Make every effort to see that your child is at the bus stop or in school on time. A student is late after 8:46 a.m.
- Written requests are required for early dismissals. Early dismissals cannot occur after 3:00 p.m.
- If you drive your child to school, please do not drop them off any earlier than 8:25 a.m. Supervision will not be provided prior to this time.
- All excuses based on parents’ traveling or work obligations must be submitted to the office for approval from principal prior to the trip. This will allow the staff to organize all the missing work.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact your child’s teacher or the School Counselor at 412-529-5796.

ACADEMICS

The instructional program leverages the district's comprehensive curriculum, aligned with Pennsylvania's learning standards in reading, math, writing, science, social studies, art, music, and physical education. Our school is a Regional English as a Second Language site and one-third of our population consists of students learning the English language. We have 18 countries represented at Arsenal and 14 languages spoken.

English Language Arts

Literacy represents the lifelong, intellectual process of gaining meaning from a critical interpretation of the written or printed text. The key to literacy is reading development, a progression of skills that begins with the ability to understand spoken words and decode written words and culminates in the deep understanding of text. Instruction follows the Science of Reading research and the Structured Literacy approach to the 5 areas of reading: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Pittsburgh Public Schools is committed to preparing all students to be college and career ready as recommended by the Common Core State Standards. The district has a curriculum that provides each student with equitable, high caliber, rigorous learning experiences. We believe that every student can achieve at high levels when provided with the opportunity to engage in well-designed instruction.

Mathematics

Students build understanding and develop skills from their own experience. Mathematics is more meaningful when it is rooted in real life contexts and situations. Children begin school with more mathematical knowledge and intuition than previously believed. Our program builds on this, and gradually moves children from concrete to representational, and abstract understanding of mathematics.

Mastery of mathematics concepts and skills comes over time, with repeated exposure and practice. This enables students to make new connections and build on the mathematical content they already know while gradually learning more difficult and challenging content. A well-articulated and aligned PreK-12 curriculum focuses on mathematics content and processes that are important and worth the time and attention of students to prepare them for college, the workforce and citizenship.

Features

Mathematics is the science of order, patterns, structure, and logical relationships (Kenney, 2005). Finding and exploring this regularity to make sense of it is what is meant by doing mathematics. In the PPS, we believe that all students can make sense of mathematics. To provide opportunities for our students to do mathematics and make sense of it, we share these beliefs:

- Classroom environments are a safe and respectful place where students can take risks as problem solvers.
- Students focus on figuring things out, testing ideas and making conjectures, developing reasons, and explaining solutions.
- Students defend their methods and justify solutions in groups, in pairs and individually as they deepen their understanding of mathematics.
- Reasoning, effort, and persistence are celebrated as much as correct answers.

Science

The goal of secondary science education in Pennsylvania is to produce scientifically literate citizens through an inquiry-based approach that builds understanding of fundamental scientific processes and principles of biology, chemistry, physics, Earth science, and Ecology. However, scientific literacy is not limited to the understanding of fundamental scientific principles. It also involves proficiency in scientific reasoning and the ability to critically analyze the interplay between science, technology, and society. The PPS science curriculum provides opportunities for students to practice and apply this type of thinking, thereby cultivating scientific literacy while strengthening overall critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills.

This program supports the following goals for students:

- Use such cognitive skills as critical thinking, problem solving, and analyzing ethical issues.
- Demonstrate mastery of the processes of scientific inquiry using the Eight Science and Engineering Practices
- Understand scientific concepts.
- Understand that science is a way of knowing.
- Understand the personal, social, and ethical implications of science.
- Use educational technologies as tools for learning

*The information above was taken from the Academic Programs section of the Pittsburgh Public Schools website.

Instructional Practices

The Arsenal PreK-5 Staff uses effective instructional practices with the students. Effective strategies used are below:

- Differentiated Instruction
- Targeted Small Group Instruction
- Student Discussion
- MTSS (Multi-tiered System of Supports)
- Writing in all content areas
- 25 Book Reading Initiative

- Technology Integration

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

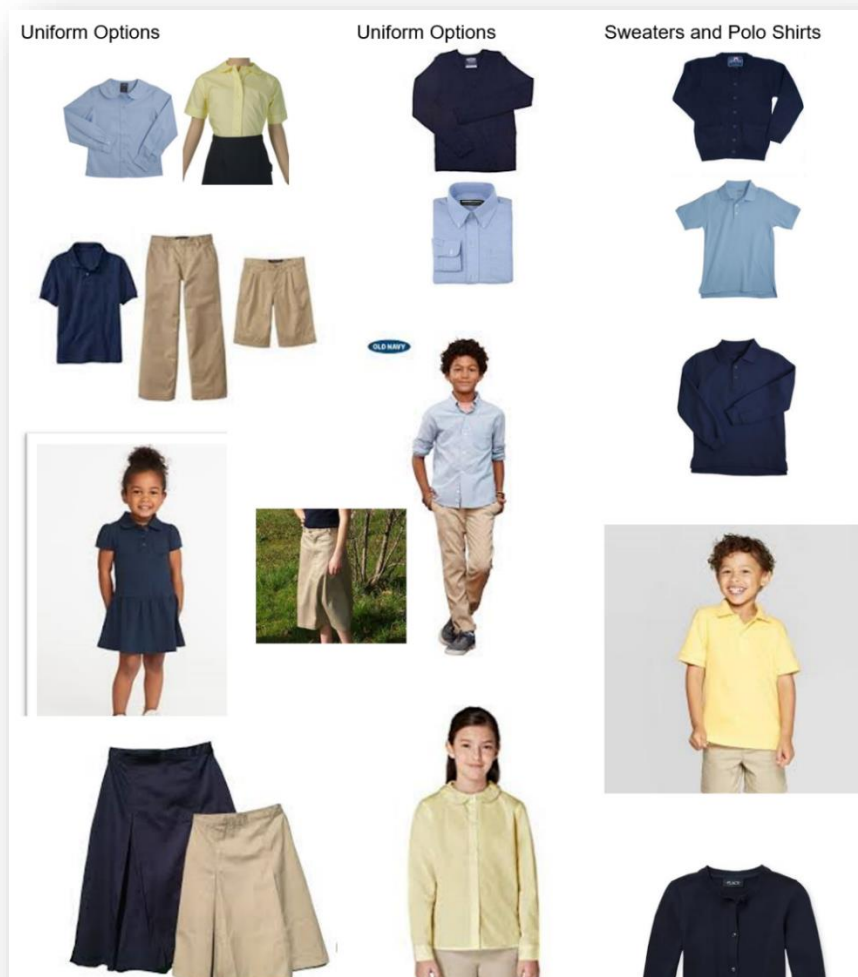
[PPS POLICY 226](#)

DRESS CODE

[PPS POLICY 221](#)

On June 22, 2011, the Board of Education approved the Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 uniform plan. Under the policy, Arsenal's uniform options are light yellow, navy blue, or light blue collared tops and khaki or navy-blue bottoms.

It is expected that all children wear their uniform every day. We celebrate and encourage all students that are wearing the required uniform daily. Please make sure your child is wearing the required uniform every day.



School Dress Code

- Tops- Navy, light blue, or light yellow, collared blouses, and/or shirts
- Bottoms- Navy blue or Khaki dress pants (cords or twill), skirts, slacks, and/or jumpers. Note: Shorts will be permitted during September, October, May, and June or when the weather indicates it.
- Shirts and blouses can be either short-or-long sleeved (sleeveless shirts are not permitted)
- Belts are encouraged.
- Closed toe shoes are recommended.
- Socks should be worn.

The following are not permitted:

- Jeans
- Shorts that are not knee length.
- Sandals, rubber thongs, flip-flops, bedroom slippers, or wheelies
- Hats, coats, scarves, or bandannas (outside wear) to be worn inside during the school day.
- Midriff tops
- Exposed underwear
- Loose tank tops, halters, or any revealing tops

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

[PPS POLICY 216](#)

At Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5, we follow a specific process to implement policy 216 and want our students to focus on learning each day. It is important for students to be free from distractions while learning in class and moving throughout the building for lunch, recess, or other activities. Every day, all students will be required to turn in all electronic devices as they enter the building. This includes all cell phones and any other electronic communication and/or musical devices. The security staff will oversee the secure containment of all electronic devices during the school day. These items will be kept in the closet in the main office.

Below are the steps that will be followed each day to secure all electronic devices:

- Upon entering the building, all electronic devices will be taken and placed in a secured compartment.
- At the conclusion of the school day, during dismissal, all electronic devices will be returned to the student.
- In the case of a scheduled early dismissal, students can receive their devices from the main office.

Once in the building, any student found in violation of this procedure will be asked to surrender his/her device and must return to school with a parent to have his/her electronic device returned.

We are implementing this procedure to ensure the overall instructional climate and to have a safe learning community. This procedure reduces classroom distractions during instruction and allows all students to be fully engaged in class. We are asking for total cooperation from all families to achieve 100% compliance from the students.

EXTRA CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

[PPS Policy 119](#)

School Programs

To enhance the instructional program at Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5, we have a variety of activities and programs available to students. Students can get involved with school activities and programs by signing up with their homeroom teacher or by connecting with the school counselor, Ms. Mason.

Programs include:

Chorus

The chorus is available to students in fourth and fifth grade. Students convene once per week to work with our music teacher. The chorus performs in our school concerts and in special programs within the community.

Instrumental Music

Instrumental music is available to fourth and fifth grade students. Students are pulled from their regular classes one period every six days to attend instrumental music class. Students will perform twice per year during school concerts or programs.

African Drumming

Drumming is available to students in second through fifth grade. Students work with the general music teacher to learn the art of African drumming.

Student Envoys

Students in 3rd-5th grade are selected by their teachers and peers to serve as envoys. Student envoys are leaders within their classes and in the school that provide feedback to the principal, lead school-wide student initiatives, and participate in leadership development activities throughout the school year. Activities they engage in include leading daily announcements, speaking at community time, providing ideas for field trips, and visiting classrooms to teach efficacy principles and school expectations.

Extended Day Program organized and operated by Neighborhood Learning Alliance and Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

An extended instructional day program is offered for two hours Monday through Friday. The program runs from September through June. Students in kindergarten through 5th grade will be issued invitations to join the program based on academic needs.

Scout Reach Program (Cub Scouts)

Scouting addresses many of the social concerns of parents and youth in our community, by emphasizing ethics and moral values. Scouting prepares youth to become leaders, accept responsibility, and care about principles and causes beyond their self-interest. This program is for students in 1st-5th grade.

Girls on the Run

Fourth and fifth grade girls meet twice a week in small teams. The girls are taught life skills through dynamic, interactive lessons and running games. The 24-lesson curriculum is taught by certified Girls on the Run coaches and includes three parts: understanding ourselves, valuing relationships and teamwork and understanding how we connect with and shape the world at large.

Strong Women, Strong Girls

Third through fifth grade girls engage in group-based mentoring that uses the study of contemporary women role models, mentoring relationships between college-aged women and girls in grades 3-5, and activities focused on skill-building, to help enhance the lives of at-risk girls. Through building positive self-esteem and skills for life-long success, Strong Women, Strong Girls is working to strengthen the futures of all women and girls involved in the program.

GRADING

[PPS Policy 209](#)

Using Home Access Center Home Access Center

The HAC (Home Access Center) is a browser-based student information system that allows you to view student registration, report card, attendance, discipline, transcript,

success plan, course request, classwork, and scheduling information as it is entered in the school district's database.

Parents can view real-time information through a convenient web portal anywhere and at any time including:

- Schedules
- Attendance
- Published Assignments
- Quick Links to Communicate with Teachers
- Class Averages
- Report Card Information
- Transcript Grades

Account access/credentials are based on a person being identified as a Parent/Guardian for a student or students in our student information system (SIS). HAC usernames and passwords will be distributed during the Parent/Teacher conferences in October. If you need your credentials sooner, please email the SDSS, Mrs. Mitchell at dmitchell1@pqhschools.org or you can call the Parent Hotline at 412-529-HELP (4357) to answer a few security questions and receive your account information. The Parent Hotline operates from Monday through Friday, 8:00AM - 4:00PM. You may also email parenthotline@pqhschools.org with your name, child(ren)'s name, and a number to best reach you during business hours.

HOMEWORK PROCEDURES

[PPS Policy 115](#)

Homework

Homework is important and will be assigned Monday through Thursday of each week. It is an extension of the learning that takes place during the school day.

Homework provides an opportunity for students to practice skills and strategies being learned at school and can provide opportunities for independent study, research, and creative thinking. Homework is most often assigned in math, language arts, science, and social studies.

Parents can help their children by arranging a quiet, comfortable place for students to work and check their child's work before it is returned to school. Recommended nightly study time at home for grades 1, 2, and 3 is 20-30 minutes. Students in grades 4 and 5

study up to one hour nightly. Any questions or concerns about homework should first be addressed to the teacher who created the assignment.

At Arsenal PreK-5, each grade level teacher/team will send a letter home in August that outlines the specific expectations for homework for their grade level. Homework may be assigned as a paper/pencil assignment or use of a specific instructional technology platform may be assigned for your child to practice and/or review skills.

HEALTH SERVICES

[PPS Policy 206](#)

Medical/Dental Examinations/Screenings

Medical and dental examinations should be completed by the family physician or dentist and turned into the school nurse. Physical examinations are required for entry into kindergarten, by all new students from out of state, and by students transferring from other Pennsylvania school systems unless an adequate health record is available.

Dental exams are required for entry into kindergarten, third and seventh grades, by all new students from out of state, and by students transferring from other Pennsylvania school systems unless an adequate health record is available. Parents are invited to be present for any examinations at school. The school nurse completes vision screening on all students every year. Hearing screening using an audiometer is completed on students in kindergarten, second, third, and seventh grades by the school nurse.

Medication

Any student who needs to take medicine during school hours for any reason must follow this procedure:

- Parents must complete the Request for Medication form and submit the completed form to the school nurse.
- Parents must obtain a written prescription from their physician to be directed to the school nurse.
- The prescription must include the student's name, diagnosis, kind of medicine, and the time and amount of medication to be given.
- Medication will be locked in a safe place in the Nurse's office.
- Medication must be brought to school in the original container labeled by the pharmacy.
- Non-prescription (over the counter) medication should not be sent to school without a written prescription from the doctor. Parents may come and personally administer medications that they wish their child to have during the school day.
- Prescriptions are to be updated each school year.
- The school nurse will give all the medication.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Pittsburgh Public Schools Office of Information Technology Acceptable Use Form

Every student that attends Arsenal PreK-5 will be assigned and receive an electronic device at the start of the school year. Devices are expected to be cared for and brought back and forth to school every day.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Multi-tiered Systems of Support is a framework that helps educators provide academic and behavioral strategies for students with various needs. In PPS, we provide behavioral and academic interventions and support for all students based on need. MTSS takes an initiative-taking approach to identifying students with academic or behavioral needs. Early assessment and intervention for students can help them catch up with their peers sooner. The key components of MTSS include:

- Universal screening of all students early in the school year
- Tiers of interventions that can be amplified in response to levels of need.
- Ongoing data collection and continual assessment
- Schoolwide approach to expectations and supports.
- Parent involvement

Title I Program

Title I is a federally funded program designed to academically intervene with children struggling in the reading and mathematics program. Additional funds and support are provided to our school and students. Funds are allocated for staff salaries and the family and community engagement coordinator stipend, parent engagement activities, instructional materials, and books.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Program

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.

English as a Second Language (ESL) has been a part of the Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) since 1982 and is offered in grades kindergarten through 12. Over 70 countries have been represented by ESL students in Pittsburgh Public Schools. Due to the PPS program and individual student effort, ESL students are well prepared for college or other post-high school endeavors.

The ESL program provides total English immersion for students, who receive one to

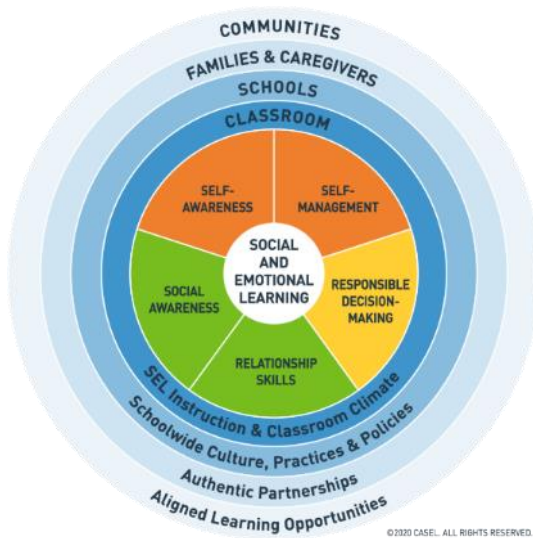
three ESL classes daily, depending on their English proficiency level. ESL students are provided with the support needed to effectively adjust to American culture through an individualized, student-centered learning environment. ESL students can fully participate in general education classes as quickly as possible and in extracurricular activities.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS/PROCEDURES

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

Positive Behavior Management Plan

As in all Pittsburgh Public Schools, it is especially important to maintain a positive, equitable, and safe learning environment for students, both instructionally and behaviorally. To achieve these important goals, students must have clear expectations and rules. This information has been developed to help parents and students understand their instructional and behavioral expectations during their tenure at Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5. The students and staff began using restorative practices along with our schoolwide PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support Plan) ten years ago. This year, we will continue implementing our school wide PBIS plan and infuse social emotional learning lessons weekly during intervention periods, on Mindset Mondays and Wellness Wednesdays monthly that are scheduled monthly, and Restorative Practices are utilized daily.



Arsenal All-Star Behavior Management System

It is important to maintain a positive, equitable, and safe learning environment for students. To create a positive learning atmosphere, students are expected to demonstrate positive behavior.

Each day, students can earn 10 points, and those points are entered into a platform for monitoring and tracking points titled, Class Dojo. Students can participate in the weekly and monthly incentive activities within their classroom or school wide. They will be able to

redeem the points earned to participate in activities and purchase items in the Star Store.

School Rules & Expectations:

Be Respectful

- Show self-control.
- Follow all directions the first time.
- Use kind words and actions.

Be Responsible

- Wear school uniform daily.
- Use school materials wisely.
- Put things where they belong.

Be Safe

- Walk at all times.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to myself.
- Stay in assigned space at all times.



VISITOR POLICY

[PPS Policy 1104](#)

Visitors

The safety and security of the children and staff at Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 is a priority. Please follow the measures below to ensure every child's safety:

- All school doors will be secured each morning and remain secured all day.
- During school hours, you must enter and leave through the main entrance on 39th Street.
- To enter the school, press the button to the side of the entrance door. This is connected to the main office, and you will be asked to identify yourself and the reason for the visit.
- School personnel will greet you at the door and take you to the main office.
- Visitors are required to sign in and receive a visitor's pass. Upon leaving, return the pass to the main office and sign out.
- Volunteers must sign-in/out and wear their volunteer badge.

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 click on the link below to learn more about Special Education Services and Programs, Services for Protected Handicapped Students (504), and Services for Gifted Students

- [PSE \(Special Education\) and Child Find Annual Notice](#)

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

Cancellation of School

Cancellation of school takes place only during circumstances such as extreme weather, equipment failure, or public crisis. Parents must have arrangements made for delays, early dismissals, and school closings. There will be no after-school programming on days that school is delayed or cancelled.

This is just a reminder to families to listen to all news outlets and social media for information regarding school closings and delays. If a two-hour delay is announced, students should not arrive at school before 10:40 a.m. Buses will run after a two-hour delay. Breakfast will not be served if there is a school delay, and students will have an abbreviated school schedule.

Arrival Procedures

Students should not arrive before 8:25 a.m. There is no supervision for students who arrive before this time. Students participating in the supervised breakfast program should arrive at 8:25 a.m. All students must use the lower entrance on 39th Street.

Tardy

Students are considered tardy if they enter the building after the bell rings at 8:46 a.m. At that point, all students are to report to the main office and receive an admission slip to give to their teacher. Students will be asked the reason for being tardy.

Early Dismissals

Parents are to write a note for any student that is being dismissed at a time earlier than the dismissal time of 3:25 p.m. All parents are to come to the main entrance, ring the buzzer and inform the office staff of the early dismissal. Parents or guardians will be asked to sign their child out of school when the child is brought to them at the main entrance. Students will not be dismissed early after 2:30 p.m. due to the need for communication with their teacher and because school ends at 3:25 pm.

Dismissal Procedures

Dismissal begins at 3:25 p.m. All students are expected to be picked up by 3:30 p.m. Students will be dismissed from their assigned bus location and the teacher assigned will take attendance and make sure that all the students are present. The students will be escorted to their bus on 39th Street. Walkers will be supervised and released to their parent/guardian waiting directly outside the gates near the courtyard on 39th Street and Butler Street.

Parents are not permitted to take students off the buses once they have been placed on the school bus and are asked to report to the main office to obtain a student from the school buses. Students who walk home or are picked up will be dismissed from the corner of Butler and 39th Street. Any changes in dismissal procedures, except for emergencies, should be made prior to 2:30 p.m. A note should be written and given to your child's homeroom teacher.

Field Trip Guidelines

Permission forms for field trips for the present school year are signed and kept on file at the school. All parents will be notified prior to each trip. The teachers planning the trip will contact the number of volunteers required to serve as chaperones. All chaperones must have clearances to attend student field trips.

Community Partners

- Carnegie Library
- Mercy Behavioral Health (School-based Therapy)
- UPMC St. Margaret Health Partnership
- UPMC PATHS Preventive Educational Program
- Reading is Fundamental
- Neighborhood Learning Alliance
- Lawrenceville United
- UPMC Children's Hospital
- University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development
- Bloomfield/Garfield Corporation
- Communities in Schools
- Hatch Play Partners
- The Science Workshop

Emergencies

At Pittsburgh Arsenal, we have developed a Standard Response Protocol to address potential emergencies that could occur which require immediate action from the school personnel. We work to ensure the safety of all students during fires, significant injury or illness, or unpredictable hazards (i.e., boiler explosions, breaks in water pipes, heating malfunction in freezing weather, hazardous material incidents (solids, liquids, or gas), utility emergencies, or natural disasters).

Fires

In the event of an actual fire or a serious emergency, students are evacuated from the building. The following procedures are followed:

Teachers will lead children from the building as practiced in the monthly fire drills. If necessary, children will be led to St. Augustine's Church. Once all the students have been accounted for, we will walk down 39th Street to Butler Street, make a left, and walk 2 blocks to 37th Street. Once at 37th Street, we will make a right and head to 225 37th Street (St. Augustine's Church). Once there, the principal will assess the situation. Children may be kept temporarily in the church until a further decision is made. Children will remain until all danger has passed or until parents pick them up.

Fire Alarm Procedures

- Sound the fire alarm by pulling any alarm signal. Make yourself familiar with their locations. The Pittsburgh Fire Department will automatically be called by our fire alarm system.
- The school secretary, or other office personnel, notifies the superintendent's office- 412.529.3600.
- Custodial staff and teachers are trained in the use of fire extinguishers to fight small fires. However, the staff will not neglect to sound the fire alarm. Fire extinguishers are also in various locations in the building.

Children should be psychologically prepared for any emergency. They will be taught that drills for fires are serious. Fire drills are held once a month. At times, drills are announced in advance during very wintry weather when the students must wear coats. Proper exits and exit paths are shown and posted in classrooms. A drill may very well occur when homeroom children are in places other than their own room, i.e., lunchroom, change of classes, etc.

Fire Drills

- The fire signal is the pulsing sound and light on each floor.
- Upon hearing the signal, teachers have children stand and proceed, in an orderly fashion, out of the room.
- If possible, without endangering safety, teachers bring their roll books or roll cards.
- The teacher leads the line.
- The last one out of the room closes the door. No one is to be sent back to the room to do this or to close the windows.
- No one stops for his/her coat unless directed by the PA.
- The teacher leads the class to the appointed place outside the building.
- There is no talking during a drill.
- At times danger may not be from the fire, but from smoke, which is lethal. Smoke and/or other gases may suffocate personnel remaining in a burning building.
- Teachers make sure all pupils are accounted for in all drills by calling roll.

Severe Injury or Illness

In case of severe injury or illness, the immediate concern is to help injured or sick students. After identification of injury or illness, the following procedures are used as guidelines:

- Immediately contact the principal, secretary, responsible teacher, or school nurse. In the unlikely event that none of these staff members is available, the assigned teacher on duty in the lunchroom or on the playground immediately attempts to contact the parent or legal guardian. Emergency forms are kept in the school office.
- Based on the determination of the school nurse or principal, the injured student may be taken to the hospital in one of the following ways:
 - Parent – The parent comes to school and transports the injured in his/her car.
 - Ambulance Service – Person in charge at the time notifies the Pittsburgh EMS (ambulance) by calling 9-1-1.
- If the student is being transported to hospital via ambulance and parents are not available to go with the student, the nurse, principal, or responsible teacher accompanies the student and meets the parent at the hospital.
- In cases of severe injury, call the superintendent's office, 412.529.3600, and notify him/her of the type of injury, seriousness, and status of the situation.
- The school nurse fills out an accident report form for all injuries.

Standard Response Protocol

We have a plan that details the following procedures for staff.

Emergency
Bomb Threat
Active shooter
Weather
Missing Child
Utility Failure
Lockdown
Medical Emergency
Bus Accident

In the event of a school intruder, the following procedures are to be used as guidelines:

- Notify Dr. Rea or the office. School police will be notified or police 9-1-1, if necessary. The safety of students and staff is the #1 priority.
- All staff are authorized to announce and respond to emergencies. Staff will be informed as information is received using various communication methods (Remind app, school wide intercom system, text messages)
- Staff will be trained in the Standard Response Protocol and will engage with the procedures based on the information known. Procedures include:



Below is a quick overview of the Standard Response Protocol.



STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Our school has adopted The "I Love U Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol.

COMMON LANGUAGE

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP utilizes clear common language while allowing for flexibility in protocol.

The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is labeled with a "Term of Art" and is then followed by a "Directive." Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

HOLD

"In Your Classroom or Area"

Students are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the "All Clear" is announced
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



SECURE

"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"

Students are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring everyone indoors
- Lock the outside doors
- Increase situational awareness
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



LOCKDOWN

"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"

Students are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE

"To a Location"

Students are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required to
- If possible, bring their phone
- Follow instructions

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet and Go Bag (unless instructed not to bring anything with them, dependent on reason for evacuation.)
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



SHELTER

"State Hazard and Safety Strategy"

Hazards might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

Safety Strategies might include:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room
- Drop, cover and hold
- Get to high ground

Students are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies

Adults and staff are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies
- Accounting for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.





STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

PARENT GUIDANCE

In the event of a live incident, parents may have questions about their role.

SECURE

“Get Inside. Lock outside doors”



Secure is called when there is something dangerous outside of the building. Students and staff are brought into the building and the outside doors will be locked. The school might display the Building is Secured poster on entry doors or nearby windows. Inside, it will be business as usual.

SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A SECURE EVENT?

Probably not. Every effort is made to conduct classes as normal during a secure event. Additionally, parents may be asked to stay outside during a Secure event.

WHAT IF PARENTS NEED TO PICK UP THEIR STUDENT?

Depending on the situation, it may not be safe to release the student. As the situation evolves, Secure might change to a Monitored Entry and/or Controlled Release.

WILL PARENTS BE NOTIFIED WHEN A SCHOOL GOES INTO SECURE?

When a secure event is brief or the hazard is non-violent, like a wild animal on the playground, there may not be a need to notify parents while the Secure is in place.

With longer or more dangerous events, the school should notify parents that the school has increased their security.

LOCKDOWN

“Locks, Lights, Out of Sight”



A Lockdown is called when there is something dangerous inside of the building. Students and staff are trained to enter or remain in a room that can be locked, and maintain silence.

A Lockdown is only initiated when there is an active threat inside or very close to the building.

SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A LOCKDOWN?

The natural inclination for parents is to go to the school during a Lockdown. Understandable, but perhaps problematic. If there is a threat inside the building, law enforcement will be responding. It is unlikely that parents will be granted access to the building or even the campus. If parents are already in the school, they will be instructed to Lockdown as well.

SHOULD PARENTS TEXT THEIR STUDENTS?

The school recognizes the importance of communication between parents and students during a Lockdown event. Parents should be aware though, during the initial period of a Lockdown, it may not be safe for students to text their parents. As the situation resolves, students may be asked to update their parents on a regular basis.

In some cases, students may be evacuated and transported off-site for a student-parent reunification.

WHAT ABOUT UNANNOUNCED DRILLS?

The school may conduct unscheduled drills, however it is highly discouraged to conduct one without announcing that it as a drill. That's called an unannounced drill and can cause undue concern and stress.

Parents should recognize that the school will always inform students that it is a drill during the initial announcement.

It's important to differentiate between a **drill** and an exercise. A drill is used to create the “Muscle Memory” associated with a practiced action. There is no simulation of an event; this is simply performing the action. An exercise simulates an actual event to test the capacity of personnel and equipment.

CAN PARENTS OBSERVE OR PARTICIPATE IN THE DRILLS?

The school welcomes parents who wish to observe or participate in drills.

