



Pittsburgh Millionaires 6-12

Student Handbook 2026-2027

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SUPERINTENDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Pittsburgh Public Schools Parents, Students, and Families,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! Whether you are joining Pittsburgh Public Schools for the first time or returning for another exciting year, I am honored to welcome you to a community committed to helping every student learn, grow, and thrive.

At Pittsburgh Public Schools, we believe every student deserves access to a high-quality education in a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment. Our dedicated educators and staff are committed to preparing students for success in college, career, and life by fostering curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, and a lifelong love of learning.



This school handbook is an important resource designed to help you navigate the school year. Inside, you will find valuable information about District policies, school expectations, student supports, attendance, academic programs, extracurricular opportunities, health and safety procedures, and ways to stay connected with your school community. I encourage every family to review this handbook together and refer to it throughout the year.

A successful school year is built on strong partnerships between schools, families, and the community. We know that students achieve more when the adults in their lives work together to support their learning and well-being. We invite you to stay engaged by attending school events, participating in Parent School Community Council (PSCC) meetings, communicating regularly with your child's teachers, and taking advantage of the many opportunities to share your voice and partner with us.

As we continue implementing our PPS Future-Ready Plan, we remain focused on creating learning environments where every student feels welcomed, valued, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential. Together, we are building stronger schools and brighter futures for every child.

Thank you for entrusting Pittsburgh Public Schools with your child's education. We look forward to a school year filled with learning, growth, achievement, and meaningful connections.

On behalf of the Board of Public Education and the entire Pittsburgh Public Schools team, welcome to an outstanding school year!

Yours in Education,

Dr. Wayne N. Walters

Superintendent, Pittsburgh Public Schools

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome to a new school year at Pittsburgh Millionnes 6–12! It is my honor to serve as principal of a school rooted in the proud legacy of the Hill District and committed to building a stronger academic future for every student who walks through our doors.

At Millionnes, we are crystal clear on our purpose: students are here to learn. Instruction is the heartbeat of our school, and everything we do, from our routines and relationships to our expectations and supports, are designed to create an environment where meaningful learning can take place every single day.

We are committed to ensuring every student has access to high-quality teaching, rigorous content, and the tools needed to grow, succeed, and thrive. Just as importantly, we will maintain a safe, respectful, and welcoming school culture where students are held to high standards and supported to meet them. Academic and behavioral safety go hand in hand, and we will prioritize both with consistency and care.

This year, we will stay focused on instruction and student achievement. As a school community will focus on one essential truth: Pittsburgh Millionnes 6–12 is a place where learning comes first.

Thank you for your partnership in this mission. Let's move forward together—focused, united, and ready to grow.

In Partnership,

Pittsburgh Millionnes Administration

Dr. Shemeca Crenshaw, Principal

Dr. Susan Stegman, Assistant Principal

SCHOOL INFORMATION



Pittsburgh Millions

3117 Centre Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Phone: 412-529-5900

Fax: 412-622-5925

Website: pghschools.org/schools/6-12/millions

[Staff Directory](#)

School Colors Blue and Gold

School Mascot Wildcat

Motto We Believe, We
Achieve, We
Succeed

VISION AND MISSION

Mission

At Pittsburgh Millionaires 6-12, we empower students to embrace their unique identities, cultivate essential skills, expand their intellect, engage in critical thinking, and find joy in their educational journey.

Vision

All students graduate from Pittsburgh Millionaires 6-12 prepared for college, career, and life.

Core Values: Urgency, Positivity, Respect, Effort and Perseverance

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

At Pittsburgh Millionaires we prioritize prompt and purposeful communications for keeping families, community members, and stakeholders informed of events, functions, operations, and student progress. By utilizing multiple channels of communications via electronic and in-person means, the school ensures that its community—especially parents/guardians—are knowledgeable of all things UPrep. Please note the following communications methods utilized by the school.

Telecommunication

Included but not limited to phone calls, Robocalls, text messages via Talking Points

Teacher Communication

All teachers have their own phone extensions, voicemail, and email. Teachers will provide all their contact information to their students at the beginning of the school year.

Social Media

Events, Announcements, and Special Shoutouts will be posted to our school's social media accounts

Facebook: facebook.com/pghuprepmilliones

Instagram: [@uprepmilliones](https://instagram.com/uprepmilliones)

Talking Points

The District approved platform, TalkingPoints, will be used to text important school updates and information to your phone. All teachers have access to TalkingPoints and monitor it regularly for communication with parents. We ask all parents, guardians, and caregivers to utilize the Talking Points App with school communication. We frequently send important announcements and opportunities to families via text. We also provide digital copies of important documents via text.

BELL SCHEDULES

Breakfast: 7:15am-7:37 AM

Daily Schedule		Half Day		
Period 1	7:40-8:24	A	B	Time
Period 2	8:27-9:11	P1	P8	7:40 – 8:24
Period 3	9:14-9:58	P2	P9	8:27 – 9:11
Period 4	10:01 – 10:45	P3	P1	9:14 – 9:58
Period 5	10:48 – 11:32 6-8 HR (10:48-11:02) 6-8 Lunch (11:02-11:32)	P4	P2	10:48 – 11:02 (Homeroom all students) Lunch + Dismissal (9-12)
Period 6	11:35 – 12:19 9/10 HR (11:35-11:49) 9/10 Lunch (11:49-12:19)			11:10 Lunch + Dismissal (6-8)
Period 7	12:22 – 1:06 11/12 HR (12:22-12:36) 11/12 Lunch (12:36-1:06)			
Period 8	1:09 – 1:53			
Period 9	1:56 – 2:40			
Dismissal	2:40 AM	11:10 AM		

Two-Hour Delay		
A	B	Time
P4	P3	10:01 – 10:45
P5	P5	10:48 – 11:32 6-8 HR (10:48-11:02) 6-8 Lunch (11:02-11:32)
P6	P6	11:35 – 12:19 9/10 HR (11:35-11:49) 9/10 Lunch (11:49-12:19)
P7	P7	12:22 – 1:06 11/12 HR (12:22-12:36) 11/12 Lunch (12:36-1:06)
P8	P8	1:09 – 1:53
P9	P9	1:56 – 2:40
Dismissal		2: 40 PM

- * **Note:** Half-days and delayed schedules operate on an alternating A/B basis.
- * Remote Learning Days will follow the regular bell schedule. Students are expected to follow their regular schedule via Microsoft Teams. (*Teachers will provide students with links to access Microsoft Teams).

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The 2026-2027 District Calendar can be found [HERE](#).

Event	Date
#PittsburghForPPS Back to School Event	8/17/2026
First Day of School: All Grades Except Kindergarten	8/24/2026
First Day of School: Kindergarten	8/27/2026
No School: Labor Day	9/7/2026
4th Annual Take a Child to School Day	9/17/2026
Half Day	9/18/2026
No School: Yom Kippur	9/21/2026
Q1 Interim Progress Report	10/6/2026
Parent-Teacher Conferences (6-12, 9-12, Special, South Hills, EHS)	10/12/2026
Parent-Teacher Conferences (Early Childhood, PreK-5, PreK-8, 6-8)	10/16/2026
Half Day	10/23/2026
No School: Election Day	11/3/2026
No School: Veterans Day	11/11/2026
Q1 Report Cards Distributed	
Half Day	11/20/2026
Thanksgiving Break 11/26/2026-11/27/2026	
Q2 Interim Progress Report	12/15/2026
Half Day	12/18/2026
Winter Break 12/24/2026-1/1/2027	
No School: MLK Day	1/18/2027
No School	1/19/2027
No School	1/20/2027
Q2 Report Cards Distributed	2/1/2027
Half Day	2/12/2027
Black Men Read	2/25/2027
Half Day	2/26/2027
Q3 Interim Progress Report	3/2/2027
Parent University	3/6/2027
No School: Eid al-Fitr	3/10/2027
Half Day	3/12/2027
Spring Break 3/22/2027-3/26/2027	
Women Who Lead	3/31/2027
Q3 Report Cards Distributed	4/15/2027
Q4 Interim Progress Report	5/12/2027
29th Annual Take a Father to School Day	5/14/2027
No School: Election Day	5/18/2027
No School: Memorial Day	5/31/2027
Breakfast of Champions	6/7/2027
Last Day of School	6/8/2027
Q4 Report Cards Distributed	6/17/2027

Testing Dates	
Keystone Exams Winter	1/4/2027-1/15/2027
PSSAs English Language Arts	4/26/2027-4/30/2027
PSSAs Math, Science, Make-ups	5/3/2027-5/7/2027
Keystone Exams Spring	5/17/2027-5/28/2028

School Board Meetings		
Agenda Review	Public Hearing	Legislative Meeting
8/19/2026	8/24/2026	8/26/2026
9/16/2026	9/22/2026	9/23/2026
10/21/2026	10/26/2026	10/28/2026
11/18/2026	11/23/2026	11/24/2026
12/16/2026	12/21/2026	12/23/2026
1/20/2027	1/25/2027	1/27/2027
2/18/2027	2/22/2027	2/24/2027
3/17/2027	3/29/2027	3/31/2027
4/20/2027	4/26/2027	4/28/2027
5/19/2027	5/24/2027	5/26/2027
6/23/2027	6/28/2027	6/30/2027
7/21/2027	7/26/2027	7/28/2027

ATTENDANCE

Pittsburgh Milliones 6-12 is committed to academic excellence and preparing our students for the global market. Regular, on-time school attendance is fundamental to academic scholarship and success in the world. Absence and tardiness of any kind is not tolerated behavior. To prevent failure of a class due to excessive tardiness or absences, it is imperative that students report to school and class on time.

In case of an absence, you must submit a written excuse to your student's homeroom teacher within three school days of the absence. If the school does not receive a written explanation within three (3) school days of any absence, the absence will be permanently counted as Unexcused. Parents may write no more than ten (10) notes per school year for absences. Please note the following:

- * Students arriving after 9am are expected to be accompanied by an adult or a note from a parent or professional office.
- * Tardiness that results in a student missing class without a written excuse will be considered an Unexcused Absence.
- * A student shall be permitted to make up any assignments, homework or exams missed due to an Excused Absence.
- * Students who are absent from class or school will not be permitted to make up any missed assignments, homework or exams if the absence is Unexcused.
- * Students will receive a zero on any assignments missed due to an unexcused absence.
- * All work completed and grades earned by students assigned to school suspension, or another temporary alternative placement will be included in calculating the student's report period grade. Students are responsible for turning in assignments completed during their absence from class.
- * Students participating in school approved activities will be permitted to make- up any missed assignments or exams. Prior to missing class, students are responsible for collecting assignments missed during these school approved activities and completing them in the time allotted by the teacher. c

Leaving School Unlawfully

Students who leave school without permission are subject to the following disciplinary action:

- Parents/ Guardians notified immediately by phone
- Letter sent home verifying day, time, date, and circumstances

- Students are not permitted to return to school until accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Early Dismissals

Follow the procedures below for all early dismissals:

- Students must submit a written note from parent/guardian to the Main Office by 8:00 AM.
- The note must include student name, grade, reason for request, time of dismissal, parent/guardian signature, and active contact number. The school will verify the dismissal via the contact number provided on the note. No alternative numbers permitted.
- Once the dismissal is verified, students are to return to the main office for a dismissal slip.
- Accepted reasons for early dismissals: Medical appointments, job interviews, college interviews,
- mandated court appearances, funerals, illness, and other specific reasons preapproved by administration.
- In an emergency, an approved Principal verification is required for the student to exit the school lawfully.

It is important to note that the Pittsburgh Promise uses attendance as one of several criteria when determining eligibility for scholarships. Suspensions and unexcused absences shall count against a student when determining eligibility for the Pittsburgh Promise. All excused absences are not counted against a student in determining eligibility for the Promise.

ACADEMICS

The Board adopts a system-wide policy to promote academic integrity and will not tolerate any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating during examinations or on lab, homework and other assignments; plagiarism; pre-exam access to test forms; and unauthorized use of aids during examinations and assignments.

A student shall not engage in, participate in, nor knowingly provide another student with the opportunity to engage in academic dishonesty related to examinations, as well as laboratory, homework and other projects and assignments, whether done during or outside of school hours.

Academic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to, all forms of cheating, plagiarism, pre-exam access to test forms, representing someone else's work as your own, and the unauthorized use of aids during examinations, projects and assignments.

ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Athletics

Pittsburgh Millions 6-12 students who are interested in participating in athletics have the opportunity to do so with our partner schools through cooperative sponsorship. This is the arrangement that has been utilized in the last five school years and many of our students have taken advantage of these opportunities. Mr. Michael Harlacher serves as our athletics liaison with these schools and can be contacted at mharlacher1@pghschools.org or 412-529-5901.

Grades 9-12

Our high school students will partner with Pittsburgh Obama and Sci Tech for varsity athletics. Our students may participate in any sport that is offered. Students can only tryout or participate in practice after submitting a completed physical.

Grades 6-8

Our middle school student's partner with Sci-Tech and information regarding the middle school athletic program will be available after the start of school. The location of all practices and games will be primarily at University Prep but will be determined on a sport-by-sport basis.

Extracurricular Activities

Our school offers a diverse range of extracurricular activities and opportunities designed to enrich every student's experience. For those interested in STEM, we have both middle school and high school robotics teams, fostering innovation and teamwork. Literary enthusiasts can join our vibrant literary club, while gamers can participate in friendly competition through our gaming club and team. Our tutoring services and support from the Pittsburgh Promise After school program ensure academic success and growth. Students can also take on leadership roles by joining the student government, becoming student envoys, or contributing to the Superintendent's Advisory Council. Additionally, we offer specialized programs like AACAS (African American Center for Advanced Studies), unified sports, Covid Compensatory Services, intramurals, and early college courses, providing diverse avenues for personal and academic development. Career exploration opportunities and community partnerships further broaden students' horizons, preparing them for future success beyond our school walls.

DRESS CODE

At Pittsburgh Milliones 6-12, we take pride in the appearance of our students and adopted an appropriate dress policy. Appropriate dress reflects the quality of the school and school conduct. We encourage students to dress in an appropriate way and to realize that inappropriate dress can be distracting. Students found in violation of the dress code will be sent home to change. Regarding inappropriate dress, the following information will be helpful.

- Headgear (unless in alignment with the CROWN Act), revealing clothing, sunglasses, and chains are not permitted.
- The length of shorts, skirts, and dresses for any student should be no higher than six inches above the knee (approximate length of a dollar bill).
- Pants, shorts, and skirts are not to sag below the waistline so that bare-midriff and/or underwear can be seen.
- Tank type jerseys, muscle shirts, sleeveless shirts, halters, spaghetti straps, off-the shoulder shirts, netting shirts and bare midriff tops are prohibited. Shirt sleeves must have a seam and two inches of material that cover the shoulders.
- See-through apparel and low-cut shirts are not permitted.
- Shirts with plunging necklines that reveal cleavage are not permitted.
- Clothing with holes or slashes in inappropriate places are not permitted. This includes holes in pants. Please make sure any holes/slashes are not above the “dollar bill” length.
- Tight, revealing, or sheer clothing are not permitted.
- Objects that are sharp or protruding are prohibited. This specifically includes, but is not limited to, spikes on collars, jackets, shoes and wristbands.
- Coats are not to be worn in the classroom during the school day. Coats should be placed in lockers at the start of the school day.
- Pajama pants, pajama shirts and slippers are not permitted.

Students participating in school activities are expected to adhere to The Appropriate Dress Policy. Failure to follow the policy will exclude an individual from the activity. These activities include award assemblies, student performances, recognition programs, and other school sponsored events.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

All electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones, tablets, smartwatches, and similar personal devices, must be turned in upon student arrival each school day. Devices will be securely stored in a locked location for the duration of the instructional day.

Students will not have access to their electronic devices during school hours. Devices will be returned through a controlled and supervised distribution process in the cafeteria no earlier than the designated dismissal time.

Students who fail to comply with the Electronic Device Policy or who are found in possession of an electronic device during the school day will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Pittsburgh Public Schools Student Code of Conduct.

GRADING

Pittsburgh Milliones and Board recognizes that a system of grading student achievement can help the student, teachers, and parents to better assess the student's progress toward personal educational goals. We strive

We believe that the cooperation of school and home is vital in the growth and education of the student. It recognizes its responsibility to keep parents informed of student welfare and progress in school. It also recognizes the effects of State Board regulations and federal regulations governing school records.

The Board directs that the instructional program of the School District includes a system of grading for all pupils which is consistent with the educational goals of the School District.

The Board directs the establishment of a system of reporting student progress which shall include written reports and parent conferences with teachers and shall require all appropriate staff members to comply with such a system as part of their teaching responsibility.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for grading which include the following:

- Each student should know what end result and achievements are expected at the outset of any course of study;
- Each student should be kept informed of his/her personal progress during the course of a unit of study;
- Grading should objectively evaluate and reward students for their efforts; students should be encouraged to evaluate their own achievements; and
- All grading systems are subject to continual review and revision.

The Superintendent, in conjunction with appropriate teaching staff members, shall develop procedures for reporting student progress to parents or guardians which:

- Utilize various methods of reporting appropriate to grade level and curriculum content.
- Ensure that both student and parent receive ample warning of a pending grade of "failure," or one that would adversely affect the student's status.
- Enable the scheduling of parent-teacher conferences at such time and in such places as will ensure the greatest degree of participation by parents and not preclude the participation of either parent.
- Specify the issuance of report cards at intervals of not less than nine (9) weeks.

Grading Scale/GPA Conversion

Grade	Percent	Regular Weight	PSP Weight IBMYP	AP/CAS/IB	GPA
A	90-100	4.0	4.5	5.0	4.0
B	80-89	3.0	3.5	4.0	3.0
C	70-79	2.0	2.5	3.0	2.0
D	60-69	1.0	1.5	2.0	1.0
E	50-59	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate, students must successfully complete 26.5 academic credits and must achieve Proficiency on the Keystone exams.

The 26.5 Credits must be earned in the following areas:

Subject	Credits	CTE Students
English Language Arts (ELA)	4	4
Math (3 required credits: Algebra 1,2 and Geometry)	4	3
Science	4	3
Social Studies (with a minimum of 3 credits in Social Studies, the 4th credit may be satisfied by a level 3 course in World Language)	4	3
Electives Academic, Art, Career Development an/or Physical Education	7	9
Health	1	1
Phys Ed	2	2

Pennsylvania Statewide Graduation Requirement (Act 158 of 2018)

Effective with the Pittsburgh Public Schools graduating class of 2023, students have the option to demonstrate postsecondary preparedness through one of four additional pathways that more fully illustrate college, career, and community readiness.

Keystone Exams will continue as the statewide assessment Pennsylvania uses to comply with accountability requirements set forth in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Although students will no longer be required to achieve proficiency on the Keystone Exams in order to meet statewide graduation requirements, students must take the Keystone Exams for purposes of federal accountability.

Five pathways exist for meeting state high school graduation requirements:

- Keystone Proficiency
- Keystone Composite
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Concentrator
- Alternative Assessment
- Evidence-Based

More information regarding Act 158 can be found at education.pa.gov.

HOMEWORK PROCEDURES

Homework should build on classroom work and should encourage and measure the development of self-discipline and associated good work habits in students. Pittsburgh Public Schools reaffirms the importance of assignment and completion of homework as an integral part of the school experience. Meaningful homework assignments assigned systematically provide additional time for learning which contributes toward student academic growth. Homework should build on classroom work and should encourage and measure the development of self-discipline and associated good work habits in students. Completing homework also develops student responsibility and promotes cooperation and family relationship with the school. Students complete homework in order to:

- Reinforce learning through practice, application, integration and /or extension of knowledge and skills.
- Develop study skills, work habits, and a sense of personal responsibility so that the student may become an independent learner.
- Foster students' personal development in areas such as time management, responsibility, perseverance, and self-confidence.
- Stimulate imagination, originality, and creativity.
- Enhance home / school communications and provide for increased curriculum understanding.
- Encourage a follow up of worthwhile school activities into permanent leisure interests.
- Involve families in the learning process of their children.

Students should anticipate homework being assigned to them on a regular basis, as defined by respective teachers. Individual teachers establish protocols for assigning and correcting homework. Homework is an assessment bound by district policies and, therefore, must be completed in accordance with the district's Academic Integrity Policy (226). If graded, homework is subject to provisions outlined in District Policy 209: Grading.

HEALTH SERVICES

The health and well-being of our students is very important. Please inform our school nurse practitioner of any medical concerns about your student's health throughout the school year. Ms. Patricia James, the school nurse practitioner, will be available to answer all health-related questions beginning August 24th, 2026 Ms. James can be reached by email at pjames1@pghschools.org, phone at 412-529-5901, and forms may be faxed to 412-622-5925. All voice mail messages will be responded to within 24 hours.

Additional information regarding immunization information will be shared with all families. Please keep in mind that students entering 7th grade are required to submit documentation to the school health office of the meningococcal (MCV) and TDap vaccines. All 12th grade students are required to have written proof of a 2nd dose of the meningococcal vaccination (MCV).

All 6th and 9th grade students are required to have a physical examination. Any physical completed by your student's health care provider dated on or after April 1, 2025, will be accepted. A copy of your student's physical examination is due in the school health office by October 12th, 2025. It is also recommended that a copy of any annual physical be provided to the school nurse practitioner to keep your student's health records updated. All 7th grade students are required to have a dental examination. This examination will be performed at school unless a completed dental form has been submitted. All physical, dental and medication forms may be found on the parent portion of the school district website by selecting Health Services and Student Health Forms.

If your student requires the administration of prescription or over-the-counter medication during the school day, a completed medication administration form is required on the first day of school. All medication must be in the original prescription labeled container to be administered by the school health office

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ACCEPTABLE USE

All Pittsburgh Milliones students will receive a district issued laptop and charger at the beginning of the school year. Students must comply with all rules, regulations and policies outlined in the District's Acceptable Use Technology Policy, as well as the Code of Student Conduct pertinent to information technology. All policies in the district's Acceptable Use of Technology Policies also apply to students' laptop computer and Internet usage, regardless of whether students use school laptops or technology at home, school, or elsewhere. Noncompliance with the District's Acceptable Use of Technology Policy and subsequent rules—both district and school—associated with information technology as denoted in the Code of Student Conduct may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspensions and device restrictions.

Information Tech Rules (District)

- Do not change the local configuration of the desktop, laptop or tablet.
- Do not deface or change the physical appearance of any district device.
- Do not use any logon and password other than your User Account
- Users are not allowed to do the following unless given permission by an administrator:
 - Store and/or install files on the laptop including Freeware, shareware, public domain, or any other software;
 - Install and / or play personal music, videos, or games;
 - Use unauthorized programs installed on the laptop.
- Report any damage – accidental or not, immediately.
- Do not attempt to bypass PPS security or content filtering at any time.
- Do not consume food or drink near or on devices.

School-Specific Rules

Do not leave laptop devices at school; bring them to and from school in case of school cancellations, absences, etc.

Students are to use their own District-issued devices only, while in school.

Handle school-issued computers/laptops properly and with respect, for it is the school property.

Use computers/laptop devices appropriately in accordance with District policy.

Never change any computer settings (desktop, screen saver, etc.).

Remember to save work to public folders, flash drive, and/or Google Drive account.

OVERVIEW: The mission of the Student Services Department is to provide a comprehensive program that addresses the lifelong development of the social/emotional, academic and career growth of each pupil. It assures equal access and equity to all students by providing them with the skills and tools necessary to succeed in life and to become productive members of society. Pupils may access the Student Services office via staff permission and/or a valid hall pass.

Personnel with Services Provided

School Counselor: The school counselor helps students address their academic, emotional, personal, and social needs via an array of services including, but not limited to, general guidance, individual/group counseling, crisis counseling, home/school communications, student scheduling, student records/transcripts maintenance, career/post-secondary exploration, and restorative practice. The school counselor may also address lower-level disciplinary infractions. Through a comprehensive school counseling program, all students have the opportunity to recognize their significant role in the school community and learn the skills necessary to maximize their potential.

School Social Worker: The school social worker is a trained mental health professional, who can assist with mental health concerns, behavioral concerns, positive behavioral support, academic, and classroom support, consultation with teachers, parents, and administrators as well as provide individual and group counseling/therapy. The social worker support students by advocating for their emotional, mental and physical wellbeing. Services provided included, but are not limited to, individual/group counseling, connecting at-risk youth with helpful resources, truancy elimination, and conducting home visits. The school social worker also leads the Student Assistance Program (SAP).

Key Student Services Programs

Student Assistance Program (SAP): The Student Assistance Program (SAP) is a systematic team process used to mobilize school resources to remove barriers to learning. SAP is designed to assist in identifying issues including alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and mental health issues, which pose a barrier to a student's success. The primary goal of the Student Assistance Program is to help students overcome these barriers so that they may achieve, advance, and remain in school. Services provided include, but are not limited to, in-school support groups, in-school therapy, mentoring, the peer helper program, teen parent advocate services, mental health evaluations, and drug and alcohol evaluations. Various community agencies come into the school to provide many these services to the students. Students may become involved with SAP through a referral process. The referrals come

from self, other students, parents, staff, or community members. Parental permission is required for involvement. Please feel free to contact the school social worker for more information.

Positive School Culture and House System

At Pittsburgh Milliones, we believe that students thrive in a safe, structured, and welcoming learning environment where positive character, leadership, and academic achievement are recognized and celebrated. Our school culture is grounded in the Ron Clark Academy House System, which fosters a strong sense of belonging, teamwork, school pride, and positive relationships among students and staff.

The House System encourages students to demonstrate the core values of respect, responsibility, integrity, perseverance, and service while contributing positively to the school community. Through friendly competition, collaborative experiences, leadership opportunities, and recognition of positive behaviors, students are motivated to make choices that support both their own success and the success of others.

Students are acknowledged for meeting schoolwide expectations and demonstrating behaviors that contribute to a positive learning environment. Recognition and incentives are planned regularly throughout the school year. Student participation is based on their adherence to the school-wide expectations.

For more information on the Ron Clark Academy House System, click [HERE](#)

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS): MTSS stands for multi-tiered system of supports for struggling students. It is designed to help schools identify struggling students early and intervene quickly. It focuses on the “whole child.” That means it supports academic growth, but many other areas, too. These include behavior, social and emotional needs, and absenteeism (not attending school). The tiers of support are a huge part of MTSS. They get more intense from one level to the next. For example, a child getting small group interventions may need to “move up” to one-on-one help.

Education of Children and Youth Experience Homelessness (ECYEH): The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was established in 1987 and amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. The Act defines the term “homeless children and youths” as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

The federal mandate ensures that homeless children and youth have access to the same free and appropriate public education as other children. Children who are homeless may qualify for assistance with school lunch, school supplies, tutoring and transportation so that they can remain in their school of origin.

If you believe that your child may qualify for this service, please contact Lisa Arnett,
McKinney-Vento Program Assistant: (412) 529-5889.

Mr. Nick Bordone	Social Worker	nbordone1@pghschools.org
Ms. Tricia Edmonds	Early College	ttibbyedmonds1@pghschools.org
Ms. Ivana Myers	Community Schools	imyers1@pghschools.org
Ms. Aly Schwarzmenn	Counselor	aschwarzmenn1@pghschools.org
Mr. Robert Arment	Transition Counselor	Rarment1@pghschools.org

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS/PROCEDURES

Pittsburgh Public Schools is committed to providing every student with the opportunity to attend school in an environment that is safe, free of violence and drugs, and conducive to learning. This goal is of the highest priority because excellence in education cannot be achieved unless schools and classrooms are safe and orderly. The Code was developed so that all students, staff and parents of the District fully understand the expectations for student behavior while in attendance in our schools, while attending school sponsored activities or while riding on transportation systems serving our school district.

Pittsburgh Milliones University Preparatory School 6-12 upholds the Pittsburgh Public Schools' 6-12 Code of Student Conduct in its entirety in addition to school-specific (or local) rules and regulations governing Pittsburgh Milliones the 6-12 Code of Student Conduct may be accessed in full [HERE](#).

The Pittsburgh Public Schools' 6-12 Code of Student Conduct (The Code) clearly and concisely sets forth the disciplinary procedures for students. In the interest of maintaining a safe, orderly, and welcoming school that fosters rigorous learning opportunities for its students, all provisions of The Code are enforced. Students are required to abide by these provisions—in addition to those local to the South Hills building—and school personnel are required to enforce them in a fair and equitable manner. South Hills Middle School is committed to maintaining a safe, orderly, and welcoming school for its students, staff, and other stakeholders. To that end and based on commonwealth mandates, as per the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949 and the Board of Public Education of the School District of Pittsburgh, The Code is effective and enforced as follows at the following places and/or during the following times:

- On school grounds at any time;
- On school grounds and related to actions on social media or other media of the like;
- Off school grounds, including but not limited to, school bus stops, on school buses, at school activities, functions, on field trips, at conferences, and at all other school events;
- To and/or from school, or to and/or from any school activities, functions, and/or events;
- Off school grounds, during standard enrollment hours, when students have left without authorization and/or are truant;
- Instances for which the state's "door-to-door" provision is applicable.

The rules of The Code are inapplicable, however not limited to the following:

- Actions and communications (including those related to social media) that occur outside standard enrollment hours;
- Actions and communications (including those related to social media) that occur at functions and/ or events neither affiliated with nor sanctioned by the school and/or school district.

Pittsburgh Public Schools is responsible for formulating the Code of Student Conduct to apply to its students in each school. All schools shall provide a list of local school rules and in-school discipline measures consistent with the handbook as adopted by PPS. The school rules will be developed and adopted by internal school committees or by the principal, with help from staff, families, and/or students. Research shows that positive relationships help students learn. Students are more likely to succeed when they feel connected to others in their school and classroom community and are less likely to behave in ways that disrupt the school environment. Strategies to be used by staff for building positive relationships with students include the following:

- Know your students' strengths and cultural identities.
- Communicate understanding and empathy.
- Structure tasks for student success.
- Reinforce behavior in a positive manner.
- Use factual, objective language to define expectations and address behavior.
- Ask open-ended questions.
- Stay calm in tense situations.
- Remain neutral whenever possible.

PPS values its diversity and strives to be inclusive and aware of the cultural differences of our students and staff while providing equitable opportunities and access. In addition, we have taken measures to consider and be sensitive to the age and developmental appropriateness of our Behavior and Range of Corrective Strategies. We know that at various stages of development, the capacity to understand one's own behavior develops and grows. Our Code of Student Conduct takes this into consideration and allows for such growth and maturity. Due to our commitment to sustaining relationships, there is a renewed focus on celebrating and recognizing positive student behaviors, cultural competence, age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate supports and responses, and communication.

VISITORS

The Pittsburgh Milliones administration, in cooperation with the School Safety Committee established these uniform visitor procedures to ensure the safety of all students and staff members and to facilitate visits by parents and other members of the community.

Procedures:

1. Visitors must enter the building using the Iowa Street main entrance off Ewart Drive, during school. Visitors shall utilize the visitors parking spaces provided in the upper parking lot located by the tennis courts during school hours. All minors must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Unaccompanied minors will not be permitted to enter the building or remain on school grounds.
2. Visitors must be checked in through the metal detector and then by security and report directly to the Main office.
3. All visitors must present valid photo I.D.
4. Visitors must sign-in and complete registration via the Raptor System
5. Visitors will be issued a Visitors' pass, which must be filled out and worn, visibly, while on school grounds.
6. Visitors must report to the Main office at the completion of their visit to sign out and return their Visitor's pass.
7. Visitors are PROHIBITED from visiting any office other than the office indicated on the Visitor's pass. If further assistance is needed, visitors must report back to the Main Office.
8. Visitors must wait in the Main Office for the staff members that they are coming to visit and be accompanied by that staff member for the entire visit. Visitors will not be permitted to walk through the building unsupervised without the approval of the principal or their designee.
9. Visitors in violation of these procedures or whose conduct jeopardizes the safety of students and staff, interfere with programs in the school, or endangers property are subject to IMMEDIATE removal from the school by order of the principal and may face possible arrest.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Commencement

Date TBD. Students MUST meet Pittsburgh Public Schools graduation requirements or be within 2.0 credits of meeting graduation requirements to participate in Commencement Ceremonies.

Lost and Found

There is a lost and found located in the Main office.

Personal Items

Pittsburgh Millions is not responsible for damage, destruction, etc., to personal items

Safety and Crisis Management

Pittsburgh Millions will adhere to the crisis plan. In the event of a crisis, parent communication will take place via TalkingPoints and/or Robocalls

School Events

School event information will be communicated by the school Activities Director. Students who attend any event must still adhere to the district's Student Code of Conduct

Textbooks, Calculators, and Other School Property

Textbooks and calculators are the property of Pittsburgh Millions/Pittsburgh Public Schools. It is the responsibility of the student to return any borrowed item.

Transportation

Per District policy, only students who live more than 1.5 miles away for middle school students and 2.0 miles away for high school students from the school will be provided with a PRT bus pass. Those who are within the miles range are considered walkers. Pass tickets can only be provided to students who receive a bus pass and have misplaced it.

Work Permits

Work permits can be obtained through the PPS Website: pghschools.org/student-supports/work-permits/home

Parent School Community Council (PSCC) Meetings

The purpose of Pittsburgh Millions 6-12 PSCC is to provide ongoing communication between the school and parents, guardians and community groups regarding issues that are important to the success of our students. PSCC meetings will be held on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Please see the PSCC Flyer and school social media sites for additional information.

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.

To learn more, click [HERE](#).

APPENDIX

Policy 115 – Homework

This policy establishes expectations for meaningful, purposeful homework aligned to instructional goals. Homework should reinforce learning, be developmentally appropriate, and not excessive.

Policy 119 – Athletics & Extracurricular Activities

This policy governs student participation in athletics and extracurricular activities, including eligibility, academic expectations, conduct standards, and equitable access to programs.

Policy 204 – Attendance

Students are required to attend school regularly in accordance with Pennsylvania law. The policy outlines excused and unexcused absences, documentation, and procedures to support consistent attendance.

Policy 206 – Health Services

Outlines school health services including screenings, medical support, and procedures that ensure student health, safety, and readiness to learn.

Policy 209 – Grading and Reporting

Defines how student performance is assessed and communicated, including grading practices, report cards, and expectations for fairness and consistency.

Policy 211 – Graduation Requirements

Specifies the credit requirements and criteria students must meet to earn a diploma, aligned with state regulations.

Policy 212 – Student Code of Conduct

Establishes behavioral expectations and outlines disciplinary procedures to maintain a safe and respectful learning environment.

Policy 215 – Anti-Bullying

Prohibits bullying and harassment and outlines reporting, investigation, and intervention procedures to protect students.

Policy 216 – Electronic Devices

Governs student use of electronic devices. Devices may be used for educational purposes but are restricted during the school day to maintain a focused learning environment.

Policy 221 – Dress Code

Ensures student dress supports a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment while allowing appropriate self-expression.

Policy 226 – Academic Integrity

Prohibits cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty, reinforcing ethical academic behavior.

Policy 231 – Homeless Students

Ensures educational stability and access for students experiencing homelessness in alignment with the McKinney-Vento Act. The policy outlines rights related to enrollment, transportation, and support services.

Policy 1004 – School Visitors

This policy outlines procedures for visitors entering school buildings, including sign-in requirements, identification, and approval processes to ensure a safe and secure environment for students and staff.

Annual Child Find Notice

Pittsburgh Public Schools conducts ongoing 'Child Find' activities to identify, locate, and evaluate children who may be eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This includes children ages 3–21, including those who are homeless, wards of the state, or attending private schools. Families can request an evaluation if they suspect a disability impacting learning.



Students first
Always, in all ways.



Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. It is the policy of the Pittsburgh School District to make all services, programs and activities available and to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities. Please make requests for accommodations at least 72 hours before the scheduled event. For more information regarding accommodations, civil rights grievance procedures, please contact: Rachel Beers, Office of Employee Relations rbeers1@pghschools.org | 341 S. Bellefield Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 | 412-529-HELP (4357)