



Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5

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

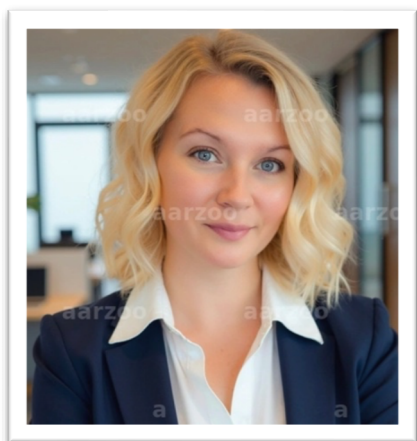
Dear Fulton Students and Families,

Welcome to Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5! It is my pleasure to welcome both new and returning families to another school year filled with learning, growth, and opportunity.

At Fulton, we believe every child deserves to feel safe, valued, challenged, and supported. Our dedicated staff work each day to create a positive learning environment where students are encouraged to take risks, build meaningful relationships, and grow both academically and socially. We are proud of our diverse school community and remain committed to ensuring that every student has access to engaging, high-quality learning experiences.

Strong partnerships between home and school are essential to student success. When families and educators work together, students thrive. We encourage open communication, active involvement, and collaboration as we support our Wildcats throughout the school year.

This Student and Parent Handbook serves as a resource to help families understand the procedures, expectations, and opportunities that make our school community successful. Please take time to review the information together and refer to it throughout the year as needed.



Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. We are honored to be part of their journey and look forward to a year filled with growth, achievement, and memorable experiences.

Together, we will continue to make Pittsburgh Fulton a place where every student can learn, belong, and succeed.

With gratitude,

Ms. Emily McIntyre

Acting Principal

Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5

SCHOOL INFORMATION



Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5

5799 Hampton St, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Phone: 412-529-4600

Fax: 412-665-4969

Office Email: fultones@pghschools.org

Website: pghschools.org/schools/k-5/fulton

School Colors: Red & White

School Mascot: Wildcats

Motto: Once a Wildcat,
Always a Wildcat

Staff Directory - Fulton Link

VISION AND MISSION

Mission

At Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5, we strive to create a collaborative and inclusive school community where every student is supported, challenged, and empowered to achieve academic and social growth through equitable, data-informed, and student-centered practices.

Vision

At Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5, every student will be known, valued, and challenged to reach their fullest potential through meaningful learning experiences, strong relationships, and a commitment to excellence.

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

Communication with Teachers

Teachers' contact information will be shared at the beginning of the school year. Families will receive information about how to connect through TalkingPoints, email, and other approved communication platforms.

We encourage families to maintain open communication with their child's teacher regarding academic progress, attendance, and any concerns that may arise. While teachers may not be able to respond immediately during instructional time, they will make every effort to respond within a reasonable timeframe.

If a concern would be better addressed through a phone conversation or virtual meeting, families are encouraged to schedule a time directly with the teacher. Meetings are typically arranged during teachers' preparation periods or at another mutually convenient time.

Early Dismissal Procedures

If your child requires an early dismissal, please notify the school in writing by sending a note with your child or communicating through TalkingPoints. Requests should include the reason for dismissal, the name of the person picking up the student, and the anticipated pickup time.

For student safety, students will remain in class until the authorized adult arrives and signs them out through the school's visitor management system in the main office.

The latest time for early dismissal is 3:25 p.m.

If your child's dismissal plan changes, please notify the school in writing as early as possible. For the safety and security of our students, dismissal changes cannot be accepted over the phone. In the event of an emergency, families should contact the main office directly for assistance.

In rare circumstances, Pittsburgh Public Schools may implement an early dismissal due to severe weather or other emergencies. Families will be notified through the district's communication systems if an early dismissal is necessary. Unless otherwise directed, normal dismissal procedures will remain in place.

School Closings and Delays

In the event of severe weather or other emergencies, school closings, delays, and schedule changes will be communicated through Pittsburgh Public Schools' official communication

channels, including automated phone calls, text messages, email notifications, the district website, and district social media accounts.

Families should ensure that all contact information is current so that important notifications can be received in a timely manner. Unless otherwise announced, families should assume that school is operating on its normal schedule.

Two-Hour Delays

When a two-hour delay is announced, students should report to school at 11:10 a.m., and bus transportation will operate approximately two hours later than normal. Breakfast, before-school programs, and after-school activities will not be provided on two-hour delay days.

Parent & Teacher Communication Reminder

Open and consistent communication between parents/guardians and teachers is essential to support student success. We encourage families to stay in regular contact with their child's teacher to address questions, share concerns, and celebrate progress. To ensure that communication is effective and respectful of instructional time, we ask that families follow these procedures:

Schedule meetings with teachers in advance. Teachers often have required meetings and/or are preparing students and may not be available without scheduling at least 24 hours in advance. Thank you for your understanding.

Utilize multiple ways to stay in touch with staff. The main communication channel is the application Talking Points. At the beginning of the school year, teachers will invite their parents into a private group. Messages can also be sent directly to the teacher for private conversations. Additionally, teachers are required to check their emails daily and respond to parents' inquiries within 48 hours. Parents/guardians can also call the main office and leave a message for a specific teacher.

Keeping Primary/Emergency Contact Information Up-to-Date

Please remember to ensure your primary and emergency contact information is up to date at all times. Having working telephone numbers is important for staff to reach you or your designated family members or friends in the event of an emergency. Please share our visitor procedures and school safety information with all the individuals you designated as emergency contacts. A child's emergency contact is the person who is responsible for picking up your child in the event you or your child's additional guardian is unavailable. As a school, we take the release of any child to an unknown adult very seriously. Therefore, it is

important to make sure each of your child's emergency contacts know the following when visiting our school.

- Must show proof of identification. A child will not be released to an individual who does not show proper identification or if the identification does not match the information in the district's student information system.
- Must understand the district's visitor procedures. All visitors must use the main entrance of the school building and sign in at the main office. No visitors are permitted to visit classrooms, walk hallways, or main areas of the school without signing in.
- Must understand the District's Reunification procedures and know the child's school reunification location. Each school has an alternative location for pick-up in the event of a school-based emergency. Any individual wishing to pick up a child from an alternative location must be listed as a parent/guardian or emergency contact and must show proof of identification.

COMMUNICATION WITH FAMILIES DURING AN EMERGENCY

If Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5 is placed on a modified lockdown, full lockdown, or must evacuate to an alternative site, school or district personnel will make every effort to contact families as quickly as possible using the phone messaging system.

Communication will be provided at the onset of the emergency and again when the situation is resolved or if there are important updates.

To ensure timely and accurate communication, it is essential that families complete all required paperwork at the beginning of the school year and promptly notify the school of any changes to primary or emergency contact information.

While it is important for us to update families as quickly as possible during an emergency, it is equally important that the information we share is accurate. Please understand that emergencies are fluid situations, and details may change rapidly. Information shared by non-District sources—such as the news media or social media—may be incomplete or inaccurate.

We encourage families to rely on official District communications for the most reliable and up-to-date information.

Depending on the type of emergency, the district may also utilize its website, Facebook, and Twitter accounts to provide timely information to families.

Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences

At least one parent/guardian teacher conference is scheduled during the school year. These conferences will be held each October. The hours of the conference day will be announced as the day is near. Teachers meet with parents/guardians and discuss the student's progress during 10–15-minute meetings.

Child Protection

For the safety of all students, children will only be released to adults who are authorized in the District's student information system.

At the beginning of each school year, families are asked to review and update all emergency contact information. It is important that the school maintains an accurate list of individuals who are authorized to pick up your child. Families should complete all required emergency contact forms and notify the school promptly of any changes throughout the school year.

If someone other than a regularly authorized adult needs to pick up your child, written notification must be provided in advance. This may be submitted through TalkingPoints, email, or a written note sent to school. For security reasons, dismissal changes cannot be accepted over the phone.

Any individual picking up a student must report to the main office and present a valid photo ID. Without written authorization and proper identification, a student will not be released.

In cases involving custody agreements, protection orders, or other court-directed restrictions, the school must have a current copy of the applicable court documentation on file. The school can only enforce restrictions that have been documented through official legal paperwork and entered into the student's record.

BELL SCHEDULES

2026 – 2027 Bell Schedule		
Period	Min.	Start/End Time
Paraprofessional Arrival	--	8:15 am
Teacher Arrival	--	8:35 am
ESEP Time	40	8:35-9:10
Morning Duty Arrival	--	8:53 am
Breakfast/transition	15	8:55-9:10
Pick-Up Students	--	9:10
Homeroom	15	9:10 – 9:25
WIN Time	35	9:25 – 10:00
1	43	10:00 – 10:43
2	43	10:43 – 11:26
3	43	11:26 – 12:09
4	43	12:09 – 12:52
5 (1 st lunch)	45	12:52 – 1:37
Exchange	1	1:37 – 1:38
6 (2 nd lunch)	45	1:38 – 2:23
7	43	2:23 – 3:06
8	43	3:06 – 3:49
Wildcat Wrap-up	6	3:49 – 3:55
Student Dismissal	--	3:55
Teacher Dismissal	--	4:05
Parprofessional Dismissal	--	4:15

2 Hour Delay Schedule

Period	Minutes	Start and End Time
Paraprofessional Arrival	--	8:15 am
Teacher Arrival	--	8:35 am
Pick-Up Students	--	11:10
Homeroom	10	11:10-11:20
1	30	11:20-11:50
2	30	11:50-12:20
3	30	12:20-12:50
5(1 st lunch)	45	12:50-1:35
6(2 nd lunch)	45	1:35-2:20
4	30	2:20-2:50
7	30	2:50-3:20
8	30	3:20-3:50
Wildcat Wrap-up	2	3:50-3:52
Walker Dismissal	--	3:52
Bus Dismissal	--	3:55
Teacher Dismissal	--	4:10
Para Dismissal	--	4:15

Half Day Bell Schedule		
Period	Minutes	Start and End Time
Paraprofessional Arrival	--	8:15 am
Teacher Arrival	--	8:35 am
Pick-Up Students	--	9:10
Homeroom	10	9:10-9:20
4	43	9:20-10:03
7	43	10:03-10:46
5(1 st lunch)	45	10:46-11:31
6(2 nd lunch)	45	11:31-12:16
Wildcat Wrap-up	4	12:16-12:20
Walker Dismissal		12:20
Bus Dismissal		12:20
Teacher/Para PD		1:00-4:00

Remote Learning

In the event that Pittsburgh Public Schools implements remote learning, Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5 will provide instruction through both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities.

Synchronous Learning

Synchronous learning occurs when students participate in live instruction with their teacher at a scheduled time. During synchronous learning, students may engage in virtual lessons, class discussions, small-group instruction, and other interactive learning activities. Students are expected to attend scheduled sessions, participate appropriately, and follow all school and classroom expectations.

Asynchronous Learning

Asynchronous learning occurs when students complete assignments and learning activities independently at a time that works best for their family within the designated timeframe. These activities may include recorded lessons, reading assignments, independent practice, projects, or online learning tasks. Students are expected to complete all assigned work and submit it by the deadlines established by their teacher.

Students are expected to:

- Attend all required live instructional sessions.
Complete and submit assignments on time.
Use district-issued technology responsibly and in accordance with the Acceptable Use Policy.
Communicate with teachers when assistance is needed.
Demonstrate respectful and appropriate behavior during all virtual learning activities.

A Typical Remote Day Framework At Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5

9:10 AM – 9:25 AM

- Access your HR teachers' daily link into their LIVE classroom
- Teacher and families will receive a teacher check-in or Welcome (pre-recorded video)
- Daily attendance will be recorded

9:25 AM – 9:55 AM - LIVE

- Social-emotional learning activity from WayFinder Curriculum
- A feelings check-in

9:55 AM – 10:38 AM – LIVE READING BLOCK 1

- Introduce core lessons, provide direct instruction (e.g. phonics, reading, comprehension, writing skills)
- Use visuals (slides, videos, etc.) to engage students
- NOTE: Provide 5-10 minutes for Q&A or clarifying concepts
- Allow students to recharge (Physical activity video, stretching, a short dance, exercise break, snack break, bathroom time, or free time)

10:38 AM – 11:21 AM – INDEPENDENT BLOCK READING BLOCK 2

- Reinforce learning with independent tasks
- Pre-recorded video explanation of task (e.g. a short story to read or writing)
 - Activities may include: reading and answering question, writing short response, journal entries, and vocabulary
 - Students can submit work via Clever/ Schoology

NOTE: Students may submit responses via an online platform

LIVE TEACHING BLOCK MATH 1

- Introduce new math or on-going concepts (e.g. addition/subtraction, multiplication, geometry) with interactive tools
- Use manipulatives, slides, or virtual tools to demonstrate math concepts
- **NOTE:** Quick Q&A session at the end
- Allow students to recharge (Physical activity video, stretching, a short dance, exercise break, snack break, bathroom time, or free time)

INDEPENDENT WORK TIME 2: MATH PRACTICE

- Practice and apply math concepts independently
- Activities can include, but not limited to: Worksheet, interactive online exercises, math game, problem-solving challenges, that mirror the live teaching session
- Students can submit work via Clever/ Schoology

12:47 PM – 1:32PM (1st Lunch Grades Kindergarten, First, and Second)

1:33 PM – 2:18PM (2nd Lunch Grades Third, Fourth, and Fifth)

2:18 PM – 3:01 PM (This time frame is the last two academic periods of the day. Students could have a Reading class, Science, Social Studies, French, Art, Music, or Gym)

3:01 PM – 3:44 PM (This time frame is the last two academic periods of the day. Students could have a Reading class, Science, Social Studies, French, Art, Music, or Gym)

21-minutes of **LIVE TEACHING** within a single 43-minute period

- Teacher explains concepts (e.g. weather patterns, historical events, drawing tutorials, music lessons, and journaling)
- Introduce a topic in science or social studies, engage students in creative, or emotional activities, and could be a single period wrapping up Reading

22-minutes of **INDEPENDENT STUDENT WORK TIME** within a single 43-minute period

- Students can create their own artwork, music piece, or practice skills demonstrated during the live teaching
- Research project, drawing, or answering questions in a more self-directed way

3:05 PM – 3:52 PM Wildcat Wrap Up

- Students can be released from live teaching to their last independent work for the day
- A pre-recorded video or live closing is optional (teacher summarizing the day's lessons and achievements)

- Students reflect on their day with a quick write in their journals
- Teacher assigns light, optional homework or reading for the evening
- During this independent time assign a stretching or mental break, this could be a video or quick dance

Note on Flexibility:

This framework can be adjusted depending on your classroom's specific needs, student attention spans, and grade-level expectations. Some subjects may be consolidated into fewer live sessions, or students might work in small groups for a portion of their independent work time. In younger grades (K-2), you may want to reduce the amount of independent work time and provide more structured, shorter live sessions.

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

Regular attendance is essential to student success. Students who attend school consistently are better able to participate in classroom instruction, develop positive relationships, and achieve academic growth.

When a student is absent, a written excuse must be submitted within three (3) school days of the student's return. Excuses may be submitted in accordance with district procedures. Absences not properly documented within three days may be recorded as unlawful.

Parents/guardians may submit written excuses for the first ten (10) cumulative absences. After ten (10) absences, additional documentation, such as a medical note, court notice, or other official verification, may be required in accordance with district policy.

Families will be notified of attendance concerns, including unlawful absences and patterns of truancy. Pittsburgh Public Schools follows all state and district attendance requirements, including the issuance of legal notices and the scheduling of attendance or truancy meetings when necessary.

Students who are absent are responsible for completing missed assignments and coursework. Opportunities to make up work will be provided for excused absences in accordance with district policy.

Tardiness and early dismissals result in lost instructional time and should be kept to a minimum whenever possible. Students arriving late due to district transportation delays will not be penalized.

If you have questions or concerns regarding attendance, please contact the school office or the school social worker for assistance.

ACADEMICS

Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5 utilizes a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) to help ensure that all students receive the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional support they need to be successful.

Through MTSS, school staff use data, classroom observations, and ongoing progress monitoring to identify student needs and provide targeted interventions and supports. These interventions may include additional academic instruction, behavioral supports, counseling services, or other strategies designed to help students meet their goals.

Students may be referred to the MTSS team by teachers, administrators, or parents/guardians. Families who have concerns about their child's academic progress, behavior, attendance, or overall school success are encouraged to contact their child's teacher or a member of the student support team. We believe that strong partnerships between families and schools are essential to ensuring positive outcomes for all students.

MTSS is also an important component of Pennsylvania's process for identifying students who may require additional evaluations or specialized services.

Standardized Tests

Students are also given several standardized tests, which are used to compare our students in the district, state, and country and to show student progress toward the PA Common Core Academic Standards in math, ELA, and science. The testing schedule will be distributed before the test is administered.

School Awards

At Pittsburgh Fulton, we believe in celebrating student success. Throughout the school year, students may be recognized for academic growth, achievement, effort, attendance, citizenship, leadership, and other positive contributions to our school community. These celebrations provide an opportunity to honor the hard work, perseverance, and accomplishments of our Wildcats.

Gifted Program

Students who qualify for the District's Gifted Program will attend the Elementary Gifted and Talented Center on Thursdays each week.

25 Book Goal

Each year, the Pittsburgh Public Schools challenge all students to read at least 25 books during the school year. The more students read, the better their fluency will become, and

their vocabulary will grow. We will set benchmarks during the year and acknowledge students who have reached them.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

At Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5, we believe in honesty, responsibility, and doing your best work. Students are expected to complete their own assignments, projects, classwork, and tests honestly and fairly.

Academic dishonesty includes behaviors such as:

- Copying another student's work
- Allowing someone else to copy your work
- Using unauthorized help during tests or assignments
- Claiming someone else's ideas or work as your own
- Accessing tests or answers ahead of time

Our goal is to help students learn and grow, not simply earn grades. Mistakes are part of the learning process, and students are encouraged to ask questions, seek help, and try their best.

Teachers and staff will work with students and families to promote honesty, responsibility, and good academic habits. Concerns related to academic dishonesty will be addressed in accordance with the Pittsburgh Public Schools Code of Student Conduct.

ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5 offers students opportunities to participate in interscholastic athletics that promote teamwork, sportsmanship, perseverance, physical fitness, and school pride. Athletic offerings may vary from year to year and currently include basketball and track and field opportunities for eligible students in grades 3–5.

Students who participate in athletics are expected to maintain appropriate academic progress, demonstrate positive behavior, and represent Fulton in a respectful manner at all practices, competitions, and school-sponsored events.

Additional information regarding athletic eligibility, schedules, and participation requirements will be shared with families throughout the school year.

Field Trips

Students take a variety of field trips during the year. Most are an extension of the classroom instruction; others are for fun. Parents/Guardians will be asked to sign a permission slip for each trip. You will be notified of every field trip as it approaches, with the opportunity to state that you would prefer your child not to attend.

Student Envoy Program

The Student Envoy Program provides students with opportunities to develop leadership skills while serving as ambassadors for the Fulton school community. Through regular meetings, collaboration with staff and peers, and participation in school and district initiatives, Student Envoys help elevate student voice and contribute to a positive school culture. Their feedback and ideas help inform school practices, strengthen our community, and ensure that students play an active role in shaping their educational experience.

Kindness Club

The Kindness Club is a student leadership group dedicated to promoting kindness, acceptance, and inclusion throughout the Fulton community. Members serve as positive role models by demonstrating empathy, respect, and compassion in their daily interactions. Through regular meetings, students collaborate on projects and initiatives designed to strengthen relationships, celebrate diversity, and make Fulton a more welcoming and supportive place for all.

Instrumental Program

Students at Pittsburgh Fulton can participate in an instrumental program for students in grades 3–5, and it is entirely free of charge. Students will receive 1 day of instruction during the 6-day schedule on their choice of instrument.

DRESS CODE

Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5 is a uniform school. Our uniform policy helps promote a positive learning environment, reduces distractions, and fosters a sense of school pride and community.

Students are expected to wear the following:

- Slacks, pants, walking shorts, culottes, skirts, or jumpers: Solid khaki or navy blue
- Oxford button-down shirts or blouses (short- or long-sleeved): Solid white, blue, yellow, or red
- Polo shirts: Solid white, blue, yellow, or red
- Fulton spirit wear: Approved Fulton t-shirts, including red school shirts and designated award shirts
- Sweaters or pullover sweaters: Solid white, blue, or red

For safety reasons, students must wear appropriate footwear. Flip-flops, slides, and backless shoes are not permitted. All shoes must have a secure back or heel strap.

Families who need assistance obtaining school uniforms are encouraged to contact Mrs. Beakley, our school social worker.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The Pittsburgh Fulton Pre-K-5 community and stakeholders have had success with the implementation of the original cell phone policy that the district implemented. At Pittsburgh Fulton, we follow the following as a response to the policy:

See it. Hear it. Take it.

First Offense – Warning

If a Fulton staff member observes a student with their cell phone visible during the school day, the student will receive a warning. The staff member will explain the cell phone policy and inform the students that they have two options moving forward:

1. Turn in their cell phone to their homeroom teacher during morning homeroom for safekeeping.
2. Keep the phone with them, but they are fully responsible for following all cell phone rules and expectations throughout the day.

Second Offense – Phone Confiscation and Parent Contact

If a Fulton staff member observes a student with their cell phone visible during the school day for a second time, the phone will be confiscated by the staff member. The student may retrieve the phone from that staff member at the end of the school day, before dismissal. The student's parent or guardian will be contacted and informed of the violation.

Third Offense – Parent Pickup and Daily Check-In Required

If a student is repeatedly observed violating the school's cell phone policy, the phone will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent or guardian in the school's main office.

If the parent/guardian chooses to allow the student to continue bringing the phone to school, the student will be required to turn in the phone to their homeroom teacher each morning during homeroom. The phone will be returned to the student during afternoon homeroom.

GRADING

All content areas and grade levels at Pittsburgh Fulton use a grading table of the following letter grades and percentages.

100% - 90% - A
89% - 80% - B
79% - 70% - C
69% - 50% - D (attempt is made and test is completed with effort)
49% and below – E (did not attempt, not completed, no effort)

Each content area has Grading guidelines for different types of graded work. ***For example,*** in Reading it may resemble are as following:

80% Unit Assessments
10% - Weekly Assessments
10% - Homework/ Participation
100% - Final Grade

Citizenship Grades

At Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5, citizenship is an important part of student success. Citizenship grades reflect how consistently students demonstrate our school-wide expectations: being prepared, maintaining a positive attitude, working hard, and making safe choices. Students who embody these expectations contribute to a positive learning environment and help make Fulton a welcoming community for all.

HOMEWORK PROCEDURES

Homework is intended to reinforce classroom learning, provide opportunities for practice, encourage independent responsibility, and strengthen the connection between home and school. Homework expectations may vary by grade level, subject area, and individual student needs.

Teachers will communicate homework expectations and classroom-specific procedures to families at the beginning of the school year. Students are expected to complete assignments to the best of their ability and submit them on time.

Families can support student success by:

- Encouraging regular reading at home
- Establishing a consistent time and place for homework
- Limiting distractions during homework time
- Monitoring completed assignments and school communications
- Contacting the teacher when questions or concerns arise

Homework should be completed by the student. While families are encouraged to provide support and encouragement, homework is intended to help teachers understand each student's progress and learning needs.

In addition to assigned homework, students are encouraged to read regularly at home to strengthen literacy skills, build vocabulary, and foster a lifelong love of learning.

HEALTH SERVICES

Sick or Injured Students

When students become ill or injured at school, they are sent to the nurse by a staff member. They will be seen by the nurse, Ms. Landram. In the event the nurse is not in the building, students will report to the main office, and parents will be called.

Medication

Under no circumstance is medication to be administered by School District nurses to students unless the school principal has received the Consent for Administration of Medication and Medical Order. This form is to be completed by the parent/guardian and the doctor ordering the medication. Please do not send your child to school with medicine without this paperwork as we will not be able to administer the medication without the paperwork completed. No medication of any kind can be kept in the child's possession or stored in any of their personal areas.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ACCEPTABLE USE

Technology is an important tool that supports teaching and learning at Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5. Students are expected to use district-issued devices responsibly, safely, and for educational purposes.

Students may only access approved educational resources and are expected to follow all classroom expectations related to technology use. Inappropriate use of technology, including accessing unauthorized websites, misuse of communication features, or any activity that interferes with learning, may result in disciplinary action and/or the loss of technology privileges

Students and families are required to review and sign the District's Acceptable Use Policy before a district-issued device may be assigned to a student.

Lost, stolen, or damaged devices must be reported to the school as soon as possible. Replacement procedures and any associated costs are determined in accordance with district guidelines

Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5 follows the Pittsburgh Public Schools Code of Student Conduct and Acceptable Use Policy when addressing technology-related concerns.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Counseling and Social Work Services

Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5 is committed to supporting the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral well-being of all students. Our school social worker and student support team are available to assist students who may be experiencing challenges that impact their success at school. Families seeking support, resources, or community referrals are encouraged to contact the school.

Students may be referred for support by teachers, parents/guardians, school staff, or through self-referral.

In addition to individual and small-group support services, students participate in school-wide social-emotional learning opportunities designed to strengthen self-awareness, self-management, relationship skills, responsible decision-making, and overall well-being.

When students require additional behavioral or social-emotional support, the school utilizes a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) to identify needs, monitor progress, and develop individualized intervention plans in partnership with families.

Pittsburgh Fulton also participates in the Student Assistance Program (SAP), which helps identify and support students who may be experiencing barriers to learning. Through school and community partnerships, students and families may have access to additional counseling, mental health, and supportive services when appropriate.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS/PROCEDURES

All students are expected to always conduct themselves in a manner that will contribute to the best interest of the school system and not infringe on the rights of others. There are consequences to violations of the rules of the Student Code of Conduct. Some are district-wide, while others are school-based.

Teachers are expected to manage most discipline issues within their classroom. This may occur through phone calls home, meetings, etc. At Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5, we use suspension as a last resort. There may be times suspension is used even when the child has never been referred to the office. This would occur when the infraction is considered serious enough to warrant this consequence. We attempt to deal with student problems through discussion and conflict mediation. Please refer to the PreK-5 Student Code of Conduct at pghschools.org/domain/43 for further information

Several staff members have been trained in conflict mediation, and the students are made aware of this method of problem-solving. We have found that students are seeking out adults to help them resolve their problems. Parents/Guardians are notified when students are having difficulties with their behavior, sometimes so they can provide us with additional assistance, other times just so they are aware of the problem. Also, there may be times when it is necessary to bring children to school to talk with the principal or teacher, as a way to resolve the problems the child may be experiencing.

PBIS/ VIP Reward Program

At Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5, positive behavior is recognized and celebrated through our VIP Reward Program. Students earn VIP points by demonstrating PAWS expectations, maintaining strong attendance, wearing their school uniform, and contributing positively to the Fulton community.

Students who earn the required number of VIP points may participate in special celebrations, activities, field trips, or other recognition events. These opportunities are designed to acknowledge students' hard work, responsibility, and commitment to making Fulton a positive place to learn and grow.

Students who receive a school or bus suspension may be ineligible to participate in a VIP activity during the corresponding reward period. Excessive tardiness may also impact VIP point totals.

For VIP activities that occur off school grounds, families will receive advance notice and a permission slip. Students must have all required forms completed and on file in order to participate.

The VIP Reward Program is available to all students and reflects our commitment to recognizing positive choices, personal growth, and school success.

PAWS School-Wide Expectations

At Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5, we use our PAWS expectations to create a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment for all students. These expectations guide student behavior throughout the school day and help us build a school community where everyone can learn and succeed.

Students are expected to:

- **Be Prepared**
- **Maintain a Positive Attitude**
- **Be a Hard Worker**
- **Be Safe**

These expectations apply in all areas of the school, including classrooms, hallways, the cafeteria, the playground, buses, and school events. Staff members teach, model, and reinforce these behaviors throughout the year to help students develop responsibility, citizenship, and positive relationships with others.

See the PAWS Behavior Matrix below for specific examples of how these expectations look in different school settings.

Pittsburgh Fulton PreK-5

Wildcats	Classroom	Cafeteria	Restroom	Playground	Hallway	Dismissal
P Be P repared	• Come prepared and ready to learn. • Listen carefully and follow directions the first time asked.	• Stand in quiet lines. • Sanitize hands • Follow the directives from the staff.	• Line up quietly. • Use water and soap wisely.	• Have jackets/coats. • Help take out equipment.	• Visit your locker at homeroom, lunchtime, and dismissal.	• Have homework and all notices to go home. • Have your bookbag, jackets, etc.
A Paw -sitive Attitude	• Show respect by being honest and keeping hurtful words to my myself.	• Use appropriate table manners. • Use an inside voice.	• Wait your turn. • Respect privacy. • Be respectful.	• Be a problem solver. • Play with everyone.	• Be silent so others can continue to work.	• Report directly to dismissal teacher. • Keep hurtful words to yourself. • Use appropriate language.
W Be a hard W orker	• Give the best of myself in all my work. • Pay attention to the teacher.	• Throw away trash. • Keep your area clean.	• Clean up after yourself. • Wash your hands.	• Help resolve conflicts. • Clean up equipment.	• Pay attention to school staff. • Keep gum, candy, and toys at home.	• Stay in line during dismissal. • Keep belongings in your bookbag.
S Be S afe	• Remain seated and raise my hand to speak always. • Keep hands, feet, objects and hurtful words to yourself.	• Stay in assigned seat. • Keep hands, feet, objects and hurtful words to yourself.	• Use a quiet voice. • Maintain personal space. • Line up in assigned space.	• Use equipment as directed. • Play safely. • Keep hands, feet, objects and hurtful words to yourself.	• Keep hands, feet, and hurtful words to yourself.	• Stay on the sidewalk. • Stay seated during the bus ride. • Keep hands, feet, objects and hurtful words to yourself.

VISITORS

All visitors to our school are required to follow the District's visitor procedures. Please share these procedures with anyone you have listed as an emergency contact for your child.

- If you are planning to visit a classroom or other area of the school building during the school day, you should call the building office and pre-register for an appointment before the date of the visit. Absent an emergency, requests to meet with a classroom teacher or other staff member should be made at least 48 hours in advance to allow the school sufficient time to make arrangements for substitute coverage, as necessary.
- Upon arrival at the school building, all visitors must register in the main office before proceeding to any other part of the building.
- As part of the registration process in the main office, all visitors will be asked to sign the visitor register and provide their driver's license or other state-issued photo identification.
- Once registered, the visitor will be issued a Visitor Identification Badge, which must be displayed at all times while the visitor remains in the school building or on school premises.
- All visitors must return their visitors' pass and sign out as well

A basic responsibility of the school is to ensure the safety of the children. Therefore, the office staff must know who is in the building at all times. All visitors should enter the building through the Hampton Street entrance. All visitors must report to the office for a visitor's pass. A staff member is required to escort the visitor through the building. Classes are not to be interrupted unless there is an emergency, since these interruptions decrease instructional time for the children. If a class needs to be interrupted, it will be at the discretion of the principal or their designee. Visitors who violate this may be escorted from the building and banned from further visits.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Dress Down Fridays

Every Friday, students have the option to 'dress down' or not wear their uniforms. To participate, students donate 1\$. The purpose for the donation is to raise money for student activities, field trips, and rewards for student achievement throughout the school year. Participation in Fundraiser Friday is completely **OPTIONAL**, however, if you choose not to participate, your child is expected to be in his/her uniform.

School Pictures

Students will have the opportunity to participate in school picture days during both the fall and spring semesters. Information regarding picture dates, ordering options, and packages available for purchase will be sent home with students prior to each picture day. Participation is optional.

Valuable Possessions

Students are strongly discouraged from bringing valuable personal items, large amounts of money, toys, trading cards, electronics, or other non-school-related items to school. The school cannot assume responsibility for items that are lost, stolen, or damaged.

If a student must bring a valuable item to school for a specific reason, it should be given to a staff member for safekeeping as soon as the student arrives.

Items that interfere with learning or create a distraction may be collected by school staff and returned to the student at the end of the school day. Repeated incidents may require a parent/guardian to retrieve the item from the school.

Lost and Found

Items that are found throughout the school are placed in the Lost and Found area outside the main office. Students and families are encouraged to check the Lost and Found regularly for missing belongings.

To help ensure lost items are returned, families are encouraged to label jackets, lunchboxes, water bottles, and other personal belongings with the student's name.

Unclaimed items may be donated periodically throughout the school year.

Lockers

Students are assigned a locker or shared locker for storing school materials and personal belongings. Personal locks are not permitted on student lockers.

Students should keep lockers organized and use them only for school-appropriate items. Valuable items should not be brought to school or stored in lockers. Students may access their lockers at designated times during the school day, including arrival, dismissal, and other times as directed by staff.

Safety Guidelines for Drivers

Please observe the speed zones around the school. Pick up your child/children and let them out of the car only from the right side. If you must let them out from the side of the street away from the building, be sure to insist they go to the corner to cross the street so they will not dash out into the street from behind or between parked cars and buses. If possible, walk them across the street.

Parent/Guardian Volunteering

We will gladly welcome parent/guardian involvement throughout the school day and on field trips. Volunteers must obtain clearances related to criminal history, child abuse, and FBI clearances. Parents must also be cleared by the district. The forms are available in the office. There are several ways to become involved in the school.

School Volunteers

- Help teachers help students
- Assist in creating a positive school atmosphere
- Provide additional adult presence
- Bring the school, community, and business world together

Parent (Guardian) /School Community Council (PSCC)

- Raise school-wide concerns and help resolve them at the school level
- Advise on school policies, programs, and critical issues
- Assist in the development of the school's state required educational plan.
- Monthly Council meetings, committee meetings, occasional training sessions

Please let the FACE coordinator know if you are interested, **Ms. Abigail Pekelnicky**, at the school if you are interested.

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)