



Pittsburgh Montessori PreK-5

Student Handbook 2026-2027

Table of Contents

SUPERINTENDENT’S WELCOME	2
PRINCIPAL’S WELCOME	3
SCHOOL INFORMATION	4
VISION AND MISSION	5
COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES	6
BELL SCHEDULES	7
SCHOOL CALENDAR	9
ATTENDANCE	10
ACADEMICS	12
ELECTRONIC DEVICES	14
HEALTH SERVICES	15
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ACCEPTABLE USE	17
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES	18
ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES	19
APPENDIX	24

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 Pittsburgh Montessori Families,

As we begin the 2025–2026 school year, I am delighted to share our updated Family Handbook. This guide reflects the values, expectations, and commitments that shape our school community and serves as an important resource to support your child's success throughout the year.

In alignment with Pittsburgh Public Schools' strategic vision of "Students First Always, in All Ways," Pittsburgh Montessori provides a nurturing learning environment where students are encouraged to grow academically, socially, emotionally, and independently. The mission and vision outlined in this handbook guide our work each day and reflect our commitment to fostering a strong partnership among students, families, and staff.



Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. We look forward to a wonderful year of learning, growth, and discovery together.

Sincerely,

Kellie Meyer
Principal
Pittsburgh Montessori

SCHOOL INFORMATION



Pittsburgh Montessori PreK-5

201 S Graham St, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Phone: (412) 529-2010

Fax: (412) 665-2038

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

[Pittsburgh Montessori Staff Directory](#)

School Colors Blue

School Mascot Eagle

School Motto Stay on your strong side!

VISION AND MISSION

At Pittsburgh Montessori our vision is to unite the entire school community to foster measurable growth in the development of the whole child through the Montessori philosophy and materials. All students will engage with multiple learning mediums to develop future ready skills and be fully prepared to succeed in middle school curriculum without remediation.

At Pittsburgh Montessori, our mission is to provide a nurturing and inclusive learning environment in a, public school setting, where every child is empowered to reach their full potential academically, socially, emotionally and creatively through the Montessori philosophy. We are committed to fostering independence, critical thinking, collaboration and a life long love of learning while equipping students with the skills and confidence needed to thrive in middle school and beyond.

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

School Newsletter

- An electronic school newsletter is sent weekly and posted to the school's website.
- This newsletter includes important school-wide information, reminders, and event updates.
- Additional time-sensitive announcements may be sent via email.

Website

Our school website houses:

- Event calendars
- Forms
- Newsletters
- Staff contact information

<https://www.pghschools.org/schools/k-5/montessori>

Montessori “Backpack” Mail

While we encourage electronic communication, there may be times when important notices or forms are sent home in your child's backpack. Please check your child's backpack regularly.

Automated Calls (“Robo-Calls”)

- Only the primary phone number listed in the Home Access Center (HAC) will receive these calls.
- Opting out during a robo-call removes all phone numbers from all future calls.
- Please ensure all contact information (phone, email, address) is kept up to date through the Student Data Specialist (SDSS).

Contacting Staff

- For classroom-specific questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher first.
 - Please utilize district email or talking points
- In urgent situations, call the main office at 412-529-2010.
- Staff email addresses are available on the school website and in the Staff Directory section of this handbook.

BELL SCHEDULES

Regular Daily Schedule

Breakfast 8:50 to 9:10 AM

Homeroom	9:10 to 9:15
1st Period	9:15-10:00
2nd Period	10:00-10:45
3rd Period	10:45-11:30
4th period CH Lunch	11:30-12:15
5th period LE Lunch/ Rest Time	12:15- 1:00
6th period UE lunch	1:00-1:45
7th period	1:45-2:30
8th period	2:30-3:15
RTI for 3rd to 5th grade	3:15 to 3:45

Dismissal for P3 and P4 is at 3:30

Kinder and all other students dismiss at 3:50

*****In the case of Remote learning your child's teacher will reach out with any scheduling adjustments**

Half-Day Schedule

9:10–9:15 AM	Homeroom	Breakfast from 8:50-9:10
9:15–9:40 AM	1st Period	
9:40–10:05 AM	2nd Period	
10:05–10:30 AM	3rd Period	
10:30–10:55 AM	4th Period	Children's House Lunch: Conway, Pitard, Vislay, McAllister
10:55–11:20 AM	5th Period	Children's House Lunch: Leventry, Schreiner, Banko
11:20–11:45 AM	6th Period	Lower Elementary Lunch: Mattie, Thimons, Ditch
11:45 AM–12:05 PM	7th Period	Lower Elementary Lunch: Sciulli, Crocco, Farinelli
12:05–12:30 PM	8th Period	Upper Elementary Lunch

Dismissal for P3 and P4 is at 12:15

Kinder and all other students dismiss at 12:30

Two-Hour Delay Schedule

11:10–11:15 AM	Homeroom	NO Breakfast
11:30 AM–12:15 PM	4th Period	Children's House Lunch
12:15–1:00 PM	5th Period	Lower Elementary Lunch / Nap
1:00–1:45 PM	6th Period	Upper Elementary Lunch
1:45–2:05 PM	1st Period	
2:05–2:30 PM	2nd Period	
2:30–2:55 PM	3rd Period	
2:55–3:20 PM	7th Period	
3:20–3:45 PM	8th Period	Regular dismissal procedures

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

Excused Absence

An “excused absence” includes the absence of a student for any of the following reasons:

Illness or Other Urgent Reasons

Upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of mental, physical or other urgent reasons, a parent’s written note will excuse a student’s absence. A maximum of ten (10) days of cumulative absences verified by parental notification may be permitted during a school year. All absences beyond ten (10) cumulative days require an excuse from a physician. For parenting students, upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of illness of the student’s child, related absences will be excused.

- Parents will receive a notice in the mail from the District’s central office when they have reached their 10-day maximum excused absences
- Teachers should not accept parent excuses after 10 excused absences (this does not include medical excuses, bus excuses, funeral absences and etc.)

Health Care

A student may be excused during school hours to obtain non-school professional health care, including emergency care, hospitalization and/or quarantine. A parenting student may be excused during school hours to obtain non-school professional health care, including emergency care, hospitalization and/or quarantine for the student’s child. Documentation from the treating licensed health care professional shall be obtained and provided to the school.

Bereavement

A student may be temporarily excused from school for bereavement and/or to attend the funeral of a family member. All such excusals must be reported to and approved by the School Principal or their designee.

Religious Holidays and Religious Instruction

A student shall be excused from school for absences occasioned by the observance of the student’s religion recognized by the Board of Education as a bona fide religious holiday.

Weather Emergency

If a decision is made for schools to remain open, parents/guardians have the option to keep their children home for health and safety reasons. Parents/guardians are ultimately responsible for making this decision. If a parent decides to keep his or her child home in

any situation, including inclement weather, they should email the child's teacher to report their child's absence. A written explanation of the absence must be provided to the homeroom teacher upon returning to the school within three (3) days. Failure to provide a written explanation of the absence within three (3) days will result in an unlawful or unexcused absence. The School Principal or their designee determines whether a student's absence will be excused for these reasons.

Involuntary Exclusions

A student who is lawfully absent from school or class due to involuntary exclusion shall be excused. An involuntary exclusion includes out-of-school suspensions, temporary alternative education placements, and incarceration or home detention. Attendance at a required in-school suspension shall not be counted as an absence.

School-Approved Activities

A student absent from class or school due to participation in a school, Principal or teacher approved activity, including, but not limited to field trips, service learning, assemblies, support groups, counseling, mentoring, or tutoring shall be lawfully excused.

Other Principal-Approved Excusals

A School Principal or their designee may excuse a student from attendance for lawful reasons. Administrator – Approved Excusals are educational vacations, college visitation, counseling or support groups, or social service agency appointments including, but not limited to Children, Youth and Families

Please email any requests to your student's teacher and they will forward them to the Principal for approval. Students will be required to make up missed district curriculum work and any additional work (ex. reflection on the trip, etc.).

If a student is considered at risk due to attendance, the school counselor will reach out to the teacher to discuss the next steps. These may include:

- SAIP meeting
- Magistrate
- Agency referral
- CYF referral

ACADEMICS

Curriculum

Pittsburgh Montessori offers Pennsylvania Standards aligned curriculum as decided by the Pittsburgh Public School District. We also utilize Montessori materials for student learning that are geared to meet the needs of each individual student.

Grading

A standard procedure for grading was established and implemented throughout the District in grades 1-5. The following guidelines provide a consistent method for measuring student achievement in every classroom using the same grading practices.

Grades are based on performance in the following categories:

- Assessments
- Classwork
- Participation
- Homework

Grading Scale

Percentage Earned	Grade	GPA
90-100%	A	4.0
80-89%	B	3.0
70-79%	C	2.0
60-69%	D	1.0
50-59%	E	0.0

Report Cards

All report cards are available on the Home Access Center.

If you need your log-in information, please reach out to the SDSS at your school.

Please Note: Grades close approximately 10 days prior to report card dates. Any late work that you or your child wishes to submit must be turned in prior to the date that grades close to be counted.

Academic Concerns

If you are concerned about your student's academic performance, please reach out to your student's classroom teacher directly.

Pittsburgh Montessori utilizes the district MTSS (Multi-Tiered Support System) process to assist in identifying students with additional learning needs. This is a multi-step process

involving a network of school faculty to help any student who is not performing at their ability level.

If you have any additional questions about the MTSS process, please contact the school counselor.

Home Access Center (HAC)

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

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

HAC is also accessible via a free mobile device app called: "eSchoolPLUS Family".

- Supported devices include iOS 7.1* (iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch) and Android 4.0.3
- For technical assistance please contact 412-529-HELP (4357).

Homework

Specific Homework procedures will be communicated by the classroom teacher.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Pittsburgh Montessori students must keep their cell phones, and any other electronic device turned off and in their designated pocket chart as per District policy.

- [https://go.boarddocs.com/pa/pghboe/Board.nsf/files/DTSL5S54CBBE/\\$file/216-AR-1%20of%201.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/pa/pghboe/Board.nsf/files/DTSL5S54CBBE/$file/216-AR-1%20of%201.pdf)

HEALTH SERVICES

A **PPS school nurse** is assigned to Pittsburgh Montessori. In the nurse's absence, the district will assign a substitute for medication administration only.

Nurse Responsibilities

- Maintain updated student health records.
- Complete state-required vision and hearing screenings.
- Record height, weight, and immunizations annually.
- Verify completion of a physical exam prior to school entry (Kindergarten or first grade).
- Provide care for illnesses and injuries that occur during the school day.

Parent Responsibilities

- Keep all emergency contact information updated in **Home Access Center (HAC)**.
- Report any chronic health conditions, allergies, or disabilities to the school nurse and principal.
- Provide any medications in the **original pharmacy-labeled container** with a signed **Medication Permission Form** from a physician.
- Report all cases of head lice to the school nurse immediately. The district follows PPS's **Head Lice Policy** for exclusion and return to school.

Illness Guidelines

Students should stay home if they have:

- Fever of 100.4°F or higher (may return after 24 hours fever-free without medication)
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the past 24 hours
- Contagious illness requiring antibiotics (must be on antibiotics for at least 24 hours before returning)

Immunization records must be complete before any child enters school. The requirements are as follows:

- 1 dose of chicken pox vaccine
- 4 doses of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (one dose must be after the fourth birthday)
- 3 doses of oral polio vaccine
- 2 doses of measles vaccine after the first birthday
- 1 dose of mumps vaccine after the first birthday
- 1 dose of rubella vaccine after the first birthday
- 3 properly spaced doses of hepatitis B vaccine

The school district policy 229 for the administration of medications can be accessed through the following link; Policy 229-Use of Medications. The District policy 229 for the

administration of medications can be accessed through the following link; [Policy 229-Use of Medications](#).

District Health Services: pghschools.org/healthservices

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ACCEPTABLE USE

All families will be required to sign the [Acceptable Use Policy](#).

We are pleased to offer our students at Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) a safe, stable, relevant and productive technical experience with the use of all district technologies. Students and their families must follow the guidelines established for appropriate care and use of all district technologies. Misuse of PPS equipment may result in the withdrawal of this privilege at the school's discretion. Intentional or neglectful disregard for equipment resulting in damage or loss will be the responsibility of the student and their family. Inappropriate use may result in cancellation of permission to use district equipment which could have academic repercussions. We ask that each student and family take the use of district equipment seriously as the benefits of a contemporary learning environment have a wide range of benefits for the learner, as well as the learner's family and school community. Students are asked to bring their charged device to school each day.

Every student in PPS will have access to the district computer network resources, electronic mail and the Internet. To use these resources, all students must sign and return this form to acknowledge the PPS Acceptable Use Policy. Please review the PPS Information Technology/Acceptable Use Policy by clicking on the link above.

Guidelines: General Use

- **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.
- Food and drink may not be consumed next to or near a PPS device at any time

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Our Student Support Services team is here to help. If you have any concerns regarding your child, please contact directly your child's teacher first.

To read more information regarding PPS student services, please visit pghschools.org/departments/student-support-services.

ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

Arrival Procedures

There is NO PARKING in the bus lane on S. Graham Street or Friendship Avenue. Please do not block the staff parking lot. Pittsburgh Police often patrol and issue tickets, especially around arrival and dismissal times.

Student Arrival

- 8:50 AM – Arrival begins only for students eating breakfast.
 - Students enter through the front doors for breakfast.
 - Breakfast is eaten at designated tables assigned by homeroom (each labeled with teacher name).
 - Supervision: Several Tutors supervise breakfast beginning at 8:50 AM.
- 9:10 AM – Students not eating breakfast are admitted and proceed directly to their classrooms:
 - K–5 students: Enter through the main doors.
 - PreK 3 & PreK 4 students: Enter through the Graham Street doors.
 - Demountable students: Enter the Demountable building directly.

Transition to Classrooms

- At 9:10 AM, Tutors escort Children’s House students to classrooms.
- Other students are dismissed at 9:10 AM to walk independently to classrooms.
- No students are allowed in classrooms before 9:10 AM unless they have a previously scheduled appointment confirmed with the teacher.
- At this time, parents are not permitted to enter the building to eat breakfast with students

Homeroom & Tardy Policy

- Homeroom runs from 9:10–9:15 AM.
- Students arriving after 9:15 AM will be marked tardy, unless the late arrival is due to PPS bussing delays.
- All assigned tutors must be in attendance and on time for their scheduled duties.

Dismissal Procedures

Dismissal Times

- PreK Students – 3:30 PM
- K–5 Students – 3:50 PM

Dismissal Locations

- Demountable Students:

- o Exit to parents in front of the Demountable.
 - o Demountable bussers are escorted by a teacher/tutor.
- Pick-Ups/Walkers:
 - o Rooms 101–104 and 110: Exit Graham Street multi-purpose doors; meet parents on the blacktop.
 - o Rooms 108 and 109: Exit Roup Street gym doors.
 - o Upstairs Lower Elementary Classrooms: Exit Roup Street stair doors.
 - o Upper Elementary Classrooms: Exit main entrance.

Bussers

- Bus dismissal begins at 3:45 PM. Students transition to the bus room and are called by bus for dismissal.
- Students eligible for transportation are expected to ride their assigned bus unless the classroom teacher receives written notification from the guardian for an alternate plan.
- Students are never permitted to ride a bus to which they are not assigned, regardless of parent permission.
- Students will not be permitted to depart the bus at a stop other than the one assigned by PPS Transportation without prior written permission.

Walking Students

- Students may walk home only with written permission from a guardian.
- If a student walks home every day, one written notice at the beginning of the school year is sufficient.
- No student may be left unattended without written guardian permission.

Late Pick-Up

- Students not picked up by 3:55 PM will return to the main hallway. Parents must ring the main entrance door to pick them up.

Early Dismissals

- Parents must buzz at the main entrance. Security or the main office will contact the classroom to excuse the student.
- Students remain in their classroom until confirmation that the parent is present in the building.
- All early dismissals will be recorded in the student's official attendance record.
- If you arrive at the school within 15 minutes prior to your student's dismissal time, please wait for your child to be dismissed with their class.

Before and After Care (2026–27)

Kidsville Day Care operates a before-school and after-school program on-site at Pittsburgh Montessori under a facility use permit. This program is independently operated and is not affiliated with Pittsburgh Public Schools.

- Contact for Enrollment & Information: Kidsville Day Care at 412-770-8036.
- Pittsburgh Montessori staff cannot process or manage enrollment for before/after care.
- Parent Responsibility
 - Families must notify their child's teacher if the student will attend the Kidsville after-school program.
 - ♣ This communication ensures that dismissal records are accurate and that your child transitions safely at the end of the school day

Transportation

The PPS Transportation Department can be reached at 412-529-8125.

- Eligibility: Transportation may be available for students in grades K–5 based on PPS eligibility criteria and route availability.
- Assigned Bus: Students are expected to ride only the bus assigned to them by PPS Transportation. Students are not permitted to ride another bus or get off at a different stop—even with parent permission—unless the Transportation Department has issued written authorization.
- Alternate Plans: If your child will not ride the bus on a particular day, you must provide written notice to the classroom teacher.
- Behavior Expectations: Students must follow all PPS bus safety rules and the PPS Code of Student Conduct while riding the bus.
 - If a student displays inappropriate behavior, the driver will file a report for school review.
 - Repeated misbehavior may result in loss of bus privileges.
- Bus Delays/Changes: Families will be notified by PPS Transportation in the event of significant route delays or changes.

District Link: [PPS Transportation Services](#)

Inclement Weather, Delays, & Emergency Virtual Days

If inclement weather or another emergency requires that school be delayed, closed, or operated virtually, PPS will announce this information via:

- The **PPS District Website:** www.pghschools.org
- PPS social media accounts
- Local TV and radio broadcasts
- Automated phone/email/text alerts (please ensure your contact information is current in HAC)

Important Notes:

- There is no breakfast served districtwide on 2-hour delay days.
- When operating on a 2-hour delay, Pittsburgh Montessori's schedule will begin at 11:10 AM.
 - Buses will run exactly two hours later than their normal pick-up time.
 - Example: If your child's usual pick-up is at 8:20 AM, on a delay it will be 10:20 AM.
- All field trips and Gifted Center classes are canceled on days with a delay.
- If school is canceled or delayed, all after-school and evening activities are automatically canceled.
- In the event of an Emergency Virtual Day, your child's teacher will communicate expectations for online learning. Attendance will be taken.

Please do not call the school for delay or closing information—check the PPS website or media announcements.

Enrollment & Application

Early Childhood Program (PreK-3 & PreK-4)

- Pittsburgh Public Schools offers full-day Early Childhood programs for children ages 3–4 within many district PreK-5 and PreK-8 schools.
- Lottery window typically runs February through March, with lotteries executed in April and placements communicated in mid-May.
- Children must be 3 years old by September 30 of the applicable school year to participate in the lottery; however, applications received after the window or for younger children will be processed on a rolling basis if space is available.
- Families applying should submit their application during the lottery window for optimal placement; late or out-of-age applications are waitlisted.
- PPS does not provide transportation for pre-k students. Note, attendance at a PPS PreK program may increase your child's weight during the magnet lottery process if you apply later.

Magnet Enrollment: Kindergarten to Grade 5

2026-27 Application Cycle

- Registration via the PPS Magnet lottery closed Friday February 13, 2026 at 5:00 PM.

- Families who missed the lottery can reach out to the Magnet office directly regarding potential post lottery application submission at 412-529-3991.
- Applicants must first complete district enrollment and activate their HAC account before applying.

2026–27 Application Preview

- While official dates have not yet been confirmed, the 2027–28 magnet lottery is expected to begin in early December 2026 and close in January 2027. Families are encouraged to monitor the PPS enrollment page for exact dates in fall 2026.

Lottery Preferences & Weights

- Across K–5 magnet programs, sibling preference, neighborhood region, economic status, and attendance history may increase odds in the weighted lottery.
- Children who attended PPS PreK at the magnet school or another PPS program receive additional lottery weighting.
- Pittsburgh Montessori does not require testing—placement is lottery-based.

Placement & Continuity Expectations

- Accepted students should remain in Pittsburgh Montessori for at least one academic year.
- Withdrawals are requested to be submitted within 10 school days of the start of the school year.
- To stay enrolled, students should maintain a 90% attendance rate and meet behavior expectations. While GPA and suspension thresholds apply to grades 6–12, there's an implied expectation of consistent attendance and engagement for K–5 magnet students.

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



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)