



Pittsburgh Colfax PreK-8

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,

Superintendent, Pittsburgh Public Schools

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome to the new school year! It is my honor to welcome you to our school community and to share our Student Code of Conduct Handbook. This handbook serves as a guide to the expectations that help create a positive, safe, and productive learning environment for all students in grades K–8.

At our school, we are committed to fostering a culture built upon our HISS expectations: **Helpful, Involved, Safe, and Scholarly**. These values guide our actions each day and help us build a community where every student feels respected, supported, and empowered to achieve their full potential.

Being **Helpful** means showing kindness, cooperation, and respect toward others. Being **Involved** means actively participating in learning and contributing positively to our school community. Being **Safe** means making choices that protect ourselves and others physically, emotionally, and socially. Being **Scholarly** means demonstrating responsibility, perseverance, and a commitment to academic excellence.

The expectations outlined in this handbook are designed not only to establish clear standards for behavior but also to teach students the skills needed to become responsible citizens and lifelong learners. We believe that strong partnerships between students, families, and staff are essential to student success. We encourage families to review this handbook with their children and discuss the importance of making positive choices both in and out of school.

Together, we can create a school environment where everyone is welcomed, valued, and challenged to grow. Thank you for your partnership and commitment to helping us maintain a school culture that reflects our HISS values every day.

We look forward to a successful and rewarding school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sanders-Woods,
Principal, Colfax PreK-8



SCHOOL INFORMATION



Pittsburgh Colfax K-8

2332 Beechwood Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Phone: 412-529-3525

Fax: 412-422-4896

Website:

<https://www.pghschools.org/schools/k-8/colfax>

[Colfax 2026-2027 Staff Directory Click Here](#)

School Colors Blue and Gold

School Mascot Cobra

Motto We believe that all students will experience academic, social, and personal growth.

VISION AND MISSION

Mission

Pittsburgh Colfax K-8 will be one of Pittsburgh's premier schools by being consistently student-focused, culturally responsive, and data driven. We will hold ourselves accountable for preparing all children to achieve academic excellence, experience personal growth, and foster a sense of community and civic engagement.

Vision

At Pittsburgh Colfax, we believe that ALL students can demonstrate growth. Our mission is to help them to be consistently aware of their individual data and set specific goals. We aim to increase achievement levels and promote positive behaviors in all students while eliminating racial disparity.

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

Contacting the School

Please see the previously listed phone number, fax number, and office email address to contact our school.

Social Media

At Colfax we love to showcase events and milestones on our Facebook page PPS Colfax, here you will find information and pictures of upcoming events.

Newsletter

Our teacher newsletters for Colfax is a useful tool for parents and students to get information about upcoming school events, provide you with student/family resources, and to provide you with timely instructional plans and behavior expectations.

Talking Points

Talking Points is used as a form of communication for parents/guardians to communicate with their child's teacher. Talking points are also used to keep parents aware of any school emergencies like school lockdown or things of that nature. Talking Points is user-friendly and can be translated into many languages represented by our student body.

Parent Form

This [FORM](#) can submit change of dismissals, attendance updates, access resources, and covers many items you might need during this year.

BELL SCHEDULES

ESEP 7:55 AM-8:15 AM

Staff Meetings 7:20 AM-7:55 AM

Breakfast/Cafeteria 8:15-8:25 AM

	Begin Time	End Time
Breakfast	8:10AM	8:20AM
Period 1	8:20AM	9:05AM
Period 2 HOMEROOM	9:05AM	9:15AM
Period 3	9:15AM	10:00AM
Period 4 K-2 LUNCH	10:00AM	10:45AM
Period 5 3-4 LUNCH	10:45AM	11:30AM
Period 6 5-6 LUNCH	11:30AM	12:15PM
Period 7 7-8 LUNCH	12:15PM	1:00PM
Period 8	1:00 PM	1:45PM
Period 9	1:45PM	2:30PM
Period 10 INTERVENTION	2:30PM	3:05PM
DISMISSAL	3:05PM	3:20PM

Half Day	Begin Time	End Time
Breakfast	8:10AM	8:20AM
Period 1	8:20AM	8:50AM
Period 2 HOMEROOM	8:50AM	9:00AM
Period 3	9:00AM	9:30AM
Period 4 K-3 LUNCH	9:30AM	10:00AM K- CAFE 1 ST -3 RD IN HRs
Period 5 3-5 LUNCH	10:00AM	10:30AM 3 RD & 4 TH -HRs 5 TH CAFE
Period 6 6-8 LUNCH	10:30AM	11:00AM 8 TH - CAFE 7 TH – TBD 6 TH - TBD
Period 9	11:00AM	11:35AM
DISMISSAL	11:35AM	11:40AM

2-HR Delay	Begin Time	End Time
Period 1	10:15AM	10:39AM
Period 2 HOMEROOM	10:39AM	10:49AM
Period 3	10:49AM	11:13AM
Period 4 K-2 LUNCH	11:13AM	11:58AM
Period 5 3-4 LUNCH	11:58AM	12:43AM
Period 6 5-6 LUNCH	12:43PM	1:28PM
Period 7 7-8 LUNCH	1:28PM	2:13PM
Period 8	2:13 PM	2:37PM
Period 9	2:37PM	3:01PM
DISMISSAL	3:01PM	3:20PM

Remote Learning Schedule	Begin Time	End Time
Breakfast	8:10AM	8:20AM
Period 1	8:20AM	9:05AM
Period 2 HOMEROOM	9:05AM	9:15AM
Period 3	9:15AM	10:00AM
Period 4 K-2 LUNCH	10:00AM	10:45AM
Period 5 3-4 LUNCH	10:45AM	11:30AM
Period 6 5-6 LUNCH	11:30AM	12:15PM
Period 7 7-8 LUNCH	12:15PM	1:00PM
Period 8	1:00 PM	1:45PM
Period 9	1:45PM	2:30PM
Period 10 INTERVENTION	2:30PM	3:05PM
DISMISSAL	3:05PM	3:20PM

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

Parents or guardians must turn in written explanations for Excused Absences within three (3) calendar days of student absences. If the school does not receive a written excuse, present a request from the office at the beginning of the school day. The request should include the student's name, homeroom, date, time, reason for early dismissal, a parent or guardian's signature, and a telephone number at which the parent or guardian may be reached. Requests for early dismissals should be made over the phone only in case of emergency. The school will reach out to the parent or guardian to confirm the students' early dismissals. At the time designated, the student must report to the main office to complete the sign in process.

Medical Absences

A medical excuse must be received from a doctor providing reason for the absence within 3 days of the student's return. Without a medical excuse, the absence will then categorize as a non-medical absence. In this case, steps for non-medical excuses must be followed. Students are expected to be in attendance daily except due to illness or family emergency.

Tardies

Tardiness affects students' attendance, as well as interrupting the instructional time of others. All students who arrive at school late must receive a late note from the main office. Students who arrive late or come with a medical excuse from a physician will receive an excuse from a tardy.

ACADEMICS

Pittsburgh Colfax K-8 utilizes the district curriculum Open Court for all ELA classes, math Curriculum (aligned with PA core standards) through Imagine Learning's Illustrative Mathematics (IM), and Wayfinder for our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) instruction. Elementary students will receive at least 20 SEL lessons, and Middle Level receives at least 26 throughout the year.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

At Pittsburgh Colfax, we believe in the importance of academic integrity as a fundamental part of our learning community. Our administration and staff have developed four universal PBIS expectations for all students in Grades K-8, Cobras *H.I.S.S.* emphasizes the core values that guide our daily interactions and learning experiences.

1. **Helpful:** Ensure that your actions contribute to a safe and supportive environment where everyone can learn and grow.
2. **Involved: Actively** participate by proactively using your voice to contribute to discussions and by sharing your gifts and talents when opportunities arise.
3. **Scholarly:** Take ownership of your actions and your learning. This means doing your best, completing your work honestly, and admitting when you need help or have made a mistake.
4. **Safe:** Show respect to your classmates, teachers, and yourself. This includes valuing others' work and ideas and using uplifting words and actions towards yourself, peers, and adults.

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

ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Athletics

Pittsburgh Colfax provides a variety of opportunities for students to participate in athletics.

The athletics offerings are as follows:

- Cross country (middle level)
- Flag football (middle level)
- Soccer (middle level)
- Swimming (middle level)
- Basketball (middle level/4th-5th)
- Track (3rd-5th)
- Cheerleading (middle level)
- Wrestling (middle level)

Extracurricular Activities

Any student wishing to try out or participate in any sport must have a completed physical by a doctor prior to being permitted to practice. The Board of Education requires a physical for each school year. If a student participates in multiple athletic activities throughout the school year, each new season will require a physical re-examination. There are forms that must be completed by parents and physicians and are available on the school's website, in the main office, and from a physical education teacher. A limited number of free school physicals will be provided each season on a first come first served basis. Colfax offers the following extracurricular activities:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elementary Track (5th grade) *• Middle Level Track and Cross Country• Middle Level Basketball• Middle Level Wrestling• Middle Level Flag Football• Middle Level Soccer | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Middle Level Swimming• Math Kangaroo*• Chess*• Middle Level Musical• Girls on the Run*• Strong Women Strong Girls* |
|---|---|

* Physical not required

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to always wear appropriate school clothing. These expectations shall be in effect during regular school hours and at any school sponsored event whether on or off school premises. Any student whose attire does not meet the dress code will be sent to the main office for a parent to bring a change of clothing. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact an administrator prior to sending your child to school.

Please refer to the dress code policy as follows:

- Undergarments should not be exposed at any time.
- Shirt baring midriffs, halter tops, or backless tops are not permitted.
- Clothing should not expose buttocks, breasts, or other private areas when standing or seated.
- Any clothing that promotes sexual activity, violence, use of drugs/alcohol, demeans or degrades another because of race, sex, or religious persuasion and/or national origin, handicap or disability is prohibited.
- Slippers are not permitted.
- Hats are not permitted unless worn for religious purposes, specified school spirit days, or due to circumstances approved by principal.
- Shiesty masks are not permitted at Colfax. If found, they will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

All students will have their cellphone and smart watch devices collected upon entry into the building.

Cellphones and smart watches found during the day will be confiscated and turned into the main office for parent pick-up. Repeated violations will result in further disciplinary action, and students may not be permitted to carry their electronic device during the school day.

Electronic devices shall include all devices that can take photographs; record or store audio or video data; store, transmit or receive messages, images or data; or provide a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet. Examples of electronic devices include, but shall not be limited to, cellular telephones, smartphones (e.g. iPhones and Android devices; telephone paging devices/beepers; global positioning system (GPS) devices; laptop computers; portable game units; mp3 players; personal digital assistants (PDAs); digital cameras; tablet personal computers (e.g. iPads), as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities.

School day as used in this policy shall mean the time during which students are in attendance at school, including on the school bus, while traveling from home to school and school to home, on school field trips, or other school-related activities which occur during typical school hours.

District Property as used in this policy shall mean District property; in or on the grounds of District buildings; in District buses or vehicles; during all times outside of District property while under supervision of the District, including but not limited to locker rooms, bathrooms, health suites or changing areas of any location.

Use of Electronic Devices

The Board prohibits the use and possession of electronic devices by students during the School Day in any District Property subject to the specific Board-approved exceptions and guidelines contained herein.[1]

Students may bring cell phones or electronic devices to school, if necessary, but must turn them into school personnel while school is in session.

The Board prohibits the possession of laser pointers and attachments by students on School Property, buses and other vehicles provided by the district, and at school-sponsored activities.

Electronic Images and Photographs

The Board prohibits any student, on School Property at any time, from taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to texting and emailing.

The Board further prohibits any student, during the school day, from taking, storing, disseminating, transferring viewing or sharing any photograph, image or video of any person on School Property.

Because such violations may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law, the District may report such conduct to state and/or federal law enforcement agencies.

Such prohibited activity shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property if:

There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the students' attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.

The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.

The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement made on school property to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.

Violations of this policy by a student shall result in disciplinary action and may result in confiscation of the electronic device.

The district shall not be liable for the loss, damage, or misuse of any electronic device brought to school by a student. The district reserves its right to disclaim liability for the loss, damage, or misuse of an electronic device that is confiscated due to a violation of this policy. The Superintendent or designee shall establish and maintain a review procedure to address claims that a student or parent/guardian-owned electronic device was damaged upon confiscation.

Toys and Personal Items

To maintain a focused learning environment, students should not bring toys, collectible tags, trading items, headphones, slime, electronic games, or other non-instructional personal items to school unless prior approval has been granted by a teacher or administrator for a specific educational activity or school event. Unauthorized items may create distractions, disrupt learning, or lead to loss, damage, or conflicts among students.

Items brought to school without permission may be confiscated and returned according to school procedures. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal belongings.

GRADING

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

By staying connected and working together, we can make sure that every child at Pittsburgh Colfax receives the support and encouragement they need to thrive. As a reminder, PPS is a paperless district. Report cards, interim reports, and graded assignments are uploaded to Home Access Center (HAC).

Report Cards (Quarterly)

Report cards are distributed quarterly, or four times per school year, at the end of every nine weeks. Quarter one, quarter two, and quarter three report cards are sent home with students. Quarter four report cards, the final report card of the year, are sent via the U.S. Postal Mail.

Interim Report Card (Quarterly)

Interim Report Cards are a mid-way checkpoint, half-way through each grading period so that we ensure that parents and guardians understand how their child is progressing at the midway point of the grading period. These checkpoints are not the student's final grade. If you receive an interim report card grade that is of concern, please reach out to your child's teacher so that they can provide clarity and form a partnership to support your child at home. Interim report cards are sent home four times per year and are always distributed to students at school.

Grading Scale

As a rule, all classes at Colfax PreK-8 will use the Pittsburgh Public Schools 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

High Honor Roll & Honor Roll

To receive high honor roll students must earn a GPA of 3.5, and for students to receive honor roll they must earn a GPA of 3.0.

Home Access Center (HAC)

The purpose of the PPS **Home Access Center** is to give families online access to students' academic grades and attendance in real time.

PPS Elementary Level Promotion & Retention Guidelines

- * Promotion from first to second grade requires students to pass both reading and math.
- * Promotion from second to third grade requires students to pass both reading and math.
- * Promotion from third to fourth grade requires students to pass both reading and math.
- * Promotion from fourth to fifth grade requires students to pass both reading and math, and two of the following subjects English, Spelling, Science, Social Studies.

Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions regarding their academic progress during the school year.

Please contact the school's Main Office if there are any issues. Families can also reach out the Parent Hotline by phone 412.529.HELP (4357), or by email parenthotline@pghschools.org.

HOMework PROCEDURES

At Pittsburgh Colfax K-8, home learning is an essential foundation for a solid education. Regular homework is important since it gives students the opportunity to practice skills and apply the information learned in class. It also helps students to become competent and independent in their learning, which will support good study habits throughout their lifetime and develop their independent cognitive skills. Homework should be carefully planned and has a direct meaning to students. However, homework should not extend beyond the recommended time per grade level or cause unnecessary frustration. Please just email or simply write directly on the homework assignment so that the teacher can assist with reteaching the lesson. *Most* times homework will be assigned Monday through Thursday each week.

Please refer to the specific grade level time targets below and teacher communication regarding homework expectations.

Kindergarten – Grade 2: No more than 20 minutes

Grade 3 – Grade 5: No more than 35 minutes

Grade 6 – Grade 8: No more than 60 minutes

HEALTH SERVICES

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

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

Medications

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

Illness/Injury

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

Emergency Contact Forms

Students who are seriously ill, have a fever, or are infected with disease MUST be picked up from the school by an approved adult immediately. It is important that the school can reach a parent/ guardian in case of emergency as well as safely releasing a child to an adult (other than their parent/ guardian). Parents/ guardians must inform the school of any changes to their contact information. This includes changes to all names listed in the student information as an approved adult for pick-up. It is the parent's responsibility to inform any persons listed as an emergency contact of the pick-up procedures (including proof of ID), for a student to be released to them.

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

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ACCEPTABLE USE

Each student has access to an individually assigned laptop or iPad which is the property of PPS and is to be used for the completion of school assignments only. All devices are subject to inspection. In the event a teacher or administrator suspects misuse of the device, parents are responsible for the replacement fee of \$200.00 for any device damaged or lost while in the care of their child. There is a \$25.00 fee for all Laptop chargers and \$35.00 for iPad chargers that are lost. Students are responsible for bringing their charged devices to school daily with chargers.

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

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Student services are designed to help students live rich, full lives: intellectually, emotionally, socially, and morally. The plan and purpose of all Student Services is to help the student understand him/ herself, help relieve tension and anxieties, and remove distractions from learning. Student Services are developed and implemented by a team of competent professionals which include homeroom teachers, team leaders, guidance counselors, social workers, school and district administrators and medical personnel retained by the school district.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS/PROCEDURES

As a focus on Restorative Practices regarding promoting positive character traits, Pittsburgh Colfax operates within a school-wide management system called HISS, a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) initiative. HISS stands for Helpful, Involved, Safe, and Scholarly. All students engage in formal and informal processes of Restorative Practices.

Positive Behavior Incentive System

Classroom-based and school-wide monthly incentives are planned to celebrate our students achieving positive behavior goals. We manage our rewards program through PBIS Rewards.

VISITORS

The administration and faculty cordially invite parents, members of the community, and interested educators to visit the school. Appropriate guidelines and procedures have been established to greet and welcome visitors. To foster an understanding of education in our school and to exercise reasonable control over the frequency and number of visitations so that the educational program is not disrupted.

ALL Visitors must use the Main Entrance (Beechwood Blvd). There is a bell located on the right side of the top stairwell. Once your visit has been confirmed, you will gain entrance to the building. All visitors are required to go through our metal detector, report to the office, provide photo identification which will be uploaded into our Raptor system, and secure a visitor's badge. Adult visitors are not permitted to use student restrooms during school hours.

- * Colfax does not offer students from other schools to "shadow" for any period of the day. However, we welcome children to accompany their parents on a scheduled school tour.

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)