



## **Conduct Policies Of Providence Christian School**

### **Philosophy of Discipline**

The discipline system of PCS is designed to support students in developing self-control, or as the Scripture refers to it, *temperance*. 1 Corinthians 9:25 states, “*And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.*” A student’s natural desire for independence is utilized as an asset in this philosophy of discipline. The goal is to create a cooperative environment in which the student strives to demonstrate self-control, rather than needing to be controlled or managed.

While the discipline system is designed to guard against distractions from the learning environment, the mission of the school to *train students for life* is always the larger goal. Many of the skills, particularly leadership skills, that are needed to succeed as an adult, are developed during the school years. Such concepts as time and resource management, peer respect, group order, initiative, appropriate self-expression, and conflict resolution must be nurtured by supportive adults in a school setting. It is assumed that students desire to develop these skills and need opportunities to set goals and work towards attaining them. A “reminder” must be seen by the student as an opportunity to make the needed adjustments in their behavior and practice better choice-making in the future.

John D. Rouse describes the reminder system in his book, *Distinctives of Championship Education*. He describes three objectives of the reminder system: “1) To demonstrate that a positive, high-profile implementation, given to the development of self-control, provides the best return in student compliance, 2) To illustrate that respect and considerateness from faculty, when correcting behavioral anomalies, has a profound effect in soliciting students efforts to develop self-control, and 3) To emphasize that students who sense fairness, impartiality and genuineness mixed with firmness and consistency are most apt to benefit from their teachers’ attempts to help them help themselves.”

A teacher issues a reminder when they identify a behavior inconsistent with a productive learning environment. The categories of reminders are as follows:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Behavioral Issue</b>
<b>C</b>	Cheating (Flagrant)
<b>D</b>	Disobedience/Disrespect/Disruptive
<b>DC</b>	Dress Code
<b>F</b>	Flagrant
<b>G</b>	Gum
<b>H</b>	No or Incomplete Homework
<b>IL</b>	Inappropriate Language
<b>L</b>	Late
<b>SP</b>	Destruction of School Property
<b>T</b>	Talking
<b>U</b>	Unprepared for Class

If a student is violating the class rules, a reminder is made verbally and logged on a reminder form. There is no consequence applied at this time. Instead, an “invitation” is issued to the student through the form of a reminder to correct their own behavior and demonstrate self-control. A student will be reminded a second time, if necessary. If the student receives three reminders in a single class period, or engages in a flagrant misbehavior (i.e. hitting another student), they are removed from class and a parent is called to immediately pick up the child.

Discipline proceeds in the following order:

1 <sup>st</sup> Reminder	opportunity to make needed adjustment independently
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reminder	opportunity to make needed adjustment independently
3 <sup>rd</sup> Reminder	detention issued; counseling with teacher and parent

If a student repeatedly receives three reminders in a class period, and therefore must be removed from class more than once, or commits a flagrant misbehavior (fighting, cheating, destruction of school property, truancy, and/or willful defiance of school authorities), discipline will proceed in the following order:

2 <sup>nd</sup> Removal from Class	Detention*	cannot return to class until parent contact with teacher and a PCS Board Member is achieved
3 <sup>rd</sup> Removal from Class	Indoor Suspension*	cannot return to class until parent meeting with PCS Board Member is achieved
4 <sup>th</sup> Removal from Class	Outdoor Suspension*	cannot return to class until parent meeting with PCS Board Member is achieved
5 <sup>th</sup> Removal from Class	Potential Expulsion*	

\* defined below

PCS reserves the right to deem any flagrant violation of the school rules (i.e. fighting, plagiarism, rebellious attitude, etc.) as severe enough to advance to a suspension or expulsion if considered necessary. Parents are responsible for 100% of the replacement and/or repair costs of any school property or personal property that a student destroys, damages, or defaces, and in such cases, payment must be made immediately.

Throughout every component of the discipline plan, the support of parents is critical. PCS seeks to work closely with parents in order to avoid a student advancing through the discipline consequences. The goal of every parent contact is to support the student in understanding the nature and severity of the offense, and to encourage them to demonstrate better self-control in the future.

As Rouse states, “the Championship Philosophy of Education... seeks the development of leaders – those who possess the academic tools, acuity and drive to achieve their greatest potential; those who have the ability to interact with others in a way that contributes rather than dominates those who have consensus-building ability to solve problems for the good of all, not just for the individual; and those who have the distinct ability to energize and mobilize others, bringing out their best and helping them reach their greatest potential.” In such an environment, we desire to see each teacher and student grow in their application of Galatians 5:22-23 to their

school (and home) life, “*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*”

### **\*Detention**

A detention will be served on the next Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday after the offense. Detentions are served from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If a student does not serve a detention, they will advance to an indoor suspension. If a student is scheduled to serve a detention, they are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities until the detention is served. If a student is tardy to a detention, they will not be allowed to serve it on that day and will advance to an indoor suspension.

Students will also be required to serve a detention for missing three homework assignments in any class, for being tardy to class 3 times, or for failing to return (with parent signature) academic warning forms, progress reports, or report cards within 48 hours.

### **\*Indoor Suspension**

An indoor suspension requires the student to be at school during the entire school day to perform work functions prescribed by PCS staff. These students will be isolated from the rest of their class and all graded work will be reduced by 20%. If a student is serving an indoor suspension, they are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for the remainder of that school day.

### **\*Outdoor Suspension**

An outdoor suspension requires that the student be under the supervision of his/her parent(s) during the school day, and is not permitted on campus during school hours. All work missed must be made up and all graded work will be reduced by 25%. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the teacher and request their make-up work. If a student is serving an outdoor suspension, they are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for the remainder of that school day.

### **\*Expulsion**

The decision to expel a student is a difficult one, but will be made by the PCS Board when a student's conduct, attitude, or lack of effort makes it inadvisable for him or her to remain at PCS. A student may also be dismissed if the parents will not cooperate with school policies or will not require their child to comply with the school policies and procedures. A student may also be dismissed for excessive absences or tardies, which do not meet school or state requirements. Serious offenses would include but are not limited to physically harming others; destroying, damaging, or defacing church or school property; use of narcotics, alcohol, or cigarettes; possession of prohibited articles; etc., and subject a student to immediate expulsion. The establishment of reasonable guilt of such involvement is sufficient for dismissal.

### **Response to Discipline**

When students are disciplined, they should never show disrespect for the corrective action taken by the teacher or administration. If the student feels a misunderstanding exists, they should obey the teacher without protest and take the following steps *in the order specified* to satisfy the matter:

- 1) Go to the teacher after class and ask for a time to discuss the matter privately. During such a discussion, the student must respectfully present their position and abide by whatever decision the teacher makes about the matter.

2) Talk over the problem with their parents and ask their parents to contact the teacher for discussion and clarification.

3) Request a parent-teacher-Board Member conference if the matter has not been addressed to the parents' and student's satisfaction by scheduling an appointment.

### **General School Rules:**

All students are to:

- ✓ Follow directions.
- ✓ Demonstrate respect for others.
- ✓ Raise your hand to get permission to leave your seat.
- ✓ Raise your hand to speak and wait to be called upon.
- ✓ Hand in all of your assignments on time.
- ✓ Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- ✓ Follow all of the instructions given by any school authority, teacher, or substitute teacher.

### **Prohibited Articles**

The following items are prohibited on school property and will be returned once with a warning, a second time to a parent only, and a third time, only at the end of the school year or upon withdrawal of the student: electronic devices, I-pods, radios, hand-held games, etc.; headsets, magazines/books/pictures not related to school work; CDs; DVDs; and/or any other item considered a distraction to the learning environment.

The following items are prohibited on school property and will not be returned: cigarettes, alcoholic beverages, narcotics, knives, guns, explosives of any kind, and/or any other item considered unsafe to the school environment. Possession of any of these items may lead to immediate expulsion.

Student book bags, purses, lockers, electronic devices (their content), phones (their content), and vehicles are subject to search as needed to ensure compliance with this policy.

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Parent(s) Signature

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Date