

BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAMILY INFORMATION NIGHT

Tuesday, August 10, 2026
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Matthew Tumulty - Principal





Agenda

- Welcome Families!
- Information Session from Principal & Departments
- Nursing Services at PCS
- Cafeteria Information
- PCS Parent and Family Group
- Technology Related Items
- Family Engagement



Arrival

Parents and buses will arrive and line up next to the front curb of the school.

At 7:35, students will unload from buses and parent vehicles and enter the doors at the far end of the school.

Note: Please start the line at the end of the curb (not door entrance) and line up right behind the vehicle in front of you. This will help to get as many vehicles at the front curb as possible.





Main Entrance -
please ring the
doorbell and go
directly to the main
office - don't forget
your driver's license!





PCS is a 1st - 7th Grade School at this time.

- We will add a grade level each year until we have established grades 1-8.
- **PBIS - Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports**
 - Schoolwide expectations (Way to Go Tickets/Rewards, Golden Bulldog Awards)
 - We will work with families to set up student supports if needed.



Dismissal Procedures

- Parents and buses will arrive and line up next to the front curb of the school to await the dismissal of students at 3:25 PM.
- Notify office via phone (412-709-5160 Option 2 for West) or email (westoffice@providentcharterschool.org) by 2:00PM of changes to dismissal plans.
- In order to maintain an orderly dismissal period at the end of the day we ask that you not request an “Early Dismissal” after 2:45PM. This will allow you access to the parking lot and enable you to enter the building to sign your child out for the day.
- We ask that you limit early dismissals. When students regularly leave school early, the missed instructional minutes add up.



Attendance

- Please notify the office via phone (412-709-5160, select the West option) or email (westoffice@providentcharterschool.org) by 7:45AM if your child will be absent.
- **Absence email: Please indicate your child's name, date they are absent and the reason for the absence.** The email will ensure that the absence is marked as "excused". A doctor's note is required if your child is absent for more than 3 days in a row or exceeds the 10 parent excused absences allowed during the school year. This email should be sent when your child returns to school.
- Please do not communicate absences, early dismissals and transportation changes to classroom teachers or support staff. All information should be communicated to the main office at 412-709-5160 (select the West option).



Attendance

- Regular attendance is important for student's academic success.
- In many cases, we are working to fill academic gaps. In order to do this, students must be in school regularly.
- Provident Charter School teaches using Multi-sensory education. This is hard to make up when students are absent.
- After 3 unexcused absences, students are considered truant by the state of Pennsylvania.
- After 6 unexcused absences, students are considered habitually truant. Parents will be contacted and an Attendance Plan will be created to avoid future absences.
- Parents are able to utilize up to ten parent excuses for their child each school year. If absences go beyond ten parent excuses, parents will be contacted and an Attendance Plan will be created to avoid future absences.
- If your child misses school for a doctor's appointment, please ask the doctor for a doctor's excuse and submit this excuse at westoffice@providentcharterschool.org.



All-Star Attendance Recognition

Each month qualifiers for good attendance:

- Attendance data at the end of each month will be used.
- Recognition and reward will be given at the beginning of the following month.
- An All-Star Attendance Certificate will be issued as well.
- Recognition emails home to families.
- 5 points awarded to each House for each member with All-Star attendance
- All-Star Attendance bulletin board located in the center hallway

At the end of each Month qualifiers for All-Star Attendance:

September	2 or less absences
October	3 or less absences
November	4 or less absences
December	5 or less absences
January	6 or less absences
February	7 or less absences
March	8 or less absences
April	9 or less absences
May	10 or less absences



Transportation Information

- **Busing Issues**

Contact information for bus companies is available on the website (PCS Main Page and click the bus Icon - Transportation). Concerns and complaints should be directed to your home district or the bus company.

Note: *PCS does not manage busing.*

- **Two-Hour Delays**

If PCS has a two-hour delay and your home district does not, please DO NOT put your child on the bus. Staff will not be available at PCS to admit your child to the building. Please check closing and delay announcements. If your child's home district is closed, busing will not be available. If your child's home district is running on a 2-hour delay, your child will arrive at PCS 2-hours late, but this counts as a full day for your child.



Cell Phone Policy

- Students are not permitted to use their cell phones during the school day. This ensures that students are focused on learning while in the building.
- Students will be asked to place their cell phones in a locked box in the student's homeroom at the beginning of the school day.
- The student will have access to the phone at the end of the school day.
- If you need to contact your child during the school day, please call the office at (412) 709-5160 (select the West option).



Uniforms

- Students should be in an appropriate uniform at all times.
- Students can wear spiritwear and sweatpants on gym and TKD days.
- Athletic shoes are acceptable footwear.
- HOODIES are not permitted to be worn during the school day.
- Since student clothing will look the same, please put your child's name on their clothing if possible.



PROVIDENT
CHARTER SCHOOL

STANDARD UNIFORM POLICY FOR 2nd - 8th GRADE STUDENTS

All shirts must meet the following criteria:

- Solid white, navy, or light blue
- Long or short sleeve (no sleeveless)
- All shirts must have a collar
- Only PCS logo allowed
- All undershirts must also be approved colors



All sweaters/jackets must meet the following criteria:

- Solid white, navy, gray, or light blue
- Crew neck or v-neck (no hoods)
- Button, full zip, quarter zip or no zip allowed
- Only PCS logo allowed



All shoes must meet the following criteria:

- Heels must be 1" or lower
- All shoes must be closed toe
- Crocs are allowed with back straps engaged
- No slippers, slides, flip flops, or backless shoes

All bottoms must meet the following criteria:

- Solid khaki or navy only (no logos)
- Pants, shorts, jumpers, skirts free of holes
- Skirts/jumpers no shorter than 4 in above knee
- White, navy, or nude tights/leggings may only be worn under skirts, jumpers, or shorts



All athletic wear must meet the following criteria:

- Athletic wear on TKD/PE/Spirit wear days only
- Solid navy, khaki, or gray sweatpants
- Solid navy, khaki, or gray knit or mesh shorts
- Only PCS logo allowed
- Solid white, navy, gray, or light blue crew neck sweatshirts or PCS spirit wear t-shirts only





Specials

Art - Mr. Almendarez

Makerspace - Mr. Almendarez

Taekwondo - Master Huang

Physical Education - Mrs. Wallace

Music - Ms. Patterson

Digital Media Literacy - Mr. Galiszewski

- Students will be provided a weekly schedule and the schedule will be shared with families by their child's teacher.
- Due to our limited staff, the specials schedule is subject to change.
- *What is a Makerspace?*

A makerspace is a space that provides hands-on, creative ways for students to design, experiment, and invent as they engage with a variety of tools and technology. Makerspaces are multidisciplinary in both approach and in the products created which fuels engagement and innovation.



TKD Program

- Students will have opportunities throughout the school year to perform TKD patterns and earn belts. Earning TKD belts is also tied to the student's leadership within the school.
- Testing occurs at the end of each trimester. You will receive notification if your child is being asked to test for a belt.
- The the TKD instructor, Master Huang, student's teacher, and the principal will sign a TaeKwonDo testing form to verify that the student is ready to test and has shown leadership in the school.
- If the student tests and is able to complete the pattern and answer questions about the PCS pillars (Perseverance, Compassion, and Self-Control), the student will receive a certificate stating the belt that have achieved.
- Each year, we ask parents to purchase a belt for their child for \$10.00 if the belt they achieved warrants a new belt.
- We have TKD spirit days once a month. Students are able to wear their belts to celebrate their TKD achievements.



Provident Houses



- Provident houses are utilized to continue building a positive climate and culture for staff and students, staff and students will be assigned to a Provident House.
- Throughout the year, staff and students will participate in school-wide events that will earn their House points.
- Students also earn house points when they receive Golden Bulldog Awards.
- There are 4 Provident Houses and each of them are named after a bridge in Pittsburgh.
- Bridges are symbolic on many levels - one way that PCS is like a bridge is that our school is designed to help every student become a better reader and we try to 'bridge' the connections in our students' minds so that they can become independent learners



D2MD - Design to Make a Difference

Design to Make a Difference is a Maker-Ed outreach program that helps schools build out their programs by providing access to Maker-Ed equipment and professional development. The D2MD program is centered on using these tools to create products that help people, ensuring those exposed to this technology see the power it has to better the lives of people.

We utilize this program in our Makerspace Special.

We were able to enter the D2MD Showcase last school year. We entered one team which created the **Car Survival Kit**. The invention won several awards at the Showcase Event!



PCS West Sensory Garden

Our sensory garden is a space designed to stimulate one or more of the five senses: sight, smell, sound, taste, and touch. Students can view plants at a close range, to inhale a fragrance, to listen, and to actively experience the garden with all of their senses. There is a paw print walkway for hopping, a sensory board, a wildflower garden to attract butterflies, bird houses/feeders, and plenty of plants for smelling. We will continue to grow our garden this school year.





Other Information

- Student Supplies: A supply list specific to your child's classroom teacher(s) will be shared by the classroom teacher the first week of school. Your child will need the following for their personal supplies: Scissors, glue stick, crayons, colored pencils and 2 erasers.
- Students are provided an individual locker in the hallway. Lockers are small and do not close if a student has a large backpack. We ask that you have your child use a smaller backpack or drawstring bag. Because we do not have a need for students to travel with books, large backpacks should not be needed. These lockers are not locked, so any personal items are not secure.
- Please do not send toys, blankets, stuffed animals, or personal items to school with students.
- We have appropriate fidgets at PCS if a student is in need of one to help with focusing.
- Please send your child to school with a water bottle. Put your child's name somewhere on the bottle.

Nursing Services





NURSING SERVICES

Nurse: Natalie Budavich

Email: WestSchoolNurse@providentcharterschool.org

Telephone: 412-709-5160 ext. 926



Prescription Medications

- Before any prescribed medication can be administered, PCS requires a [Medication Administration Consent and Licensed Prescribers Medication Order Form.](#)
- Medication orders **DO NOT** carry over from school year to school year. Therefore, new physician orders and parent(s)/guardian(s) permission form must be submitted each school year.
- **All medications** must be in the original prescription container with the correct prescription label on the container. We **CANNOT** accept medication that is not in the original prescription container with a correct prescription label.



NURSING SERVICES

Non-Prescription Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medications

- Tylenol, Motrin, Tums and Benadryl are available in the nurse's office
- Parent(s)/Guardian(s) must complete a **Student Emergency Care Form in PowerSchool** in order for over-the-counter medications to be administered by the nurse during school hours.
- Parent(s)/Guardian(s) may indicate which over-the-counter medications their child(ren) are permitted to receive at school.
- Students who do not have a completed Student Emergency Care Form in PowerSchool **will not be permitted** to receive over-the-counter medications until a nurse speaks to a parent or guardian.
- Students with completed Student Emergency Care Forms on file will be permitted to receive over-the-counter medications from the nurse without having to speak first to the parent(s).



NURSING SERVICES

Rescue Medications

- Inhalers, seizure medications, Epi-Pens, clotting medications
- Before any prescribed rescue medication can be administered, PCS requires:
 - [Medication Administration Consent and Licensed Prescribers Medication Order Form](#) AND [Action Care Plan](#) (PCS Form or Physician's Form)
- All medications must be in the original prescription container with the correct prescription label on the container. We **CANNOT** accept medication that is not in the original prescription container with a correct prescription label.



NURSING SERVICES

Medication Drop-Off Procedures

- **ALL MEDICATIONS** must be **delivered to the School Nurse or Principal by a parent/guardian**. When you arrive at the school, you will need to be buzzed into the main office. The Nurse will meet you in the main office to count the medications. You will need to complete a Medication Drop-Off Form.
- **It is the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian to know the medication refill date.**
- **Students are not permitted** to transport medication to or from school. In the event that a student transports medication to school, the parent/guardian will be contacted and asked to come to the school to count the medication with the nurse and complete the Medication Drop-Off Form.



NURSING SERVICES

State Requirements

- **Immunizations:** All students are required to submit up-to-date immunization records. If your child is missing any of the required immunizations, you will receive a letter from the nurse's office listing the missing immunization(s).
- **Physical Exams:** 6th Grade Students
- **Dental Exams:** 3rd & 7th Grade Students
- All physical exams, dental exams and immunization records can be sent in with a student and brought to the nurse's office or emailed directly to the nurse.



NURSING SERVICES

How to contact Nurse Natalie:

- Email: WestSchoolNurse@providentcharterschool.org
- Telephone: 412-709-5160 ext. 926
- Please contact nurses with any questions or concerns regarding your child.

Forms

- ALL forms can be found on the Provident Charter School website under the tabs: **School Life → School Services → Nursing Services → Forms Library** or [click this link](#).

Cafeteria





Cafeteria

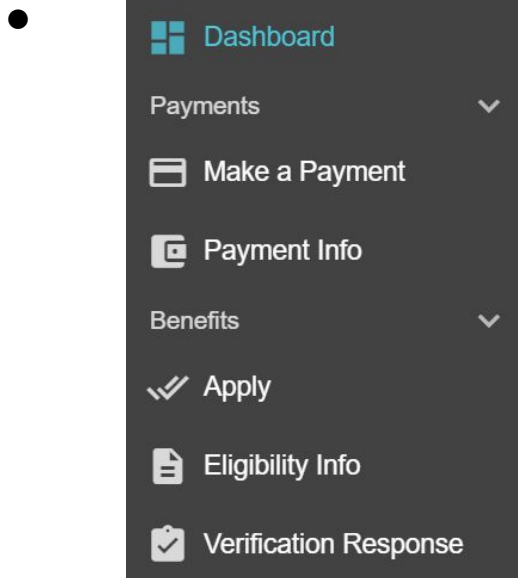
- Create an account at www.schoolcafe.com by going to the website or downloading the school cafe app.
- At the side you create a new account by scrolling down to the bottom of the page. You will type *Provident Charter School* in as the district.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Need to create an account or contact us?". It contains two input fields: "Select your State" with a dropdown menu showing "PA - Pennsylv..." and "School District" with a text box containing "PROVIDENT CHARTER SCHOOL". Below these fields are two buttons: a "Reset" button and a blue "Go to My District" button.

- If your home district uses school cafe and you have children that still attend another school, you will need to use a different email address to create a new account.
- Select Provident Charter School West as the school



- Schoolcafe is where you go to find out nutritional information, account balance, to add money to your account, and to fill out applications. Also set up automated payments and low balance notifications.
- Apply for free and reduced meals by going to www.schoolcafe.com





- Applications can be filled out during any point of the school year.
- For any allergies that would need to have menu substitutions, please have a licenced medical professional fill out a [form](#) to be submitted to the Cafeteria and the school nurse - this needs updated yearly.
- Breakfast is FREE to every student no matter the eligibility we encourage students to come through the breakfast line and take advantage of free breakfast.

.

Contact Info:

Kala Williamson

kwilliamson@providentcharterschool.org

412-709-5160 ext 301



Parent Group at PCS West

Our PCS West Parent Group has been established thanks to the efforts of a number of dedicated parents.

Mrs. Elizabeth Strickling is the PTO President and in conjunction with Mr. Tumulty will collaborate the meetings at the start of the school year. These parent group meetings will be held once a month virtually with a few hybrid meetings from time to time to encourage more families to attend. The link to the meeting will be sent out prior to each meeting by the PTO and Mr. Tumulty

Technology Department





PCS Technology Department

- **Justin Matschener** - **Director of Technology**
- **Andrew Fueller** - **Data Specialist**
- **Grant Riley** - **Technology Specialist**
- **Damian Farrall** - **Data Specialist (Central)**
- **Jai Abrego** - **Technology Specialist (Central)**

- **Tech Support** - **412-709-5160 ext 147**

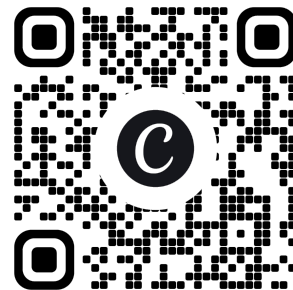
Technology Items





Student Devices

- Grades 1-2 - 1:1 with iPads
 - [iPad Best Practices](#)
- Grades 3-8 - 1:1 with Chromebooks
 - [Chromebooks Best Practices](#)
- Web / content filtering
- Travel with Care
- When devices & chargers are sent home
 - Devices must be charged
 - Devices & Chargers returned during the last 2 weeks of school





School Systems & Resources

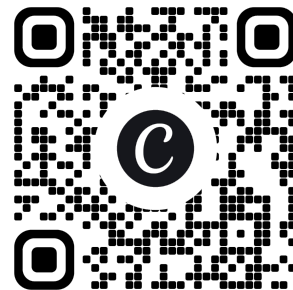
- MyPowerHUB
 - Parent portal & communication
 - Newsfeed with teacher posts
 - Direct messaging and email addresses
 - Access coming soon
- Schoology
 - Access coming soon
- Parent How-To Videos
 - providentcharterschool.org/pcs-parents





MyPowerHUB - Parent Portal & Communication

- Families will utilize [MyPowerHUB](#) for the following items:
 - Schedule, Attendance, Gradebooks, Report Cards
 - Newsfeed with teacher posts
 - Direct messaging and email addresses
 - *Annual Registration*
 - Update contact information
 - Review / update health information
- [PowerSchool Mobile for Android](#)
- [PowerSchool Mobile for iOS](#)
- District Code: **MNJC**





PowerSchool - Student Information System

PowerSchool Account Change External ~PowerSchool x

 **Provident Charter Schools** <no-reply@rackspace.powerschool.com>
to ▾

 **PowerSchool SIS** **Provident Charter Schools**

Provident Charter School has created a PowerSchool account for you to access your student's information.

You can access the login page by clicking or copying and pasting this URL into your browser:
<https://providentcs.powerschool.com/public/>

Your Login Credentials

Username:

Password:

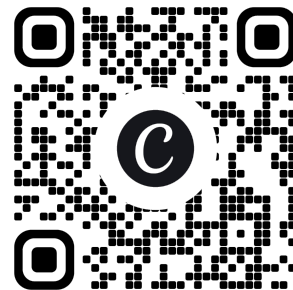
You will be prompted to update your password after your first login.





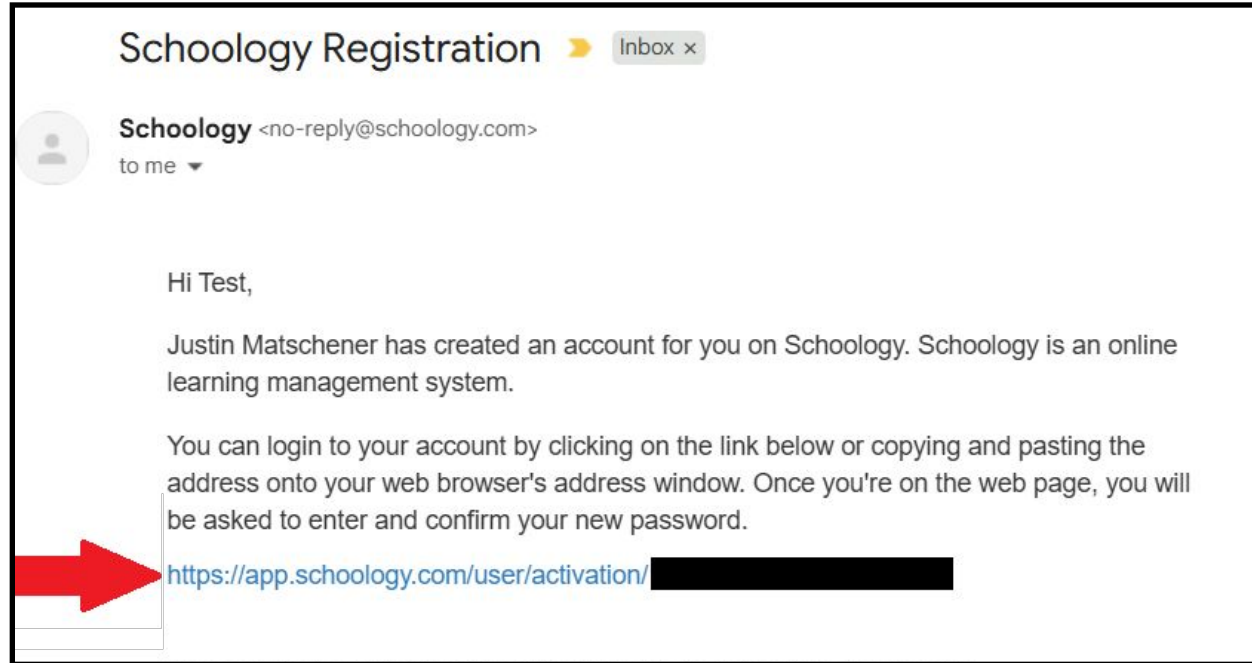
Schoology - Learning Management System

- Schoology is optional and can be used for:
 - View only access to your student's portal
 - You can access attached assignment materials
 - All other information syncs to your Parent Portal
- [Schoology for Android](#)
- [Schoology for iOS](#)





Schoolology - Learning Management System





PCS Calendars

- [Provident Charter School 2026-2027 School Year Calendar](#)





Family Communication at PCS

- School Website
- MyPowerHub/PowerSchool, Email, Phone call
- Social Media
 - www.facebook.com/pcswest
 - www.instagram.com/provident_charter_school_west
- Constant Contact
- Text Alerts: send 'Y' or 'Yes' to 67587





Constant Contact & School Website

- Constant Contact
 - Check your spam folder
 - Allow / Mark as not spam



- providentcharterschool.org



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



You're Invited to **BUILDING CONNECTIONS NIGHT!**

Stronger
Together.
Better
Together.



Join us for an evening of connection, collaboration, and community
as we partner together to support your child's success!

GRADES
1-3



**TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026**

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM



GRADES
4-8



**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026**

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM



LOCATION: Provident Charter School West

This special evening is designed to help you:



Meet your child's
teachers and staff



Learn about classroom
expectations and
daily routines



Explore curriculum
and instructional
programs



Discover ways to
support learning
at home



Ask questions and
build relationships
with our school
community

Together, we are **BUILDING CONNECTIONS,**
INSPIRING GROWTH, and **CREATING SUCCESS**
for every student!

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!





PROVIDENT
CHARTER SCHOOLS