

BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAMILY INFORMATION NIGHT

Tuesday, August 4th, 2026
6:30-7:30



Principal & Vice Principals





WELCOME TO PCS!

Mrs. Kristy Yonushonis - **Building Principal**

Mr. Robert Casey- **Vice Principal
(Grades 6-8)**

Mrs. Jennifer Karpa - **Vice Principal
(Grades 2-5)**



Agenda





Agenda

- Location Information
- Information Session from Principal & Vice Principals
- Nursing Services at PCS
- Cafeteria Information
- PCS Parent and Family Group
- Technology Related Items



Main Entrance

Parent/Guardian Drop-Off
Entrance / Gymnasium

Doors are open to enter into
the vestibule.

Doors--don't forget your
driver's license!





Front Entrance - This entrance is for staff and deliveries only





Annex Building Entrance



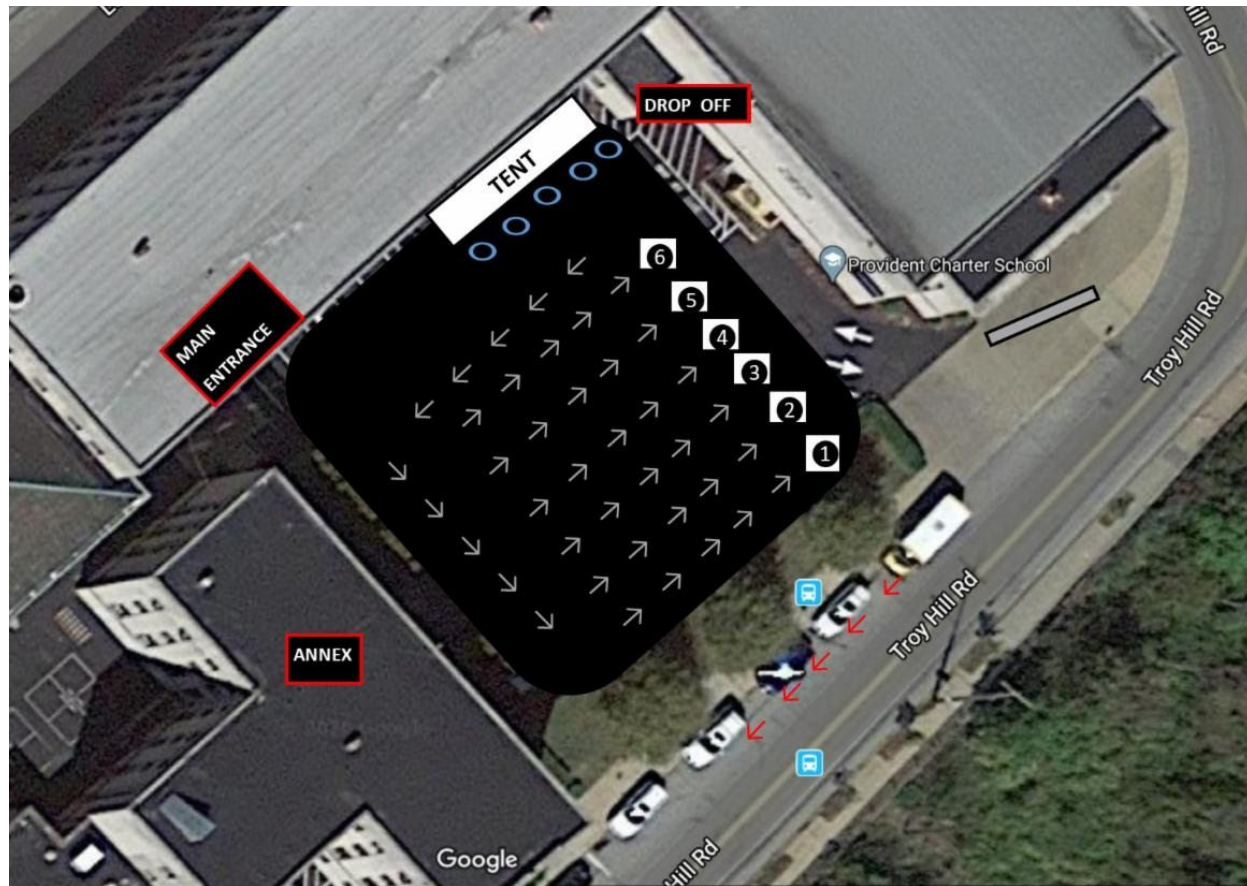


Annex Chapel Entrance - Fundraisers Pick-Up/Book Fair





Main Front Parking Lot





Changes for the 2026-2027 School Year

- Student arrival time for the 26-27 SY is from **7:38 to 8:00 AM**. Students *will* be considered tardy if they arrive after 8:00 AM.

Unexcused School Arrival Tardies (per semester)	Interventions
5	School administration will reach out to your family to see how we can help break down any barriers to getting to school on time.
7	School Administration will send a second communication and request a family conference (phone, virtual, or in-person) to map out a support plan.
10+	We will send a formal letter home to discuss further interventions, which may include a referral to our Student Assistance Program (SAP).



Changes for the 2026-2027 School Year

- **Approved Containers:** Water must be in a **bottle with a secure, screw-on lid and closable lid**
- **Prohibited Containers:** For safety and to prevent large spills, cups with straws, insulated cups, tumblers, metal/insulated bottles, and thermoses are **not permitted** in the classrooms or hallways (Prohibited Examples: Stanley, Owala)
- Students may **not bring outside beverages**—such as soft drinks, coffee, energy drinks, or breakfast-type beverages—into the school building. **If a student arrives at school with one of these items, they will be asked to finish it before entering or discard it at the main entrance.**





Changes for the 2026-2027 School Year

Every day, 2nd and 3rd grade students will be offered a school-approved, allergen-safe snack.

- **Nutritional Standards:** All provided snacks meet state and federal wellness guidelines, focusing on whole grains, low sodium, and controlled sugar.
- **Allergen Control:** Standard daily snacks are strictly nut-free and selected from manufacturers with rigorous cross-contamination controls.
- Students in Grades 4-8 may receive a school provided snack, if needed. ***They may not bring snacks from home to be eaten outside of the cafeteria. Food and snacks from home must remain in backpacks and may only be eaten during scheduled lunch periods (Ex. Bag of Taki's/chips, candy, etc.)*** unless medical or dietary accommodations are documented and on file with the school.

Arrival Procedures



- Please use School Dismissal Manager (SDM) to submit absences by 7:40am. The office can be reached at (412-709-5160) or e-mail Office@providentcharterschool.org.
 - *SDM will be covered later in slideshow*
- **Send an absence note** into school when your child returns (**within 5 school days**) or an email can be sent directly to the office @ Office@providentcharterschool.org
- E-mails or notes are necessary to verify and update attendance and are kept in the student's file. The note will ensure that the absence is marked as "excused". A doctor's note is required if your child is absent for more than 5 days.
- If you are arriving with your child **after 8:00AM**, you may drop them off at the gym/vestibule doors. If it is **after 8:30 AM**, you have to walk your child into the gym/vestibule doors to sign them in.

Pre-Planned Education Tour/Trip



- Request for Excused Absences from School for Pre-Planned Educational Tour or Trip
 - Please complete this form **two weeks prior** to the tour/trip dates. The Pre-Approved Absence is to be **no more than five school days** in length. **This form is to ONLY be used for absences exceeding 3 days.**
- [Request for Excused Absences from School for Pre-Planned Education Tour or Trip Google Form](#)



Dismissal Procedures--School Dismissal Manager (SDM) - Fast Lane

- We will continue to use an on-line dismissal management system this school year.
- Through School Dismissal Manager (SDM) families can:
 - Make transportation changes as late as **1:30 PM** on the current school day.
- We will begin on **Thursday, August 20**. Please check your email for login information from SDM.
- If you will be picking up your child in the afternoon at the end of the school day, you will scan a QR code to check in that you have arrived for dismissal.



SCAN ME

www.schooldismissalmanager.com

DOWNLOAD APP TODAY



ANDROID



APPLE



**SCHOOL
DISMISSAL**
MANAGER



Dismissal Procedures

- In order to maintain an orderly dismissal period at the end of the day we ask that you **NOT** request an “Early Dismissal” **after 1:30 PM.**
- This will allow you access to the parking lot and enable you to enter the building to sign your child out for the day (parents are required to come into the vestibule to sign their children out of school). **Dismissal any time after 2:30 will have to wait until the 3:30 parking lot dismissal.** We ask that you limit early dismissals to the best of your ability. When students regularly leave school early, the instructional minutes lost add up.



Transportation Information

- **Busing Issues**

Contact information for bus companies will be available on our website. Concerns and complaints should be directed to your home district or the bus company. 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. Remember we follow PPS for closing and delays.



Personal Device Policy - Yondr (pouch)

- Students are **not permitted** to use their personal devices during the school day (**cell phones, earbuds, smart watches, tablets, etc.**). Students are required to place their personal devices in a **Yondr pouch (Grades 4-8)** at the beginning of the school day and the device(s) will be unlocked at the end of the day as students leave. Devices that won't fit into a Yondr pouch may be safely stored by your student's homeroom teacher.
- If a student does not have their personal device(s) in a pouch, one of the administrators will come to the classroom and escort the student to the office to secure their device(s) in a pouch until the end of the day.

Personal Device Policy - Yondr (pouch)



- If a child has their device(s) out of a pouch more than three times, the child will take their device(s) to the office and then it must be picked up by a parent. They will also lose the privilege of holding their device(s) during the school day. All devices would be held by an administrator during school hours for up to ten (10) school days.
- If your child is in Grades 2 or 3, they will turn their device(s) into their homeroom teacher (if applicable), and their homeroom teacher will place it in a lock box.
- If you need to contact your child, please call the office (412) 709-5160 and we can have your child call you.



Uniforms

- Students should be in an appropriate uniform at all times.
- Students can wear spiritwear, athletic shorts and sweatpants.
- Athletic shoes are acceptable footwear. If a student wears sandals or Crocs, the ankle strap must be placed around the back of the ankle to support safety.
- Hoodies cannot be worn during the school day. Hoodies worn to school must be left in the student's locker.
- *Since student clothing will look the same, please put your child's name on their clothing. We have a lot of lost & found items each year.*



STANDARD UNIFORM POLICY FOR 1st - 8th GRADE STUDENTS

All shirts must meet the following criteria:

- Solid white, navy, black, gray or light blue
- Long or short sleeve, including t-shirts (no sleeveless), and any PCS spirit wear
- All undershirts must also be approved colors
- Only PCS logo allowed



All sweaters/jackets must meet the following criteria:

- Solid white, navy, black, 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 bottoms must meet the following criteria:

- Solid khaki, black, gray or navy only (no logos) pants, including dress pants, sweatpants, or mesh shorts (no leggings)
- White, navy, black or nude tights/leggings may only be worn under skirts, jumpers, or shorts
- Pants, shorts, jumpers, skirts free of holes



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

Dress code updates for the 2026-2027 school year that can be worn everyday:

- Solid white, navy, black, gray or light blue t-shirts (no collar)
- PCS spirit wear
- Athletic wear in white, navy, black, gray, or light blue (no leggings)





Dress Down Days - First Tuesday of the Month

On the ***first Tuesday of each month***, we will have a Dress Down Day. Students will have the opportunity to not wear their uniform to school.

Students must still be dressed in “school appropriate” attire. Anything deemed inappropriate will be addressed. If you have to question it, then don’t wear it. Hoodies may be worn on these days, but the hood must remain off at all times.

If a ***student receives two or more dress code violations over the course of the previous month***, their opportunity to dress down on the first Tuesday may be revoked.

Yes or No?

- Does it have inappropriate language or crude sarcasm?
- Does it reveal too much skin around my shoulders, chest, stomach or legs?
- Are there holes in the pants above the knees?
- Would I wear this outfit to my grandparents’ house?
- Aren’t those pajamas?



Personal Bags & Pouches Guidelines

- All students in Grades 2-8 may keep their backpacks in their lockers after arrival. Beginning on **January 5, 2027**, 8th-grade students will be granted the privilege to carry an approved **backpack** during the school day.
- [Personal Bags & Pouches Guidelines for 2026-2027](#)

Size and Style Restrictions:

- Maximum Dimensions: Personal bags and pouches must be of a reasonable size, not exceeding 17 inches in height, 13 inches in width, and 8 inches in depth.
- Storage Requirements: All personal bags and pouches must be placed in the student's assigned locker immediately upon arrival (or immediately after receiving school breakfast). Bags shall not be carried by students during the school day.
- Wheels: Personal bags and pouches with wheels are prohibited.
- Unattended Items: Bags and pouches must not be left unattended in hallways, classrooms, or common areas.
- Design Restrictions: Bags featuring hidden compartments (e.g., **Sprayground backpacks**), inappropriate logos, graphic designs, or drug/gang-related symbols are strictly prohibited.



PBIS School (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports)

- We are a PBIS school, which simply means that we work to reinforce positive behaviors by establishing consistent routines, procedures and expectations. We are intentional about honoring students' efforts to appropriately participate in all aspects of school life.
- We have a tiered acknowledgment system:
 - *Schoolwide Acknowledgement System* - students can earn a "Golden Bulldog" ticket for displaying perseverance, compassion or self-control.
 - *Classroom Acknowledgement System* - students can earn "Way to go Bucks" for participating appropriately in the classroom. Teachers assist students with keeping track of their "Way to go Bucks"
- Troy Hill Mall - Students can spend their Way 2 Go Bucks
 - [Amazon Wish List](#)
- Golden Bulldog Ticket Drawing - Each Friday during lunch
- Tier II & Tier III Support - CICO (Check-In/Check-Out) with a mentor
 - This intervention provides clear and consistent expectations, connected to a behavior mentor, which helps your child know exactly how to be successful with critical feedback and reinforcement strategies.



Other Information

- Please **DO NOT SEND** toys, blankets, stuffed animals and personal items to school with students.
- We have appropriate fidgets at PCS if a student is in need of one to help with focusing.
- 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. You will receive notification if your child is being asked to test for a belt. More information will be sent home at a later date.
- **Lockers**: Elementary students will have their own lockers. Students in grades 6-8 may put a lock on their locker, but it is not required.



Other Information

- The students will continue utilizing an electronic pass called **SmartPass**. This will track students as they move about the building. Each student will have access to use up to **three passes daily related to using the restroom or getting water at the location nearest to their current classroom**. If a student requires more than this allowance, we will address that on a case by case basis and generally require a doctor's note. Grades 2-3 will sign out with their teachers versus using the SmartPass system.
- Please send in supplies such as **Clorox Wipes, Kleenex**, etc. to help PCS stay healthy and clean!
- Keep up with your school lunch payments!

Nursing Services

Lisa Varlotta

Stacey Gray





NURSING SERVICES

- **2026 - 2027 Nurses**
 - Lisa Varlotta RN, CRNP, CSN - Lead School Nurs
 - Stacey Gray RN - Nurse

NURSING SERVICES

Prescription Medications

- Before any prescribed medication can be administered, PCS requires a completed **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 received 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, and that does not have 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, etc.
- 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 by a parent/guardian**. When you arrive at the school, come in through the parent doors and ring the buzzer. A nurse will meet you in the vestibule to count the medications. You will need to complete a Medication Drop-Off Google Form and will receive an email receipt of the medication drop off confirmation and the refill date.
- **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 Google Form.
- **Do not give medication to any staff member other than a nurse.**

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

- **Smile Dental**

- Offers comprehensive dental exams for all students and dental screenings for 3rd & 7th graders.
- Dental care is usually at no cost to you, and all insurance is accepted.
- **11/17/26**
- **05/18/27**
- Online registration is available and highly recommended. The sign up link will be emailed to all families.
- Forms will be sent home with students to be completed and returned to the nurse. Forms can be sent in with a student and brought to nurse's office or emailed directly to the nurse.

NURSING SERVICES

- **Vision to Learn**

- **9/21/26** - Spot Screeners for ALL students
 - If your child fails the spot screener, parent/guardian will be notified via letter sent home with student, along with a form to sign up for a comprehensive eye exam.
- **9/28/26 & 11/2/26** - Eye Exams/glasses - students who qualify after spot screeners **and** who have registered, will receive a comprehensive eye exam and glasses at no out-of-pocket expense.
 - If your child passes the screener but they are in need of a new pair of glasses, reach out to the school nurse for more information.

NURSING SERVICES

- **Vaccine Clinic:**
 - **10/1/26 1:00 pm- 6:00 pm** - Giant Eagle Pharmacy will be at PCS to offer all state required vaccines to students and optional vaccines to their family members.
 - **Parent/Guardian must be present at PCS in order for a student to receive vaccines.**
 - Online registration is available and the sign up link will be emailed to all families.
 - Paper registration is available. Reach out to the nurses if you need a registration form sent home

NURSING SERVICES

- **Vaccine Clinic:**

- Flu
- High Dose Flu (ages 65 and older)
- COVID-19
- RSV
- Shingles
- Pneumonia
- T-dap
- Meningitis
- Hepatitis B
- MMR
- Polio
- Varicella

- Giant Eagle will collect all insurance information prior to the clinic. If you do not have insurance you may choose to pay the cash rate for a vaccine. Most insurances cover the standard flu shot.

NURSING SERVICES

- **How to contact the Nurses**

- Email: SchoolNurse@providentcharterschool.org
- Telephone: 412-709-5160 ext. 106
- 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**

Cafeteria

Kala Williamson





Cafeteria

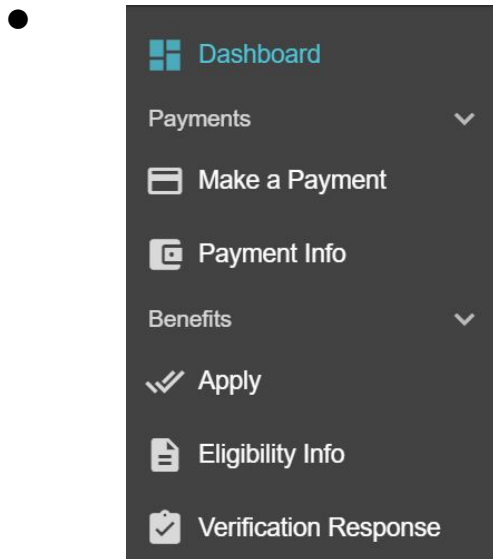
- Create an account at www.schoolcafe.com by going to the website or downloading the school cafe app.
- At the side you create a new account by scrolling down to the bottom of the page. You will type Provident Charter School in as the district.

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: "Reset" and "Go to My District".

- *If your home district uses school cafe you will need to use a different email address to create a new account.*



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





- Applications can be filled out during any point of the school year.
- We utilize a finger scanner for the cafe. This is not the same as taking a fingerprint, it is similar to the iphone technology and the images are deleted as soon as your student graduates and or leaves Provident. This technology ensures we can get them through the line quickly and that no one can use their account.
- For any allergies that would need to have menu substitutions, please have a licenced medical professional fill out this [form](#) and this needs updated yearly.



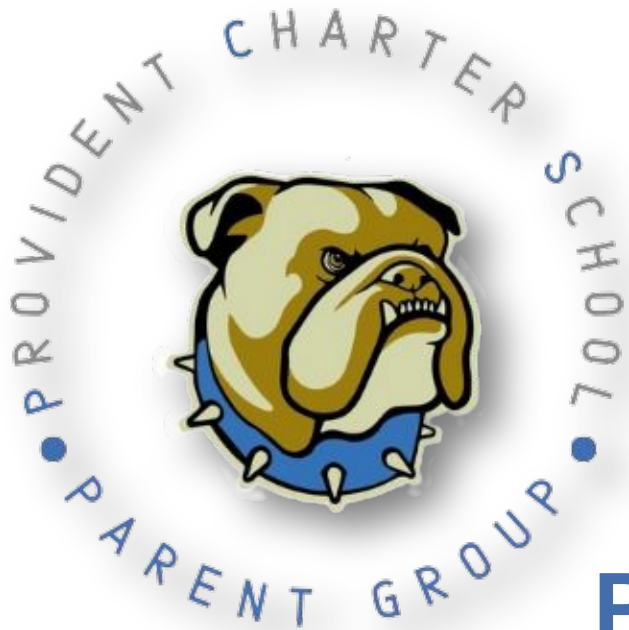
- **Breakfast is FREE** to all students no matter their eligibility. We do encourage students to get a breakfast. There are many studies done regarding the importance of breakfast, and it is free to you. Hot grab and go options are available in the cafeteria from 7:40am-8:00am. There will be a tardy option available for students at late arrival check in until 8:45 am.
- The cost of lunch is \$2.95, \$3.15 for the build your own salad bar and there are daily options for a la carte snacks.

Contact Info:

Kala Williamson

kwilliamson@providentcharterschool.org

412-709-5160 ext 301



PCS PARENT GROUP



PARENT GROUP: Basic Information

- **WELCOME!** If you have a student at PCS you are **a member** of the parent group.
- We are a 501c3 organization comprised of **volunteer** parents, guardians, teachers, and principals.
- Our mission is focused on activities and events that benefit **the entire** PCS student body.
 - Ex. Related Arts (Art, Music, TKD, DML, etc), PBIS, Teacher/Staff Appreciation, 8th grade graduation, Uniform Closet
- Officers: Jamie Druga, Sallie Richards, Jen McCreery, and Andrew McCreery
- **OPEN** Positions: Junior Officers, Committee Chairs, Fundraisers Support, general volunteers

Contact us: [**ProvidentCharterSchoolPG@gmail.com**](mailto:ProvidentCharterSchoolPG@gmail.com)

PARENT GROUP: Get Involved!

Volunteer



EVENT PLANNING,
VOLUNTEER COORDINATION,
EVENT DECORATING,
TEACHER APPRECIATION,
COMMUNICATIONS.
Get Clearances [HERE](#)

Participate/Donate



FUNDRAISERS: HOAGIE SALES,
SPIRIT WEAR, FLOWER SALES,
TKD CONCESSION SALES.
SUPPLIES: TKD TOURNAMENT,
TEACHER APPRECIATION,
STOCK THE LOUNGES

Stay Informed



SHARE YOUR CONTACT
INFORMATION, **ATTEND**
VIRTUAL MEETINGS
READ **COMMUNICATIONS**,
REACH OUT IF YOU HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS.

PARENT GROUP: Take Action

- If you missed our **Welcome Letter** in the FAQ email.
- Order **Spirit Wear** (for TKD and PE): Parent Group [Spirit Wear Store link](#)
- Attend virtual meetings the third Wednesday of the month at 7PM
- Share your preferred contact information [HERE](#) if you would like to be a part of the directory.
- Uniform Closet
 - If you would like access to the uniform closet please contact us through the email below.
 - Or use this [form](#) to request items if you know what you need.

Contact us: ProvidentCharterSchoolPG@gmail.com

Technology Department
Justin Matschener
Director Of Technology





PCS Technology Department

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

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

Technology Items





Student Devices

- Grade 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

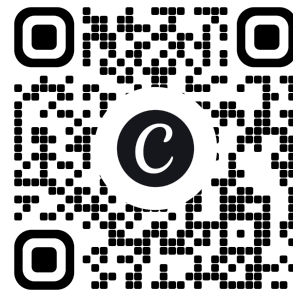
- MyPowerHUB
 - Parent portal & communication
 - Newsfeed with teacher posts
 - Direct messaging and email addresses
 - Access coming soon
- Schoology
 - Access coming soon
- Parent How-To Videos
 - providentcharterschool.org/pcs-parents





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**





MyPowerHUB - Email Notification

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:

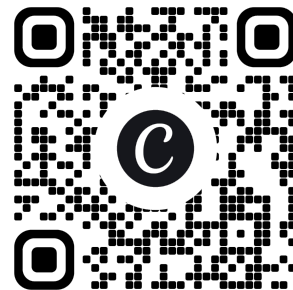
You will be prompted to update your password after your first login.





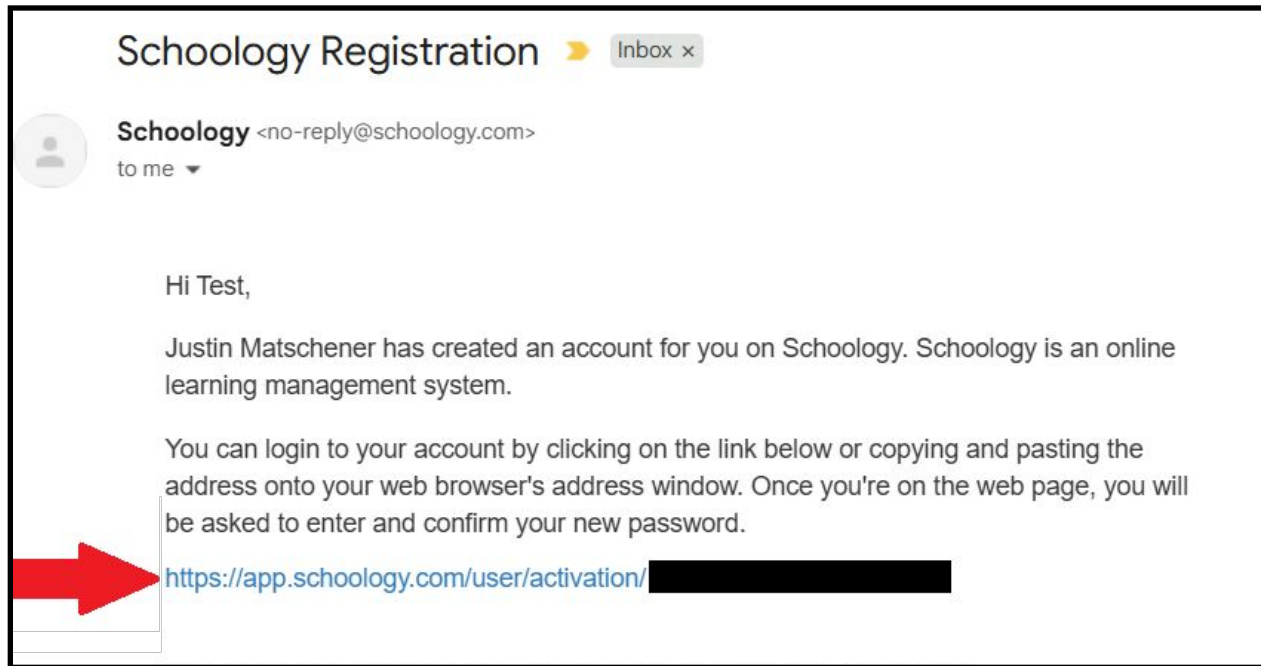
Schoology - Learning Management System

- 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](#)





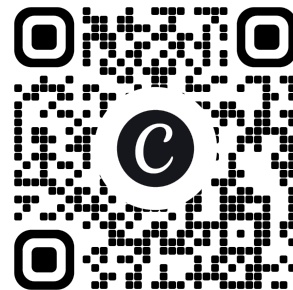
Schoolology - Email Notification





PCS Calendars

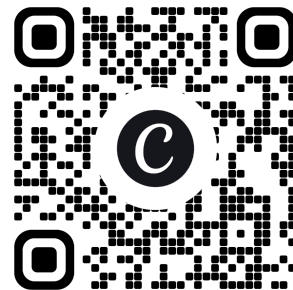
- [2026-2027 School Calendar](#)
- [2026-2027 Cycle Day Calendar](#)- cycle days





Family Communication at PCS

- School Website
- MyPowerHub/PowerSchool, Email, Phone call
- Constant Contact
- Social Media
- 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





PCS Social Media Accounts

- Facebook
 - [Provident Charter School](#)
 - [PCS Central Community](#)
- Instagram
 - [@provident_charter_school](#)
 - [@provident.makers](#)
 - [@provident.performers](#)

Provident Charter School Central
Facebook



Provident Charter School Central
Instagram

Provident Charter Schools
PCS Parents page





Provident Charter School Central



WALK YOUR SCHEDULE OPEN HOUSE

PCS invites you to join us for a self-paced tour of the building where you can meet the principals, interventionists, and coordinators to have a successful start of the school year.



AUGUST 12, 2026
5-7:30 PM

Please note that teachers will not be available during the walk-through. You may tour the building, find your student's classroom and meet staff members.





PROVIDENT
CHARTER SCHOOL