



Student Handbook

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History

Puebla Christian School held its first classes in January 1967, as a joint effort of the Mexican Indian Mission and the Central American Mission in Puebla. Those first classes were held in the homes of three families while a suitable building was sought. Since that time, the Mexican Indian Mission has merged with the UFM International (newly renamed Crossworld) and the Central American Mission has merged with Avant. PCS recently became a partner with TeachBeyond whose goal is to use education to transform lives to become all that God intends. The primary purpose of PCS remains the same now as in 1967, namely to have an American- based system of education for English speaking children of missionaries to train them spiritually, academically, socially and physically.

Mission

We foster a nurturing environment, providing English-language education with a Biblical worldview, discipling students to reach God's purpose in their lives.

Vision

Lifelong disciples of Christ, equipped to fulfill God's purpose in their lives and the world.

Statement of Faith

The School Board, administration, full-time and part-time teachers must annually read and sign the PCS Statement of Faith in order to fulfill the requirements of the PCS constitution and by-laws.

1. We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God, inerrant in the original writings, and of supreme and final authority in all matters of life and faith.
2. We believe in one God eternally existing in three equal persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that God the Son became incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ, who was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, and is true God and true man.
4. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as a substitutionary sacrifice; and that all that believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.
5. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into Heaven, and in His present life there for us, as High Priest, Intercessor and Advocate.
6. We believe in the personal, bodily, visible, and advent of our Lord Jesus Christ in the glory of His Father to set up in the earth a kingdom in which He shall reign in righteousness and peace.
7. We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person, possessed of all the distinctively divine attributes. He is God, He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He regenerates, seals, and sets apart the believer to a holy life. At regeneration He baptizes the believer into the body of Christ, and comes to indwell him permanently and gives gifts to every believer.
8. We believe that man was created in the image of God, that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but that spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human

Philosophy Statement

A well-formulated and biblically based statement of philosophy is the touchstone from which a Christian school's aims and objectives are derived. The ultimate objective of the Christian school is to glorify God, corporately and individually. In achieving this goal, one must consider the major objectives of the spiritual and moral development of the pupil, his personal and social growth and interaction, his academic achievement, and growing worth in service to others. The following statement expresses what Puebla Christian School believes with respect to education and its role as an educational enterprise.

GOD: God is revealed in the Scriptures to be the creator and sustainer of all things, the originator of all knowledge. He is wholly responsible for the existence of all living things. God is the source of all truth and has chosen to reveal Himself to man.

MAN: Man was created by God in His own image with the purpose of reflecting that image in this world. Man rebelled against God and is by nature a sinner without the ability to reflect the nature of God. In Christ Jesus that image has been renewed and man became capable of receiving all of God's revealed truth, of communing with God, and communicating God to others.

REVELATION: God has revealed Himself to man through the Living Word, Jesus Christ. The Bible is the source book for true knowledge and wisdom, by which we may live. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to integrate the content of each subject in the curriculum with the truth revealed in the Scriptures. Jesus Christ is the perfect manifestation of God, and it is only through receiving Him as Savior that one can be personally related to God. He is the personification of the knowledge and wisdom of God and the perfect example to the believer for living a life pleasing to God.

PROCESS: What we believe about God, man, and how God has revealed Himself to man causes us to seek a truly Biblical correlation in every subject area. The Holy Spirit is God's agent to teach and guide parents, teachers and pupils into all truth and bring each one into conformity to God's revealed will. This is true reality – not material and temporal, but spiritual and eternal.

The goal of the policies and practices set forth in this handbook is to encourage our students towards academic, spiritual, and personal excellence; to help grow students who act with compassion, modesty, integrity, and obedience; and to help our students to be salt and light in a dark world.

Conduct and Discipline

Obedience to PCS rules and respectful compliance to the direction of PCS faculty, staff, and administration is expected at all times. PCS students are expected to exhibit behavior that is supportive of scriptural guidelines and the school's mission and policies. PCS is systematic in its approach to discipline. Consequences levied for not exhibiting such behavior are meant to be formative, not punitive, in nature with the objective of disciplinary measures being one of restoration. ***Students may be held accountable for behavior both on and off campus, including when school is not in session.*** The PCS administration retains, at their sole discretion, the prerogative to assign specific consequences up to and including suspension/expulsion.

For elementary grades:

Homeroom teachers and those who teach specials should coordinate classroom management plans under the supervision of the administration. The objective is a consistent approach to discipline while maintaining flexibility for the teachers of specials to do what works for them.

Possible Major Infractions May Include:

1. Disobedience, disrespect, and/or insubordination
2. Lying, Cheating/Plagiarism
3. Stealing
4. Destruction or misuse of school property or another student's proper
5. Fighting, Harassment or Bullying -
6. Inappropriate language or behavior (e.g. foul, disrespectful, abusive, or crude language and/or gestures) - including on social media
7. Leaving campus without proper permission
8. Possession or use of weapons on campus
9. Possession or use of alcohol, tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, other drugs, and/or paraphernalia associated
10. Possession or use of pornographic material
11. Sexual impropriety, immorality, and/or harassment

Possible Minor Infractions May Include:

1. Class disruption
2. Using electronics, including the school-issued computer, when not permitted
3. Not speaking English during school hours (excluding foreign language coursework) **
4. Dress code violation
5. Repeated failure to complete homework
6. *Tardiness to, sleeping in, or incomplete work* in class and/or chapel.

*Any minor infraction may be considered major infraction when a pattern of disobedience is demonstrated.

Additionally, being a party to another's wrongdoing is just as serious as actually committing the offense. Actions such as hiding something for someone, concealing the truth to protect another person, giving or selling illegal or unacceptable items to someone, and/or enticing others to act contrary to the rules or expectations of Puebla Christian School are subject to disciplinary action.

**PCS values the cultures, languages, and backgrounds of all of our students and the diversity that those backgrounds create within our school family. However, as a matter of respect, courtesy, and empathy, and in accordance with the school's mission, it is expected that students will speak English during the school day.

Disciplinary Procedure

The steps outlined below are typical when responding to a situation where students in grades 7-12 fail to follow the primary expectations of a PCS student: respect, responsibility, integrity, stewardship, and/or compassion. However, the administration reserves the right to elevate the level of response to a specific disciplinary situation up to and including detention, Saturday detention, suspension, and expulsion at their sole discretion. Behavioral Reports are issued by faculty to students for offenses. Behavioral Reports are completed through GradeLink, and a parent will be notified via

the GradeLink program and/or email. Certain offenses (e.g. cell phones in class, cheating/plagiarism, campus dress violations) have separate and specific response guidelines outlined elsewhere in this handbook.

- *Step 1:* PCS faculty or staff will address incorrect student behavior by conversing with the student regarding primary expectations and/or school policy.
- *Step 2:* Continued incorrect student behavior will result in the faculty or staff member recording the offense and response in GradeLink. The faculty member will communicate with the student's parent(s) regarding the incorrect behavior and actions taken in response.
- *Step 3:* An accumulation of write-ups in GradeLink, for any offense, will typically have the following results:
 - 3 write-ups – Detention assigned
 - 5 write-ups – Detention assigned
 - 7 write-ups – Saturday Detention assigned
 - 9 write-ups – In-School Suspension

Repeated offenses in one general category are considered serious violations of school policy illustrating a student's inability or unwillingness to follow PCS rules and respond to correction. Such repeated offenses are major disciplinary offenses and often result in suspension, behavior contract, dismissal, and/or other serious consequences.

After-School Detention (ASD)

Students are required to attend ASD when assigned. Students will be allowed to reschedule an ASD one time during each semester. To reschedule an ASD, students should contact the office. If a student skips ASD, both student and parents will be required to meet with the administration the next school day, or before the student is permitted to return to school. ASD will be available to be served one day each week, and this day will be set at the beginning of each semester. Students serving ASD will be scheduled from 3.00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. During ASD, students will be permitted to read or work on homework, but may not be permitted to sleep, eat, or use electronics. **Students will be fined \$50 MXN per ASD.**

Saturday Detention

Students assigned to a Saturday Work Detail will meet from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Manual labor and/or academic work will be assigned. Students who are assigned Saturday Work Detail will be charged **\$300 MXN** to defray the cost of supervision. If a student fails to show up for a Saturday Work Detail, then the student will serve an in-school suspension the following Wednesday and will pay a fine of **\$500 MXN** and the student and parents will need to meet with the administration. If the student fails to show up for in-school suspension, he/she will not be allowed to return to school until the in-school suspension has been served.

In-School and Out-of-School Suspension

If an in-school suspension (ISS) is assessed, students will report to the designated area from 8:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. The student will not be permitted to leave the campus for lunch. Manual labor and/or academic work will be assigned during the day(s). A student serving an ISS will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular PCS activities on the same day. All schoolwork missed during a time of an in-school suspension are subject to receiving 0%.

If an out-of-school suspension is assessed, the student will not report to campus for class or any PCS extracurricular activities for the day(s) assigned. All schoolwork missed during a time of an out-of-school suspension are subject to receiving 0%.

Withdrawal & Dismissal

A student who has demonstrated an unwillingness to cooperate with the school through habitual disobedience and insubordination by maintaining an unrepentant, negative attitude or through any single major disciplinary offense may be dismissed from Puebla Christian School.

Immediate out-of-school suspension and possible expulsion may be expected from the following offenses:

- Possession of knives, firearms, or any other weapons on campus, or at any school function
- Possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, and/or abuse of prescription or nonprescription drugs on or off campus
- Any misdemeanor or felony on or off campus
- Sexual immorality on or off campus, including but not limited to extra-marital sexual activity, homosexual activity, and transgender behavior.
- Communicating a threat to another person or the PCS community

Administration may, at its own prerogative, choose to allow a student to withdraw in lieu of expulsion if circumstances warrant. If dismissed in the fall semester, a student may re-apply to PCS for the following school year. If dismissed in the spring semester, a student may not apply to PCS the following school year, but may re-apply in the future.

Evidence of changed behavior and positive references will be considered in a re-application, but there is no guarantee of re-admission.

A student who has been expelled from PCS may be asked not return to the PCS campus during that school year except to pick up transcripts or apply for re-admittance. The administration may prohibit students who have been expelled from PCS from attending PCS sponsored events in the school year they are expelled. An expelled student may appeal to the administration in writing at least one week in advance for an exception to this policy if the student believes circumstances warrant, but exceptions to this policy are at the sole discretion of PCS administration and board.

Behavioral Probation

Behavioral probation may be applied at the discretion of the Administration. Behavioral probation can be expected for, but not limited to, the following:

- The student has demonstrated a pattern of disobedience or insubordination.
- The student has demonstrated an unrepentant and/or negative attitude.
- The student has committed a single major offense.

The conditions of such probation would likely include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Weekly meeting with the administration or adult mentor
- Suspension from participation in leadership and/or all or specific extra-curricular activities

Additional conditions may be applied at the administration's discretion. The probation period will be for a period of time designated by the administration.

Behavioral Contract

Students who demonstrate a pattern of disobedience or insubordination, and a habitual unrepentant and/or negative attitude, will likely be required to sign a Behavioral Contract, along with their parents and the administration. Signing this document indicates the student's commitment to change and subsequently applying themselves to the behaviors and attitude to which God has called them. This contract will indicate the specific area(s) being addressed and the time frame

for monitoring and evaluating the student's progress. Not honoring the contract would likely result in the student's dismissal from the school.

Disciplinary Appeals

A student may appeal any disciplinary action after the student has spoken directly with the faculty member or administrator who assigned the consequence (in keeping with Matthew 18). This gives the student an opportunity to explain the circumstances and listen to the faculty member's response. If the student still wishes to appeal, an appeal can be submitted to the administration.

Student Privacy

While PCS will make every effort to preserve student dignity and protect general student privacy, students cannot expect absolute privacy. PCS reserves the right to search student lockers and student personal belongings/possessions (e.g. clothing, bag, vehicle, digital files, electronic devices, etc.) if there is reason to suspect contraband, inappropriate materials, and/or any materials, substances, or information that are not allowed at PCS, could pose a safety risk to students, or may be illegal to possess. Every effort will be made to have the student present during any search, and at least two PCS staff members will be present during a formal search.

Repentance and Reconciliation

When a student voluntarily chooses to come forward and confess to a PCS faculty or staff member his/her involvement in a misdemeanor or felony on or off campus, sexual immorality, use of alcohol or drugs, etc. the opportunity for reconciliation may be available. Consequences (such as suspension, drug testing, counseling, and other measures of accountability sometimes including expulsion) can be expected with offenses of this nature, but students who have confessed and repented *may* be allowed to continue their enrollment at PCS if fruits of repentance are evident. Whether a student will be allowed to continue at PCS, be required to withdraw from PCS for a predetermined length of time (e.g. one full semester), or be expelled from PCS will be based on an evaluation by the administration taking into account both the individual(s) and the school as a whole.

Attendance

Time of School Day

Students should not arrive at school earlier than 7:45 a.m. The classrooms open at 7:45 a.m. and close at 3:15 p.m. Waiting for rides should be done at the gate. Classes begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m.

Students staying on campus after school hours must do so for a specific purpose such as praise band practices, after-school tutoring, or school-sponsored social events. All students not required to be on campus for a specific activity should be off the campus by 3:20 p.m. A fine of \$50 MXN may be assessed for any late pick-ups after 3:20.

Late Arrival

Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. should go directly to the main office and sign in before going to their scheduled classes. Any student arriving late to school will not be allowed into class unless they have a pass from the office.

Leaving Campus

Students are not permitted to leave campus during school hours without permission. Once a student has arrived at school, the student should stay at school until the completion of his or her classes that day unless circumstances *require* his or her leaving. Students violating this policy should expect consequences up to an ISS for the first offense.

When leaving campus during the school day, specific parental permission is required. A student should present a note for early dismissal, written by a parent, to the school secretary BEFORE the start of the school day. Each note should include the student's name, reason for early dismissal, and time to be dismissed. Parents may also call or email with this information. The student then will receive a pass that should be given to the teacher at the beginning of the class from which the student will be leaving. Upon leaving class, the student MUST sign out with the school secretary. All students can be picked up in the front of the school. If the student leaves during the lunch hour, s/he must still sign out in the office before leaving.

Absences

Grades 7-12

It is each student's responsibility to attend class. Students in grades 7-12 may miss no more than 10% of an individual class (17 days total per 1-credit course, divided equally between semesters), and are allowed four unexcused absences per semester in each course (eight total for a year-long course). An absence will be assessed if a student misses more than 15 minutes of an individual class period. If the absence limit (excused and/or unexcused) is exceeded for an individual course, credit may not be given unless appropriate academic remediation (as determined by administration) is successfully completed. Academic remediation may bear additional financial cost beyond regular tuition. The student may appeal loss of course credit due to excessive absences to the administration's office if there are extenuating circumstances explaining the excessive absences.

Whenever possible, medical and dental appointments should be scheduled when school is not in session. For medical appointments, a doctor's note should be turned into the school secretary upon arrival back at school.

Parents should call or email the school by 9:00 a.m. for any unplanned absences (illness or death in family). However, a doctor's note may be requested for excessive absences due to illness.

Elementary

*With the above in mind, because the elementary school is not divided into periods like that of the high school, if a student must be absent from school, up to 3 hours absence will be considered a ½ day's absence. Any period over three hours is considered a full day's absence.

Definition of Absences

Excused & Unexcused Absences

Excused Absence are absences which have received prior approval from the administration a minimum of 5 days before extended departures, or in the case of an illness or bereavement the student must be called in to the office before 9:00 am the day of the absence. All other absentees will be considered unexcused.

Absence Pass

Students who will be absent from school due to a planned activity are required to complete an “absence pass” for pre-approval from administration. Prior to the pass being issued, parents are to provide by note, email, or phone call, a brief description of the activity to include the dates of the student’s absence. Once issued, the “absence pass” is to be signed by the teachers of the classes from which the student will be absent and returned to the office at least one day prior to the planned absence. Teachers may require work to be completed during the absence. **If a teacher is not notified prior to the absence, all assignments will be subject to the unexcused late work policy for that class.**

Skiping Class

Once a student is already on campus, intentional failure to attend class is considered skipping class. Leaving campus without permission is also automatically considered skipping class. The consequence for a student who skips an academic class or chapel is up to an ISS.

Tardies

Students arriving to class after 8:00 a.m. should go directly to the office and sign in before going to their first class. Students arriving late to school will not be allowed into class unless they have a pass from the office. A tardy is defined as missing up to the first 15 minutes of any class. Students may also be assessed a tardy if they arrive to class unprepared and need to return to their lockers for materials.

Continued tardiness is considered a disciplinary matter. Students can expect to receive a detention for every three unexcused tardies they accumulate. Tardies may only be excused if students have a legitimate reason to arrive late to school or to a class. Most late arrivals (overslept, didn’t leave the house in time, heavy traffic, bus running behind) are not excused.

1st-6th grade tardy policy

Upon being tardy for the third time in one semester, the Administration will send a letter home to the student’s parents.

Upon being tardy for the sixth time in one semester, the student and parents will be required to meet with the administration and the student will be assessed a half-day absence.

Upon being tardy for the eighth time one semester, the infraction will be treated as a major disciplinary infraction.

Students in grades 1-6 will be assessed a half-day absence for every six tardies.

Poor attendance may be cause for a student to not receive an invitation to return to PCS.

Campus Dress

The purpose of campus dress is to promote modesty, neatness and appropriateness in order to support a positive learning environment. Campus dress code helps to promote orderly worship and fellowship free from distraction and concern. (1 Cor.14:40, 1 Tim. 2:8-11, 3:7, 4:12-16, 1 Peter 3:3-6, 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 9:19-20) It is not intended to become a point of contention, and could help reduce tension in the home regarding what is and is not appropriate to wear to school, and support school unity and identity.

PCS requires a campus dress “top” and “bottom” for all students Monday through Friday. All clothes should be clean and in good repair.

Tops

Students must wear a polo shirt or a button-up shirt with a collar. Both may be of any color / pattern, but may not have lettering printed on them, with the exception of a pocket-sized company logo. Polos may be sleeveless, short sleeved, or long sleeved and must cover the midriff with hands raised. (If a polo is not quite long enough, a top may be worn underneath to extend the length.) Button-up shirts must be buttoned up except the top button. Even when wearing an outer layer of clothing, students are required to wear a polo underneath it and the collar must be visible. *During cold weather, students are encouraged to dress warmly and may be permitted to wear their winter coats. Blankets and T-Shirts (except when permitted to wear PCS specific t-shirts like that on spirit day) are not part of campus dress.

Bottoms

Pants, shorts, and skirts may be worn. Shorts should extend past the fingertips and skirts should touch the top of the knee while the student is standing up straight. Students who cannot obtain skirts or shorts that reach below the finger tip while standing straight may wear pants instead. All bottoms must be worn at the waist.

Grades 7-12: Pants/Shorts/Skirts

- solid color limited to jeans, or dress pants
- no holes, rips
- no spandex
- no skinny jeans or pants
- no athletic pants/shorts

Grades 1-6: Pants/Shorts/Skirts

- no holes, rips, or frays
- no spandex
- Athletic pants/shorts that extend below the fingertips (and t-shirts) may be worn on phys ed days only

Shoes

Shoes must be clean and in good repair. Beach-style or bathroom flip-flops, athletic sliders, and slippers (including moccasin style) are not permitted.

Accessories

Hats are not to be worn in the school building, with the exception of knit hats when the weather is cold. Tights and leggings may only be worn under skirts that meet the dress code requirements or under gym shorts.

Spirit Wear Days

Every Friday will be a PCS t-shirt day. Some other approved-by-administration events may come up. On Fridays, students may wear a PCS t-shirt created by or approved by PCS. Fun-days approved by administration. Special events (seniors)

PE Dress

PE students will be graded on dress and participation each day. The appropriate attire for 7-12 PE classes consist of a t-shirt and shorts that are mid-thigh or longer in length (or shorts with longer leggings/spandex under them). Athletic sweatpants, long sleeve t-shirts, and sweatshirts are also appropriate. (Leggings may not be worn on their own.) Elementary students may choose to wear or bring PE clothes on PE days, or they may wear regular class dress. PE clothes must not have any inappropriate writings, sayings, or pictures. The PE instructor retains full discretion and regulatory authority in determining appropriateness. 7-12 students may change for PE during their lunch, but they may not leave class early to do so.

Casual Dress for All Students – After School Hours

Modest clothing is expected at all PCS events. Short shorts or skirts, strapless tops or tops with only skinny straps, cut-off shirts, undershirts, cropped tops, etc. do not generally conform to this expectation. Approved swimwear at PCS events includes one-piece suits or tankini styles (midriff covered) for girls and swim trunks for boys.

Formal Dress / Graduation Dress for Young Ladies

Modest formal or evening dresses may be worn to special events.

Formal dresses (slits included) must be no shorter than to the knee.

No cleavage is to be seen.

Dresses should not be too low, too tight, too loose, too transparent, etc.

Open-back dresses, dresses with cut-outs (open or covered with transparent material), strapless / spaghetti strap dresses are not allowed.

Dress shoes or dress sandals may be required (no flip-flops).

Formal Dress / Graduation Dress for Young Men

Students must wear dark dress pants and socks (no khakis) with a button-down shirt & tie.

Dark dress shoes may be required (no flip-flops).

Questionable Formal attire

Girls or Guys wearing attire that do not conform to the guidelines above will be asked to change before being allowed to participate in the occasion. Anyone with an attire that is questionable as to whether it meets these standards is strongly encouraged to meet with the Administration ahead of time. Pre-approval from the Administration of a formal attire can avoid any undue attention or consequences at formal events. *This includes any non-PCS guests that students may invite to the Friendship Banquet.*

Hair Standard

All students are to keep their hair clean, neat, well-groomed, and cut out of their eyes. Extreme hairstyles and unnatural hair color (blue, green, etc.) are not acceptable, unless prior administrative approval is given. Boys should keep their hair cut above their collars and be clean shaven.

Piercings and Body Art

Boys are not permitted to have visible piercings or gauges (gages). Wearing a bandage to cover ear ornamentation is also not allowed. Girls are only allowed to have pierced ears visible. No gauges are permitted. Likewise, visible tattoos or body art is not permitted.

Campus Dress Disciplinary Procedure

If a student comes to school wearing clothes that do not meet the campus dress standards, he/she will be required to leave class and will not be permitted to return until he/she is wearing proper campus dress. If necessary, the student will be required to call home and wait in the office until proper campus dress can be brought to school for him/her. Absences or tardies for each class or partial class missed will accrue for students who must leave class due to campus dress violations.

1st Offense: The student will be sent to the office and may not return to class until in appropriate campus dress. The student will receive a tardy and/or absence(s) depending on how much class time is missed.

2nd Offense: In addition to the natural consequences outlined above for the first offense, the student may be disallowed from wearing certain items of clothing for the remainder of the semester, even if those items are normally approved campus dress. For example, a student may be disallowed from wearing a skirt for the remainder of the semester for a second skirt violation, or a student may be disallowed from wearing a PCS t-shirt on Fridays for a second violation of wearing a non-PCS t-shirt.

3rd Offense: Consequences from step 3 in “Disciplinary Procedures” will be considered.

4th Offense: A fourth offense will be considered a major disciplinary offense as described in “Disciplinary Procedures.”

Academic Information

GradeLink

The internet-based school management system used by PCS is GradeLink. It may be accessed through a link on the school webpage or directly at www.GradeLink.com. Parents and students may access grades, attendance and behavior reports through GradeLink. Because student behavior and attendance will be communicated through GradeLink, it is expected that parents check their email daily OR download the GradeLink app. Alerts are set up to communicate to parents when a student has an issue with grades, attendance, or behavior.

Tests

A student scheduled to take tests (not quizzes) in three or more courses on a single day may go to the school office to request an extension for the test or tests assigned last (as determined by the school office) bringing the total for one day to tests in no more than two subjects. Students must request this extension at least 24 hours prior to the test being delayed. Students are not permitted to request extensions on tests or quizzes because they are not ready to take them (except after an absence due to illness).

Exams

Exams for students in grades 9 - 12 are held at the end of each school year according to a published schedule. Makeup exams will be permitted for sickness, death in the family, or other circumstances pre-approved through the administration’s office. All rescheduled exams must be approved through the administration’s office. Campus dress expectations continue through exam week.

Homework

Homework is an important aspect of the learning process. It is carefully assigned to help the students gain the most out of their classroom time. All homework is expected to be completed on time, thoroughly, and neatly.

In an effort to respect scheduled vacation times, retreats, and SEC camp, homework may not be assigned to be completed during those breaks, and these breaks do not count as part of the time students are given to complete an assignment. However, with approval from administration and in consultation with the parents, students who are significantly behind in a class may be expected to use that time to catch up.

Cheating and Plagiarism

PCS does not tolerate cheating of any form. Since the root issue is one of *integrity*, PCS does not distinguish in consequences between cheating on homework, classwork, formal assessments, papers, projects, exams, etc.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. Plagiarism, regardless of intent, is the presentation of words or ideas of another as one's own. For example:

- A student submits work using the words, sentences, ideas, conclusions, examples and/or organization of an assignment borrowed from a source (e.g. a book, an article, another student's paper, webpage, etc.) without properly acknowledging the source
- A student uses ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence tool in the completion of an assignment.
- A student submits work done by another student, in part or whole, as his or her own work
- A student submits assignments received from commercial firms or any other person or group
- A student knowingly aids another student in plagiarizing an assignment as defined above
- A student knowingly submits the same work for credit in two courses without obtaining permission from the teacher
- A student takes credit for words, works, thoughts or ideas that are not original to them.

Collaboration between students - working together on an assignment leading to a mutual and greater understanding where all parties are actively engaged in the learning process and approximately equal contributors is acceptable *when given permission by the classroom teacher*. Students should take care to understand and follow the expectations of their teachers before collaborating on an assignment. Collaboration that is not approved by the teacher will be considered cheating.

Because PCS takes cheating & plagiarism seriously, any student caught in such offense will be subject to the following consequences.

1st Offense: Student will receive a 0% on any given assignment that was plagiarized or caught cheating on.

2nd Offense: Student will fail the class, and thus be required to take the course again.

3rd Offense: Student will be expelled.

Unexcused/Excused Late Work

Excused late work is any assignment given to a student who has prior approval for an absence or has been called in sick by their parents by 9:00 am. Assignments given during this time are given 1 day per absence to make up work. Example: if a student was out sick for two days, upon his/her return he/she has two days to complete the assignment for full credit. After the permitted time, assignments are subject to the unexcused late work policy.

Unexcused late work is any work that is turned in late either due to an unexcused absence or to simply failing to turn the assignment in on time. Work turned in under these circumstances is subject to a 10% late deduction per day. Assignments turned in after 4 school days are subject to receive 0% in the grade book.

Elementary Grading Scale

A+	97-100	C	73-76.9
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A	93-96.9	C-	70-72.9
A-	90-92.9	D+	67-69.9
B+	87-89.9	D	63-66.9
B	83-86.9	D-	60-62.9
B-	80-82.9	F	0-59.9
C+	77-79.9	I	incomplete

Grades 7-12 Grading Scale

A	93-100	C+	77-79.9
A-	90-92.9	C	73-76.9
B+	87-89.9	C-	70-72.9
B	83-86.9	F	0-69.9
B-	80-82.9	I	incomplete

Teachers may opt to round up a half percent at their discretion.

Students who are unable to complete a course by the end of the grading period due to extenuating circumstances may be given the grade of I – Incomplete. This may only be done after consulting with administration and teachers and after a plan has been made for the student to complete the work. Once all course work is submitted and scored, the student’s final score will reflect the grade earned.

Academic Probation

Academic Probation is no way intended to be punitive in nature. The intent is to provide an opportunity for the student to be able to refocus their attention on their struggling academics which is a high priority for PCS.

Therefore, any student with at least three C’s or one F in any quarter will be placed on academic probation for a minimum of 4 weeks or until the student has demonstrated an improvement of grades. It is in the best interest that students reach out to teachers when on academic probation to resolve the concern. Academic Probation will be lifted by recommendation of administration. Please keep in mind students must maintain a minimum yearly GPA of 2.0 to continue enrollment at PCS.

While on academic probation, the student may not be permitted to serve in any leadership or extra-curricular activities. Examples of these activities are but not limited to: praise band, student council, junior camp counselor in Spiritual Emphasis Camp.

REPEATING A GRADE

A score below the 30th percentile compared to national scores on the Terra Nova testing could be grounds for retaining a 1st-8th grade student. Similarly, a grade of F (or lower) in two of the student's math, reading, and language/writing courses (for 1st-6th grade students) or an F in any two classes (for 7th-8th grade students) could also be considered grounds for retention. The final decision will be made by the pl after consultation with the teacher and consideration of the above criteria. High school students will have to repeat any course for which they receive an average grade of F for the year.

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

PCS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS—23 CREDITS

4 credits	--	<u>English</u> (including American & British Literature)
3 credits	--	<u>Social Studies</u> (World History, US History, ½ credit US Government, ½ credit Economics)
3 credits	--	<u>Math</u> (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 or equivalent)
3 credits	--	<u>Science</u> (Physical Science, Biology, and Chemistry or Physics)
½ credit	--	<u>Health</u>
½ credit	--	<u>Computer Technology</u>
2 credits	--	<u>Foreign Language</u> (2 years of the same language)
1 credit	--	<u>Physical Education</u>
4 credits	--	<u>Bible</u> (this will include 1 credit of Bible for each year in attendance at PCS)
2+ credits	-	<u>Electives</u> (must include one credit of fine arts)

Students who plan to attend university are encouraged to take more than the minimum required credits.

*Students are ultimately responsible to keep track of credits earned to assure that they are on track to graduate. *

Full-time students are expected to be enrolled in five courses each semester with a maximum of two study halls.

Students shall receive one credit for a year-long course and half of a credit for a semester-long course. For courses which last the entire school year, the student must complete the entire course with a passing grade in order to receive credit; no credit will be given for completing only one semester. Exception: Missionary students who have moved to Puebla and transfer to PCS in the middle of the year may receive a half credit for previously completed semesters. PCS reserves the right to deny transfer credit for entering high school students. Courses for which a student may receive transfer credit are expected to be equivalent to PCS courses; students may be required to take an exam to prove proficiency: the administration will make the final determination of equivalence.

Any full-time student 10th grade or younger must take all his courses at PCS (i.e. not through a homeschool or outside institution) without an exception from the board. Juniors and seniors will be allowed to take one elective (i.e. non-core) course each semester outside of PCS and receive transfer credit with pre-approval from the office.

Transfer Credits

Classes taken outside PCS may receive credit upon administrative approval, but do not count toward a student's GPA. Therefore, class rank and valedictorian recognition is only based on PCS classes. The exception is for AP and dual enrollment classes where we do transfer the grades. The valedictorian must have attended PCS for at least two years 9th-12th grades.

In order to receive a diploma at PCS, students must earn at least 25% of their credits at the school and attend their final semester at PCS. Exceptions may be made for missionary students arriving in Puebla for the second semester of their senior year.

Teaching Assistant Policy

PCS permits students who are juniors or seniors to serve teachers as Teaching Assistants, under the following conditions. Credit is given according to the number of times a week they are being a TA

The Intent. The intent of the policy is twofold. First, it is to provide teachers with the kind of help that a high school junior or senior is qualified to give. Second, it is to give more mature students the opportunity to learn a different kind of responsibility, gain a sense of what teaching is like, and make a positive contribution to the PCS community.

Guidelines.

- Either the teacher or the student can initiate a request for the student to serve in this role.
- Examples of ways in which a student can help are with grading, tutoring students in class, photocopying, setting up a computer and projector before class, and so on. Students may not enter grades for a teacher.
- The teacher and the student will draw up a brief contract, specifying in detail the student's role and responsibilities.
- The contract will include a statement about the need for the TA to respect the confidentiality of student grades and other information that the TA may learn about students during the course of the TAship.
- The contract will also specify the amount of credit the student will receive. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the administration.
- The contract must be approved by the administration.
- The administration, teacher and student will sign the contract. Copies of the contract and this policy will be given to the teacher and the student, and a third copy will be placed in the student's file.
- The TA may help a teacher in more than one class during a quarter. However, he or she may not be a TA for more than one teacher in any given quarter.
- A student may not serve as a TA in a class that he or she is currently taking for credit.
- A student may serve as a TA more than once, either for the same teacher or for different teachers at different times. But he or she may not receive more than 2 credits for work as a TA.
- A student on academic or behavioral probation may not serve as a TA.

Adding / Dropping Courses

Students may make schedule changes with no penalty during the first 5 school days of a course. Students may not add new courses after this deadline has passed. If a student drops a course after the drop/add deadline, a grade of "Withdraw Failing" or WF will be given. A WF is factored into a student's GPA as a failing grade and will not receive any Carnegie units for GPA. Adding and/or dropping courses, or changing course level may require the signature of a parent, teacher, and administration.

Courses Outside PCS

While enrolled as a full-time student at PCS, all courses required for graduation must be taken at PCS except in the case of extenuating circumstances and with the approval of the school administration. This includes summer school courses. All classes taken outside of PCS must have prior administrative approval.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Puebla Christian School offers a variety of AP level courses as staffing allows. These courses are weighted one quality point above the CP weighting. Students who drop an AP course during the school year may not receive AP credit for the portion of the class already completed.

PCS families are responsible to pay an AP exam fee for each exam taken. This fee is set by the College Board, the nonprofit organization that oversees the AP exams. Specific information regarding the exam fee can be found on the College Board's website. The AP exam fee(s) will be billed to the student's family. Considering the cost per credit hour for college courses, the fee for an AP exam by a well-prepared student is an excellent investment.

Interpersonal Relationships

PCS desires that every student learn to develop healthy relationships. Students are to show respect to both staff and fellow students in their conversations with and about others. Students will not argue, complain, or whine about what staff asks of them. Public displays of affection (including handholding, inappropriate hugging, kissing, etc.) are not acceptable (2 Timothy 2:22). This expectation is applicable on campus and at all PCS activities. Additionally, students should exercise proper postures and positions while in the presence of others to maintain modesty.

Sexual Immorality

While enrolled at PCS, all students are expected to exhibit purity in their relationships. PCS retains the right to refuse enrollment or expel any student who engages in sexual immorality (1 Corinthians 6:18).

The Bible is clear in its teaching that God created man in His own image, and in this creation, He created male and female (Gen. 1:27; Mt. 19:4). His design from the very beginning was that a man and a woman would be joined together and become one (Gen. 2:24). This expression of marriage is affirmed throughout Scripture and leaves no room for same-sex unions nor sexual expressions of intimacy outside of marriage or between those of the same sex. Therefore, we hold that marriage is between one biological man and one biological woman. The idea that those of the same sex can marry is contrary to Scripture and unacceptable. Based on this, PCS prohibits and retains the right to refuse enrollment or expel any student who engages in any form of homosexual or bisexual behavior, as well as any public expression of support for such behavior or same-sex marriage. Any sexual contact or intimacy with a person of one's same biological gender is homosexual conduct, regardless of one's "gender identity."

Gender Identity

As stated above, God created male and female when He created mankind. There is growing concern and discussion regarding gender identity. Some individuals believe they are trapped in the bodies of the opposite gender (i.e., a person with a male body feels that he is a female). Some have had sex-change operations to deal with this disconnect. We believe that God's design in creation is clear and that seeking to change one's gender identity through surgery or any other means is prohibited, as well as any form of transgender expression, such as cross-dressing. Those associated with PCS should not publicly advocate for any type of transgender expression and PCS retains the right to refuse enrollment or expel any student who engages in such behavior.

Harassment and Bullying Policy

PCS protects the right of every student to have an environment that respects human dignity. Harassment of students is contrary to Scripture, morally wrong, and illegal. PCS expressly forbids sexual harassment (opposite sex or same sex) or any threatening and offensive conduct or expressions with respect to gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, disability, or age.

Harassment can include a pattern of remarks, gestures, jokes, physical contact, teasing, excessive attention, bullying, picture(s), or written material that a person finds personally threatening, derogatory, offensive, or unwanted. Sometimes individuals responsible for these actions may not know that they are offensive. Students feeling harassed should tell the person harassing that he/she is being offensive as well as notify a teacher or administrator.

Bullying is “unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time.” Bullies “use their power - such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity - to control or harm others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.” Bullying can be verbal, social, or physical, and can occur on or off campus, during or after school hours, and online or in person. “Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose,” actions that a reasonable person would consider inappropriate. (Definition and information from www.stopbullying.gov)

Any student initiating or persisting in any form of harassment (including bullying) - verbal, physical, or visual - is subject to immediate discipline by the administration.

If a student finds the environment hostile or offensive, if a student believes he/she has been harassed or bullied by another student or individual, or if a student knows another person who has been harassed or bullied, the student should promptly tell a teacher or administrator. Expressing disagreement with or disapproval of another’s actions, decisions, or lifestyle choice is not bullying/harassment. All reports will be promptly reviewed and investigated in as confidential a manner as circumstances permit, and appropriate action will be taken. If a student is dissatisfied with the investigation or action taken, the student should bring the matter directly to the administration.

Child Safety Policy

PCS places a high value on children and strives to provide a safe learning environment. The school is committed to protecting the social, spiritual, moral, emotional, physical and mental health of students and to maintaining an environment in which all individuals treat each other with dignity and respect.

The Child Safety Policy, which is available on the school’s website (www.pueblachristianschool.org), outlines in further detail the school’s safety guidelines and how to report concerns. Any member of the school community (parents, students, and teachers/staff members) should report concerns, observations, and disclosures related to student safety to the Child Safety Team as soon as possible. Reports may be given to the Child Safety Team verbally, in writing, or through pcschildsafetyteam@gmail.com.

The Child Safety Team is a small group of school staff appointed by the principal or school board whose role is to oversee the policies and procedures that will result in a safe campus environment. The Child Safety Team will take action to prevent and correct any violations of the policy and will respond to all allegations of harassment or abuse.

Parents, staff, and students will all be asked to read and sign their respective code of conduct relating to the Child Safety Policy.

Social Events

A variety of social events occur throughout the year. These events provide fellowship among the PCS family and serve to encourage and challenge students in their spiritual walks while helping to develop school spirit and build lasting friendships.

Dancing

Modest dancing is allowed at some school functions and is monitored by faculty and parent chaperones. The song list for dancing at school functions must be pre-approved by administration before the event, and deviation from the approved song list is not allowed. Explicit songs in any genre (whether the explicit or “clean” version), or any songs that promote inappropriate dancing, are not allowed. Inappropriate behavior at a dance will result in students being asked to leave, and applicable disciplinary procedures followed.

Extracurricular Trips

PCS students have long enjoyed the weekend trips put on by the school. These trips, however, cannot happen without the support of parents and PCS family, for transportation help, chaperones, etc. Students who are on behavioral probation will not be permitted to attend weekend trips. The PCS administration will require that sufficient transportation and chaperone staff is arranged at least two weeks prior to any trip, or will be forced to cancel the trip. PCS can only use school vehicles, vehicles driven by their owners, or vehicles covered by a rental agreement.

Media Standards

Media that is not consistent with Christian living is not permitted on campus. Appropriateness of any media item is determined solely by faculty and administrative discretion.

Movie Guidelines

PG-13 and R-rated movies are not permitted on campus or at any PCS-sponsored activity unless approved by the administration. PCS students are not permitted to view movies rated NC-17, X, or D, or TV shows rated TV-MA.

Music Guidelines

Music with inappropriate lyrics or themes is not permitted on campus or at school events.

Lunch

Lunch is not provided by the school, with the exception of Wednesdays, (*see below*). Therefore, students will need to pack their own lunch and fruit break snacks (*for grades 1-6*).

Students may not go into the teacher’s kitchen/lounge and use silverware, plates, napkins etc. If students need silverware, they may purchase forks/spoons in the office for \$1 each.

Parents of students in grades 9-12 may sign a waiver to allow their student to take advantage of going out for lunch unsupervised with the condition that students are still expected to behave and be in their next class either early or on time. Because this is a privilege, students must understand that abusing the privilege could cause them to lose this privilege for the rest of the semester. New waivers will need to be signed in order for the privilege to be reinstated for the following semester.

Wednesdays are special days as the juniors & seniors offer lunches as a part of their fundraising efforts. On these days students may not leave campus for lunch.

Technology Policy

Except in certain online classes, laptops, tablets, personal computers, cell phones, and other such devices are generally not allowed. Teachers may, at their own discretion, choose to allow devices in the classroom for specific educational purposes as they deem necessary.

Earbuds/headphones may only be used for educational purposes and may only be present in classrooms at the request of the teacher. Students in study hall may listen to music from a pre-approved playlist.

Cell phones, specifically, are not permitted in classrooms, unless at the specific request of the teacher. Students must **power off** their cell phones upon arrival to PCS and may not turn them back on until they are ready to leave the school grounds. During the day, cell phones may be stored in student lockers or backpacks, but may not be kept on their person. This expectation also applies to smart watches.

Students who do not conform to Puebla Christian School's cell phone policy may expect the following consequences:

1st & 2nd Offense: The teacher will confiscate the student's cell phone, document the offense in GradeLink, and give the phone to administration. The student's parent can retrieve the phone from the office after the end of the school day, after paying a \$250 (1st offense) / \$300 (2nd offense) MXN fine. The student will be required to turn in the cell phone the next school day when he/she arrives at school and can pick it up at the end of the day.

3rd Offense: The teacher will confiscate the student's cell phone, document the offense in GradeLink, and give the phone to administration. A parent/guardian of the student will be contacted and can retrieve the phone from administration after the end of the school day, paying a \$400 MXN fine. The student will receive a Saturday detention and will not be allowed to bring a cell phone onto campus until administration permits.

4th Offense: After paying a \$500 MXN fine, a parent/guardian may retrieve the phone from the office. A fourth offense will be considered a major disciplinary offense as described in step 4 in "Disciplinary Procedures," and the student should expect, at minimum, an in-school suspension.

Teachers may confiscate a student device and turn it into the office in the following situations:

- The teacher suspects the student is in violation of the Computer & Internet Acceptable Use Policy.
- The device makes any sound. Students should *power off* their device at the start of the school day.

See the addendum for more information on the technology policy.

Care of Property

All students, faculty, and staff are stewards of the property of PCS and are responsible for its care. Willful damage to school property or to the property of another student will result in disciplinary action, and the cost of repairing the damage due to willful acts will be charged to the student(s) at fault. Students will be assessed replacement costs for lost or damaged school books.

Food and drink should only be taken into approved and designated areas. Food in the classroom should be reserved for special occasions only. Because it is damaging to property and often a distraction, students should not have gum at school.

Lockers/Bookbags

Every student in grades 7 - 12 is assigned a locker. Students are responsible for their personal items. While items left in the lockers are generally secure, students are advised not to leave expensive or valued personal items there. Items that might damage the lockers and textbooks, such as food & drink, should not be stored long-term in the lockers.

Bookbags may not be stored in the hall, as they become a tripping hazard. Students are expected to store their bookbags in their lockers.

Locker and Book Bag Decoration

Anything decorating a locker should not damage the locker or paint surface when it is removed. Lockers and book bags may not include any advertisement or promotion of tobacco, alcohol, illegal substances, non-Christian musical groups, crude images, slogans, or symbols with ungodly or double meanings.

Lockers remain property of PCS and may be searched if warranted.

Library

PCS encourages students to check out books for pleasure and coursework. *“Checking out library materials properly and returning them promptly...”* Students are responsible to replace any damaged or lost items checked out in their name. The library charges a fine of \$1 MXN per day. Additionally, the librarian will not sign the end-of-the-year check-out sheet if a student has outstanding materials.

Safety & Security Considerations

Any student group meeting at PCS must have an adult supervising for the entire time. Adult supervisors may not leave until the last student has left campus. This includes senior events.

Medication

Students may not have medication in their possession at school except their own Epi-Pens, insulin, or rescue inhalers, unless approved by the administration. All other medication(s) must be dispensed by the office.

All medication dispensed at school must be in the *original* container. Prescription medication must be in a current, completely-labeled (date, pharmacy, physician, student, medication, full dosing instructions) prescription container. Over-the-counter medication must be in clearly labeled original packaging.

Conferences and Addressing Problems

Parents are encouraged to communicate directly with their child’s teachers, and email or phone is often an efficient way to do this. Parents who would like to arrange a conference with a teacher should make arrangements in advance. During school hours, teachers need their full attention directed toward their students. Please do not drop by class during school hours to talk with your child’s teacher(s).

When questions or problems arise, in keeping with the principle outlined in Matthew 18, please make arrangements to speak first with the teacher or responsible party. Please refrain from talking to other students, parents, or families about a problem; it can easily become divisive and destructive. If a problem persists after speaking to the responsible party, please make an appointment to speak with the administration, with the teacher or responsible party present.

Communication

Regular forms of communication include emails, Gradelink, and the PCS WhatsApp group. Parents are always welcome to call or email a teacher when necessary; however, parents who would like a conference with a teacher are asked to make arrangements in advance. During school hours, teachers need their full attention directed toward their students. Please do not drop by the class during school hours to talk with the teachers.

School Closings

In the case that school needs to close unexpectedly, families will be notified via e-mail and WhatsApp.

Admission

To enter the first grade, a student must be six years old by December 31 of that year. The School Board, in consultation with the staff and administration and taking into consideration entry test results, will determine acceptance of the child. The administration reserves the right to place a student in the class best suited to his/her needs. Since all work is done in English, a child must be able to speak English well. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis for children of missionaries. An application form and a health form must be filled out for each child.

Finances

Parents are responsible for all material needs of their children. All monthly tuition payments are due by the 10th of each month and are delinquent after the 10th of each month. All fees are to be paid in US dollars or their current equivalent in pesos.

If an account is unpaid by the 15th of the month, a \$20 US late fee will be applied. If the account is still not paid by the 10th of the following month, the children will be dismissed from school until the bill is paid. All absences will be unexcused. The children may be reinstated when the delinquent bill is paid in full.

A registration fee equal to one and a half month's tuition for the following school year is due by the last day of school. Failure to pay the registration or to make arrangements for payment by the last day of school will result in a \$50 USD per child late fee. For incoming families who do not pay by the last day of school, the late fee will be \$20 USD per child. If a special order for the student's materials needs to be made and the cost exceeds the amount the family pays in late fees, the difference will be covered by the family.

Students who intend to receive a PCS diploma or are taking at least five classes are considered full time for tuition purposes. A student who takes less than five classes pays a prorated tuition rate as a percentage of five classes. For example, if a student takes four classes, his tuition is 80% of full time.

Appendix - Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Puebla Christian School provides access to its computers, networks and Internet as a supplement to the school curriculum and to augment learning opportunities for students and faculty. Due to the uncontrollable nature of content published on the Internet, schools need to establish reasonable controls for proper, efficient, and safe use of this technology.

As a reminder, use of computers, networks, and Internet is a privilege, not a right. As such, students and faculty will be required to comply with this policy in whole. Those in violation of this policy may have their computer privileges revoked and may also be subject to further disciplinary action.

Puebla Christian School maintains control and supervision of all its computers, networks and Internet. Puebla Christian School reserves the right to monitor all computer and Internet activity by students and faculty. Students and faculty have no expectation of privacy in their use of school computers and Internet.

The Puebla Christian School computer systems network and its entire infrastructure has been established for educational purposes to augment learning and career development. Students will apply the standards of academic honesty to any and all research using Internet sources. Any materials (text, graphics, videos, etc.) from outside sources must be given proper credit and documentation.

Before a student or faculty member is permitted to use school computers and/or Internet services a signed copy of the "Computer/Internet Access Acknowledgement" form must be signed and returned to the school administration. A copy of this Acknowledgement will be kept on file by the school.

General Rules

1. **Computer and Internet Use is Not a Right – it is a Privilege:** All students and faculty will be held accountable for any and all activity and usage under their individual accounts. Any inappropriate use/activity may result in the revocation and or suspension of their privilege and may be subject to further disciplinary action.
2. **Limitation of Liability:** Students, parents, and faculty shall understand that use of the Internet is at their own risk. Puebla Christian School cannot assume responsibility for the reliability of the content and/or information found online. Students must evaluate and cite references appropriately.
3. **Acceptable Use:** Access to school computers and Internet has been granted for educational purposes such as research and papers related to the educational mission of classes and the curriculum.
4. **Prohibited Use:** In today's technology world it is impossible to completely define all prohibited uses of computer networks and Internet. In general, anything that goes against the mission of- Puebla Christian School will be considered prohibited. This list is not a complete list and only highlights some possible prohibited uses.
 - a. **Access of Inappropriate Materials:** Access of (viewing, posting, scanning, etc.) materials which are defamatory, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit or suggestive, threatening, discriminatory, harassing and/or illegal.
 - b. **Illegal Activities:** Use of computers, networks, and Internet for any illegal activity contrary to the policies and vision of Puebla Christian School.
 - c. **Violation of Copyrights and Plagiarism:** Copying or downloading copyrighted materials without explicit permission of the owner/author or proper citing.
 - d. **Software:** Installation or copying of any software without explicit permission of the Technology and Technology Coordinator.
 - e. **NonSchool Related Use:** Use of school computers, networks and/or Internet for purposes not related to school work (such as, but not limited to, social media sites like Facebook, private financial

gain, video and music streaming, Bit Torrents, etc.) *Faculty are permitted to use social media tools to communicate with supporters.*

f. **Unauthorized Access:** Sharing of passwords and/ or access to other user accounts with – or without permission of said user.

g. **Malicious Use/ Vandalism/ Pranking:** Any sort of activity causing damage, disruption, or harm to the school's computers, networks and/or Internet (such as, but not limited to, hacking, creation and/or distribution of viruses, tampering with computer cable connections, etc.)

5. **Compensation for Losses, Costs, and/or Damages:** A student or their family/guardian shall be responsible for compensating the school for any losses, charges, and or damages incurred by the school related to violations of this policy and/or other rules including investigation of violations.

6. **Student Security & Privacy:** Students or faculty will not divulge personal or private information (name, address, age, gender, phone number, etc.) of any kind by way of online posts or email. High school students will be granted permission to post information necessary for career and college information and/or admissions to postsecondary education institutions only. Students will not agree to meet with individuals they have met online. Any messages received which makes a student feel threatened or uncomfortable will be reported to a teacher or administrator immediately. Private conversations will not be reposted, forwarded, or in any way published without the permission of all involved parties.

7. **System Security:** Puebla Christian School makes every effort it can afford to protect the integrity of the computers, networks, and Internet. Should a student discover or identify a security problem they will notify a teacher or the Technology Coordinator immediately. They will not demonstrate the defect to others. Any student who attempts to breach the security or filter system will have their privileges revoked and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

8. **No Responsibility for Unauthorized Charges, Costs, or Illegal Use:** Puebla Christian School does not assume any responsibility for unauthorized charges, losses, or costs made by or resulting from activities of students (such as, but not limited to, long distance phone charges, credit card charges, sharing account passwords and or fees or fines resulting from illegal actions like copyright violations.) These will be the responsibility of the student and family.

9. **No Expectation of Privacy:** Puebla Christian School reserves the right to safeguard its computers, networks and Internet. As such, the school reserves the right to monitor data (including stored files, email, Internet traffic, etc.)

10. **Parental Permission Required:** Students and their parent/guardian are required to read and sign the Computer/Internet Access Acknowledgement Form before being granted access to Puebla Christian School computers, networks and Internet.

Discipline Actions for Inappropriate or Prohibited Use

Actions have consequences. Puebla Christian School will cooperate, as necessary, with local government officials in investigations related to illegal activities conducted through the school's computers, networks, and Internet.

The Administration of Puebla Christian School will consider the severity of each violation and prayerfully determine an appropriate consequence. Consequences as follows, however, may be modified at the discretion of the administration:

- 1st Offense: student will receive a 5 day suspension of computer, network, and Internet privileges. The Administration will contact the parent/guardian outlining the violation.

- 2nd Offense: student will receive a 10 day suspension of computer, network, and Internet privileges. The Administration will contact the parent/guardian outlining the violation. Student will receive one after school detention.
- 3rd Offense: student will receive a 15 day suspension of computer, network, and Internet privileges. The Administration will contact the parent/guardian outlining the violation. Student will receive a one day out of school suspension.

Personal Computers & Other Personal Computing/Electronic Devices

Personal devices (laptops, tablets, phones, etc.) are only to be used to enhance and/ or augment student education. Puebla Christian School cannot accept any responsibility for personal devices brought on campus. Students and Faculty will assume full responsibility for their devices. Appropriate precautions should be taken to safeguard personal property.

Elementary Students

For elementary students (Kinder - 6th grade) no personal computing devices are permitted during school hours. School hours are defined as 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Secondary Students

Middle and High School students are permitted one (1) personal computing device. Before a student may use their device in a classroom they must first obtain permission from that teacher.

Personal devices may only be used during class times and after school. The student must power off and put away their device unless approved by a teacher. Personal devices may not be used during lunch. Personal devices must be secured either in the student's backpack or locker when not in use. Unattended devices will be confiscated and turned into the Office.

3rd Party Internet

No Use of 3 party Internet services (Hotspots) by students, during school hours.

After reviewing the "Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Policy" please read the policy, have each student and a parent sign this "Computer and Internet Access Agreement" and return the last page to the Home Room Teacher or school office. Students usage of computers will NOT be available until the form is signed and returned.

PARENT'S NAME
(Grade Level)

PARENT'S Signature

(Date)

After reviewing the "Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Policy" please sign this faculty "Computer and Internet Access Agreement" and return to the Director's Office.

Computer Usage Contract – Parent (Guardian) Section

As a parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I have read the Puebla Christian School "Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Policy" and grant permission for my student to use the computer and access the Internet. I understand that the school's computing resources are designed for educational purposes. I also understand that there is unacceptable and controversial material on the Internet that might be accessed despite all precautions. I understand that my student will be held liable for violations of this policy, and that the family will be charged for damages and/ or repairs resulting from violations of this contract.

(Name Printed)

(Signature)

(Date)