

Pittsburgh Pioneer

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Parent Hotline: 412.622.7920 | www.pps.k12.pa.us

welcome!

Welcome to Pittsburgh Pioneer

Pittsburgh Pioneer Education Center has been serving the students of Pittsburgh Public Schools for over 45 years. Pittsburgh Pioneer is located in the south community of Pittsburgh, Brookline.

Pittsburgh Pioneer Education Center provides a range of services to students who have physical disabilities, multiple disabilities and medical disabilities. The students' IEP (Individualized Education Program Plan) team determines the type and level of services needed for the student to make progress in their skill development. Students receive a range of services including cognitive, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech/ language communications, prevocational workshop, art, music, physical education, community-based instruction (CBI) and ADL (Activities of Daily Living).

Students at Pittsburgh Pioneer participate in a comprehensive developmental program in which best practices and state-of-the-art adaptive equipment and curricular materials are utilized.

Students range in age from 5 to 21 years of age and are grouped into one of two departments, multiple disabilities support (MDS) or physical support (PS) by age. There are MDS classrooms and PS classrooms, each with a certified special education professional teacher and paraprofessional support. Students who have support services for hearing and vision are provided services from itinerant professionals. On site, Pittsburgh Pioneer has a full-service therapy department consisting of speech/language communication, occupational therapy and physical therapy.

Additionally, students have the opportunity for development of skills in the areas of sensory integration through a multi-disciplinary approach and transition planning for post-secondary programs.

Pittsburgh Pioneer Education Center strives to meet the needs of the whole child and address all of the child's cognitive, therapy, social and medical needs on-site. To further that commitment, we have

a full-time nurse to meet any medical needs the student may have. Pittsburgh Pioneer also has a wheelchair and orthotics clinic which is available to our families.

Pittsburgh Pioneer welcomes visitors. Please call the school with any questions.

Dr. Sylbia Kunst, Principal

OUR PROGRAM

Pittsburgh Pioneer Education Center services students from Pittsburgh Public School and other districts whose IEPs require a more comprehensive educational environment than available in their regular school.

Pittsburgh Pioneer offers an intensive program driven by the students' IEP in the following areas: cognitive, augmentative communications, speech & language, occupational therapy, physical therapy, hearing, vision, art, music, adapted physical education, pre-vocational workshop, CBI (Community-Based Instruction) and ADL (Activities of Daily Living). Monthly wheelchair and orthotics clinics along with a full range of medical services from medication supervision, therapeutic feeding, catheter maintenance and comprehensive skin care are also on-site. Students receive instruction from a therapy team on issues of feeding, toileting and sensory intervention.

As part of our adapted physical education program, the use of adapted bikes provides students with the opportunity to learn at their individual levels.

Pittsburgh Pioneer is committed to the needs of Pioneer students' families as well. We closely work with the appropriate outside agencies to provide family support for all including information about insurance, medical treatment, housing (including accessibility of the student's home) to securing post-secondary placement.

During the school year, students have audited classes at Pittsburgh South Brook and Pittsburgh West Liberty and have enjoyed interacting with their typical peers.

Students from Seton LaSalle High School visit at Halloween to trick or treat with Pioneer students and to participate in a variety of sports activities designed for cooperation between the Seton buddies and Pioneer students.

In addition, Pioneer students are engaged in a variety of community-based settings such as ACHIEVA and Life's Work. Our students work at these sites preparing to enter the world of work at some appropriate level. Other students are in the community to reinforce their IEP goals and transfer skills beyond the classroom.

At Pittsburgh Pioneer our mission is to enable each student to discover, recognize and develop academically, physically, socially, communicatively to be as independent as possible.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

Bell Schedule

Bell schedules were not available at the time these materials were printed. Please visit our website at www.pps.k12.pa.us or contact our Parent Hotline at 412.622.7920 for the bell schedule for your child's school.

community Resource Guide

Attending a Pittsburgh Public School has many advantages. In addition to the education and guidance that your child will receive while in school, there are also many resources available to you and your family. In coordination with 3 Rivers Connect, the Pittsburgh Public Schools created a general listing of services and activities city-wide that you may find helpful. The following page highlights organizations in three categories, including Family Resources, Children's Services and Cultural Organizations.

We hope that this guide will help you become more familiar with all of the opportunities available in Pittsburgh, and that you find activities that you and your family can use and enjoy as part of the Pittsburgh Public Schools' community.



**Pittsburgh
Public Schools**

EXCELLENCE
FOR ALL

FAMILY RESOURCES

Allegheny County Respite Care Coalition (ACRCC) 1.800.876.7607

ACRCC is a collaborative network of families, providers, community members and advocates who work to ensure the availability of quality respite care.
www.acrcc.org

Allegheny Family Network (AFN) 1.888.273.2361

Supports and partners with families raising children with emotional and mental health needs to improve their quality of life.
www.alleghenyfamilynetwork.cfsites.org

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh 412.622.3114

The Carnegie Library has multiple branch locations offering special services such as job/career and educational centers.
www.clpgh.org

Child Care Information Services – CCIS of Allegheny County – City 412.255.1281 or 1.800.392.3131

CCIS serves as a primary resource to assist families with child care referrals, emergency childcare, subsidized care for qualifying families, and promotes quality child care by offering training in subjects such as early literacy.
www.dpw.state.pa.us/ServicesPrograms/ChildCareEarlyEd/003670483.htm

Children's Health Insurance Program – CHIP 1.800.986.KIDS

Pennsylvania's program to provide health insurance to all uninsured children and teens who are not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance.
www.chipcoverspakids.com

Humanservices.net

HS.net is a community resource directory of social services programs.
www.humanservices.net

The Mentoring Partnership of Southwestern Pennsylvania 412.281.2535

Helps mentoring programs by providing training, recruiting, quality assistance, and support to increase the number of mentors in the community.
www.mentoringpittsburgh.org

Parent Education & Advocacy Leadership (PEAL) Center 412.281.4404

The PEAL Center is an organization of parents of children with disabilities reaching out to assist other parents and professionals.
www.pealcenter.org

Pittsburgh Public Schools 412.622.7920 (Parent Hotline)

The Pittsburgh Public Schools believes in regular, two-way, meaningful communication connecting student academic learning and other school activities; to this end the Parent Hotline is one of a number of resources to assist parents and families in engagement.
www.pps.k12.pa.us

Southwestern PA Afterschool Resource Collaborative (SPARC) 412.392.1006

SPARC provides information about out of school time programs throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania.
www.SwpaAfterschool.org

United Way of Allegheny County 412.255.1155 (HelpLine)

United Way of Allegheny County provides information to families through their online resource Help Connections; agency funding, planning, and community problem solving for health and human services agencies operating within Allegheny County.
www.unitedwaypittsburgh.org

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Achieva 412.995.5000

A world-renowned leader in the field of disabilities, known for its innovative programs, and dedication to children with disabilities and their families.
www.achieva.info

Alliance for Infants and Toddlers 412.885.6000

This program provides service coordination, screenings, assessments, family support services, and early intervention service coordination to families with children between the ages of birth to three years of age.
www.afit.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh 412.363.6100 or 1.877.937.2447

Big Brothers Big Sisters increases the self-confidence of children and the probability that they will become fully integrated members of society, leading productive and rewarding lives through mentoring and enrichment programs.
www.bbbpittsburgh.org

Beverly Jewel Wall Lovelace (BJWL) - Family Resource Centers 412.363.1702

Family Resources offers many services to help parents and children improve their relationship along with youth enrichment activities at its centers.
www.familyresourcesofpa.org

Boys and Girls Clubs 412.782.5710

The BGC is a unique organization consisting of 8 Club facilities, a Charter H.S., Outlet Connection retail venture, Campfire USA, and extension programs. Our goal is to provide every child with the essential tools needed for a successful & bright future.
www.bgcwpa.org

Catholic Charities, Child Care Support Services 412.456.6985

Catholic Charities provides counseling, refugee resettlement, respite care, utility assistance, emergency relief, tangible assistance services and makes referrals for clients. In 2007 it expanded services by opening a Free Health Care Center.
www.ccpgh.org

Children's Institute 412.420.2400

The Children's Institute is a nonprofit pediatric rehabilitation facility which provides education services for children ages two to 21 with cognitive or physical disabilities with in-home services for children and families with special needs.
www.amazingkids.org

Girl Scouts – Trillium Council 412.566.2570 or 1.800.248.3355

The Girl Scouts inspires girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens.
www.gswpa.org

Greater Pittsburgh Council Boy Scouts of America 412.325.7940

The Boy Scouts trains young people in citizenship, service, and physical fitness through the Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing programs, & more.
www.gpc-bsa.org

Junior Achievement of Southwest PA Inc. 1.800.522.6957

JA's purpose is to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise and understand business & economics to improve the quality of their lives.
www.pittsburgh.ja.org

Parental Stress Center 412.361.4800

The Parental Stress Center provides comprehensive services for abused and neglected children and their families.
www.pscfamily.net

Parks and Recreation 412.255.2539

Parks and Recreation offers a wide variety of recreational programs and facilities for use by the citizens of Pittsburgh.
www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/parks/html/citiparks_events.html

Pittsburgh Toy Lending Library 412.682.4430

The Pittsburgh Toy Lending Library, a cooperative run by volunteers, is an indoor play-space for children, birth through kindergarten, and their caregivers.
www.pghtoys.com

Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh 412.227.4802

The Urban League is the largest social and educational service provider and advocacy agency devoted to empowering African Americans to enter the economic and social mainstream community in Pittsburgh through its diverse programs.
www.ulpgh.org

YMCA 412.227.6457

YMCAs serve America's children, families and communities by "building healthy spirit, mind and body for all."
www.ymcaofpittsburgh.org

YouthPlaces 412.434.0851

YouthPlaces promotes the positive cognitive, social, physical, emotional and moral development of youth by providing a safe place for them to engage in a range of activities.
www.youthplaces.org

YouthWorks Inc. 412.281.6629

YouthWorks builds a community solution to help young people whose potential might be overlooked to pursue employment and career development opportunities.
www.youthworksinc.org

YWCA Greater Pittsburgh 412.391.5100

YWCA works to improve our community by increasing the status of women, girls, families and advancing racial justice by tackling homelessness, childcare needs, unemployment, fair housing and civil rights issues.
www.ywcaphg.org

CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh: Natural History & Art 412.622.3131; **Science Center** 412.237.3400; **Andy Warhol** 412.237.8300

Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh has a fascinating history dating back 111 years. But the story of who they are today—a collection of four dynamic, distinctive museums, and the Pittsburgh region's home for great art and science exploration—is the real page turner.
www.carnegiemuseums.org

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh 412.322.5058

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh provides innovative museum experiences that inspire joy, creativity and curiosity.
www.pittsburghkids.org

Fort Pitt Museum 412.281.9284

Through exhibits and programs, the museum addresses the important role of Fort Pitt during the American Revolution and the early development of the city of Pittsburgh.
www.fortpittmuseum.com

The History Center 412.454.6000

The Senator John Heinz History Center is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in the state of Pennsylvania.
www.pghhistory.org

National Aviary 412.323.723

The National Aviary is America's only independent indoor nonprofit bird zoo. It is home to 600+ birds of more than 200 species.
www.aviary.org

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens 412.622.6914

Encounter the wonders of the natural world. Tour through the jewel-like Conservatory and visit exotic lands and ancient worlds with vivid colors, natural oddities, and surprises around every corner of the botanical gardens.
www.phipps.conservatory.org

Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium 412.665.3640 or 1.800.474.4966

The Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium is a 77-acre facility that is home to thousands of animals representing hundreds of diverse species. It is one of only six major zoo and aquarium combinations in the country.
www.pittsburghzoo.org

