

Pittsburgh Student Achievement Center

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welcome!

For over 30 years, Letsche Alternative Education Center has served the needs of students who have not found academic success in the traditional comprehensive school environment. Our school community recognizes that our mission to educate all students to high standards in a safe and caring environment cannot be accomplished alone. We know that strong families and strong communities are essential elements to academic and life success. In August 2004, the Options Center and Letsche Alternative combined to form one program serving students in grades 6-12. Our school is now known as Pittsburgh Student Achievement Center.

This handbook contains information about school programs and policies in effect at the time of publication. While every attempt has been made

to make this handbook as complete as possible,

it is not all inclusive. Situations not described in this handbook will obviously occur. As in any organization, practices and policies are subject to change over time. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with your questions and concerns.

Mr. Dalhart Dobbs, School Principal

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

Bell Schedule

School starts at 7:40 a.m. and dismissal is at 2:03 p.m. Students who wish to participate in the school breakfast program should arrive at school before 7:25 a.m. if they are eating breakfast.

Student Attendance

Students are expected to attend school every day. We strongly believe that daily school attendance is absolutely essential for academic success. We also recognize that absence from school is a primary cause of school failure. The Pittsburgh Student Achievement Center (hereinafter referred to as

SAC) conforms to the Attendance Policy of the School District of Pittsburgh. A complete copy of this policy is available upon request. Students who have more than six illegal absences will receive a failing grade for the report period and will not be able to make up assignments.

In the case of unavoidable absence due to illness or other legal reasons, the student must bring a handwritten excuse signed by a parent or guardian and give it to his or her homeroom teacher within three days of the date of absence. This note should state the reason for the absence and specify the dates on which the absence occurred. Subject teachers will permit students to make up missed assignments when presented with an excused absence slip.

Monthly Bus Passes and Attendance

Students who are eligible for transportation (must live two or more miles from the school) are normally provided with a monthly Port Authority bus pass. If an eligible student is absent from school four or more days in a calendar month for any reason, they will be provided with transportation in the form of bus tickets for the following month. This is done to encourage regular school attendance. Students who are frequently tardy to school may be placed on bus tickets until there is a noticeable decrease in their tardiness.

Early Dismissals

Students are encouraged to make appointments for needed services after school hours. Students requesting an early dismissal must bring a note signed by a parent or guardian to the main office upon arrival at school but no later than 9:15 a.m. on the same date as the requested early dismissal.

This note must contain a telephone number where the parent or guardian can be reached. No student will be dismissed from school without confirmation by the Main Office staff.

Tardiness

Students are expected to arrive at school at their scheduled time. Students who are late are expected

to bring a note explaining the reason for their tardiness. Students will not be admitted to school if they arrive more than 1 hour after their designated starting time unless they have a note signed by a medical, legal, or other professional indicating an appointment before arrival to school. Students are expected to be in each classroom prior to the late bell.

Corridor Passes

No student shall be dismissed from class without a corridor pass. Homeroom period and last period are closed periods. Students shall not be dismissed from any class except in the case of a clear emergency. Corridor passes will not be issued during the first 10 minutes and the last 10 minutes of each class.

School Grounds

Students must remain on school grounds at all times during the school day. Students may not leave the school grounds.

Food and Drinks

Food and drinks are not permitted in classrooms, computer labs, gym, or library and should not be brought into the school. Packed lunches must be labeled with name and homeroom and include non-refrigerated items. Ordering food from restaurants for delivery to the SAC is not permitted at any time during the school day.

School Dress Code

Students must dress appropriately for school. The following constitute inappropriate dress, and may not be worn in school:

- Clothing that is too revealing (skirts/shorts no shorter 4 inches above the top of the knee, backless tops, attire that exposes the belly etc.), and RIP shirts;
- Clothing which bear messages that relate to gang affiliation;
- Clothing which bear messages that advocate violence;
- Clothing which bear messages that promote the use or abuse of alcohol or drugs; and/or
- Clothing which bear messages that have sexual content.

Students (male and female) may not wear hats, scarves, headbands, hoods or other headgear anywhere in the building. Lockers are provided for student use.

School Lockers

Lockers are provided for the student's convenience and are school property. It should be understood that they may be inspected by school officials whenever there is a reasonable cause to do so.

Only school locks are permitted on lockers. Any student who loses his or her lock is subject to a \$5.00 replacement fee.

Electronic Devices and Telephones

Upon entering the SAC all students will turn in all cell phones, MP3 players, IPODS, and any other communication/entertainment devices to the staff at the main entrance. The devices will be stored in a secured, locked cabinet until dismissal or when the student leaves the building.

Any student who fails to turn in the above devices upon school entry and is found to be in possession or use of one of the above devices will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including out of school suspension.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The SAC serves selected students from all Middle and High schools in the Pittsburgh Public School District. Students are drawn from all communities within the city of Pittsburgh to participate in the unique educational experience offered at this site.

The school is mandated to serve students who meet acceptance criteria through specialized programs: the Credit Recovery Program, 12th Grade Special Program, Panel Review Program, Transition Program, Middle Alternative Program, 8th Grade Over-age Program, Homebound Program and the Saturday Detention Program and home schooling programs.

The high school programs provide students with an opportunity to receive an education and earn a high school diploma in a setting and organizational structure different from that of the traditional comprehensive secondary school. All programs of study prepare the student for graduation, continuing education, and participation in the work place. The school operates on a flexible basis with small student/teacher and student/counselor ratios. This environment provides extensive opportunities for individualized study and counseling. A full range of social services is available to the student body.

Personalized and flexible scheduling can accommodate working hours and emergency situations. An extensive work-experience program is an integral part of the curriculum, and is available to those students who wish to earn credits through work experience and earn money while enrolled in Career Development courses.

A variety of programs are offered at the SAC for those students who were underachievers in the comprehensive school program. School studies will prepare students for college entrance as well as for entrance into post-secondary vocational training and full-time employment.

The Credit Recovery Program

The Credit Recovery Program is composed of high school students who voluntarily apply to transfer to the SAC to make up credits from previously failed high school courses. Students must have the potential to meet graduation requirements before age 21.

Students are accepted for admission based on an evaluation of their academic needs. Generally, students with at least one year's worth of high school make-up credits can benefit from the program. Previously failed courses may be made up at an accelerated rate. First-time ninth grade students are not considered for admission under the Credit Recovery Program. Both new and make-up courses are scheduled in a unique, personalized educational plan, tailored to fit the needs and interests of each high school student. This personalized program is composed of courses available during the school day and educational opportunities away from the school site. These opportunities include the Evening School, Bridges to Success Program, Nova NET, Summer Classes, Cooperative Work Experience Programs, and links to community resources designed to meet the student's academic, social, and emotional needs.

The progress of students in the Credit Recovery Program is monitored closely. Students who are having difficulty meeting expectations regarding school attendance, academic progress, or adjustment are assisted in a variety of ways. Students who ultimately fail to attend, achieve, and adjust may be removed from the program and returned to their home school.

The Twelfth Grade Special Program

This program is available to students who had senior status the previous year, but failed to meet their graduation requirements at their comprehensive high school. Students must have the potential to complete graduation requirements within one academic year. The student's counselor at the sending school initiates the enrollment process by preparing a referral form and a list of the courses needed by the student to complete high school graduation requirements and forwarding this information to our school. The Counselor and Student Services staff utilize this information to create an individualized schedule and address the social and emotional needs of each student. After completing graduation requirements at the SAC, the student returns to his sending school to receive his high school diploma.

The Panel Review Program

The Panel Review serves students from the Pittsburgh Public Schools that have been assigned to attend SAC via the Alternative Education Review Panel. These students are referred to the Panel by a recommendation of the Board of Directors following a hearing for violations of the Code of Student Conduct. These violations include, but are not limited to, possession of weapons, drug and alcohol violations, and assaults. Students entering the SAC through this program are scheduled in the same individualized process, as are students in the other programs. Student placements at the SAC are not permanent. The Alternative Education Review Panel determines the length of stay. SAC's transition team will assist each student in the process of returning to their home school.

The Transition Program

The Transition Program serves students grades 6-12 who are currently out on four to 10 day suspensions/expulsions from their comprehensive school. The purpose of the Transition Program is two-fold: first, it allows students to receive help with their home school assignments, thus making it easier to keep up with their class when they return; and second, it enables students to receive credit for attending school while out on suspension. Staff work directly with the students to provide instruction as needed. While attending the program, students have access to additional instructional and social interventions. Information gathered on the students during their suspension is fed directly to the District's Review Panel. The information obtained from direct and repeated involvement with the students is crucial to the Panel's decision making process.

The Transition Program is offered five days per week from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. for high school students and 11:45 a.m. to 2:45 for middle school students. The Transition Program is offered at 2 locations: The Student Achievement Center in Homewood and the South Annex in the Southside. Students are assigned to a location based on the geographic location of their home school.

Middle Alternative Program

The full day program provides educational instruction to middle school students who are panel reviewed or expelled from their comprehensive school. In addition, students who have exhibited severe chronic behavior problems in comprehensive school can also attend the Middle Student Achievement Center via a referral directly from their comprehensive school. The program offers a range of instructional, supportive and co-curricular activities.

The Instructional Management System at the Middle Center consists of teaching to standards, clear expectations for students, extended day learning activities, and continuous staff development across disciplines. The Focus of the Middle Achievement Program is the teaching and learning of Mathematics and Communications. All students are expected to progress according to the District's academic standards. The Instructional Management System is supported by the Behavioral Management System. The teachers and support staff combine their efforts to provide extensive behavioral interventions to students and their families.

The Over-Age Eighth Grade Program

The Over-Age Eighth Grade Program is designed to meet the needs of eighth grade students who are over-age in grade and who have not found success in the comprehensive middle school environment. The goal of the program is to prepare these students academically, emotionally, and socially for entry into the comprehensive high school. Applications are reviewed prior to admission, and priority is given to students based on the following criteria: students who are repeating the eighth grade, students who will reach 16 years of age before Jan 31, 2008 or students who have been retained in a grade three times in their school career.

Homebound Program

Homebound instruction taught in the student's home or in a nearby community center is available to students in grade 1-12 who are hospitalized or homebound and are unable to attend school on a regular basis. This service is not limited to those students who attend Pittsburgh Public Schools, but is also available to students who live within the boundaries of the Pittsburgh School District who attend private or parochial school. Students from outside the city who are confined to hospitals within the District's limits are also eligible.

Students accepted for homebound instruction are usually those who will be expected to miss their regular school program for a minimum of four weeks due to illness, accidents or surgical procedures.

Saturday Detention Program

The SAC operates the District's city-wide detention program. This program was started in 1989 and serves middle and high school students who elect to serve Saturday detention at the South Annex building located at 93 South Tenth Street on the Southside, in lieu of a one-, two- or three-day out-of-school suspension. Each week between 45 and 75 students take advantage of this program.

INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACHES

Teaching and learning at the SAC occurs in a number of different ways. This section provides an overview of each of the various approaches to instruction that are currently in practice.

Regular Semester Courses

Students who are taking a course for the first time, as well as all Panel Review students, take regular length semester courses in all elective and required subjects. These subjects are taught using the regular curriculum and textbook adoptions of the Pittsburgh Public Schools. As is the case across the District, instruction in all subjects is aligned to the Content Standards that have been developed and adopted for each content area. Students at SAC participate in all District-wide assessment practices. Class sizes are typically smaller than those found in most comprehensive schools. This allows for a greater degree of individualization of instruction and makes the teacher better able to respond to the individual needs of each student.

Semester/Annual Make-up Courses (HS only)

Accelerated courses, called Semester/Annual Make-up Courses (SAMs) are available for Credit Recovery and 12th Grade Special Students in English, Science, Social Studies, Health and Physical Education, and all elective areas. Students must have previously attempted and failed to pass a particular course in order to be eligible to take a SAMs course. SAMs courses focus on the fundamental competencies of each course. Students must successfully complete the required course assignments and meet the attendance standard in order to earn a passing grade in the course.

NovaNET

Another avenue for earning high school credit at an accelerated rate is available to Credit Recovery and 12th Grade Special Students in a state-of-the-art NovaNET Computer facility located in room 321. Computers in this lab have been updated to Phase VI.

NovaNET allows students to make up courses in an on-line individualized learning process. Instruction is delivered on-line at individual computer workstations. Each course of study also includes off-line assignments that students are required to complete. The student progresses through the course material at his or her own pace. Students are expected to attend regularly and demonstrate acceptable levels of progress.

Technology

We recognize that learning to use technology as a tool for teaching and learning is an important aspect for preparing students to live and work in an increasingly technological age. Computers are used extensively at the SAC for research, writing, and as a vehicle for delivering instruction to students.

Computer Labs

The NovaNET laboratories in Room 321 and 328 are dedicated to student use for the purpose of making up credits from previously attempted academic courses. Students work at individual workstations to complete course work for academic subjects at an individual pace.

Rooms 310 and 311 house newly equipped computer labs dedicated to Reading and Mathematics. Innovative computer programs, Compass Odyssey and Read 180 provide students with additional individualized instruction and support in these critical content areas.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

At SAC, we recognize that students have a variety of needs that must be addressed if learning is to occur. Our school community offers a variety of supportive services that are designed to remove barriers that impede the student's academic progress.

Academic Counseling and Guidance

The school's academic/guidance counselor creates an individualized schedule for each student that identifies the courses needed to meet graduation requirements. The student is also assisted in selecting available elective courses. The academic counselor monitors student progress and also assists the student in making choices regarding continuing education and career planning.

Student Services Department

The Student Services Department consists of social workers, Alternative Education assistants, and Student Services assistants. The function of the department is to initially assess student needs at the interview, then monitor student performance, attendance, and adjustment, and to intervene appropriately. Members of the department maintain contact with the home, the court system, and other community agencies. Members of the Student Services Department also play a critical role in the Student Assistance Program, or CORE Team. The CORE Team works with the faculty and staff to identify students who are at risk or experiencing difficulties of some type. Team members then attempt to make appropriate referrals and recommendations for necessary school-based or community resources.

The CORE Team also maintains ongoing relationships with several community-based organizations that provide assistance to students within the school environment. These service providers include: Gateway Rehabilitation Services, Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, the Women's Center and Shelter, Divine Interventions and UPMC Shadyside partnership.

Teen Parent Advocate

A full-time Teen Parent Advocate, Mrs. Peg Rivers, provides assistance to young women who are pregnant and to those students, male and female, who are already parents. The nature of assistance provided includes individual counseling, advisement concerning healthcare access, daycare and other human services needs as well as monitoring of individual student progress.

Student Leadership Development

A range of activities intended to promote the development of student self-responsibility and leadership skills is directed by the Student Services staff. These activities include:

- Superintendent's Advisory Panel: Students from the school actively participate in this panel of students representing schools across the Pittsburgh School District;
- Mayor's Youth Council;
- Mentoring: An innovative program in which older students mentor younger students from PPS middle or elementary schools;
- Youth Crime Watch: Students participate in Youth Crime Watch conferences and activities; and
- Student Council.

Community Involvement

Our school community recognizes that effective education occurs through supportive links with the community. To this end, the following relationships have been established and continue to be an important part of the school program:

Parent School Community Council (PSCC)

The PSCC meets monthly to share information, problem solve, and build bridges between the school, the parents, and the community. All parents are asked to pledge to attend at least one meeting of this body. (Meeting times to be announced.) Please call the school for further information.

Grants and Special Projects to enrich instruction and benefit students are ongoing with several institutions including The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Allegheny College, Reading Is Fundamental and others.

CODE OF CONDUCT

We believe that a safe and caring school environment is absolutely essential in order for students to learn and develop. Accordingly, we would like you to be aware of the following school policies.

The SAC adheres to the same Code of Student Conduct and Board of Education policies as any other Pittsburgh Public School. We recognize that a student will not learn if they are concerned for their physical safety. Our school has a zero tolerance policy towards violence. The principals, assistant principal, social worker, intervention specialist, Student Services assistants, security aides, and teachers will assist students in resolving any conflicts or problems students may have. Fighting is an unacceptable way to resolve conflicts of any kind. Students who fight in school, or while traveling to school or home, are subject to severe penalties, including long-term suspensions, transfer to other facilities or termination from the school.

Pennsylvania State laws and the Code of Student Conduct forbid students to possess, handle, or transmit any weapon while on school property. Please note that the term "weapon" includes any object that is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm. Students who violate this rule are subject to a minimum of a one-year expulsion from school. Criminal charges are filed when a student is found to be in possession of a weapon on school grounds.

Rule 7 of the Code of Student Conduct forbids students from possessing or being under the influence of illegal drugs and alcohol. The presence of drugs and/or students who are intoxicated presents a clear and present danger to all students. A student who has a strong odor of marijuana or alcohol will not be permitted to remain in school. Students who are found in possession of alcohol or illegal drugs are subject to severe penalties, including long-term suspensions, or termination from the school. Criminal charges are usually filed when a student is found to be in possession of an illegal drug.

Generalized Searches

Metal Detector Searches

Given the nature and role of a special alternative school, it is school policy that all persons including visitors are subject to a search of their person and effects upon entering the building. This is done in the interest of ensuring a safe environment for all students and staff.

Students are required to pass through a metal detector. The contents of purses, book bags, jackets, other items, and the student's person are subject to inspection by school security personnel and other school staff. This process will occur each time any student enters the building, even at lunchtime.

Random Searches of Classrooms

Periodic random searches are also conducted by the school administration. This also is done in the interest of maintaining a safe and drug-free learning environment. In a random search, all students in a randomly chosen room or rooms are searched in a manner similar to that described above.

We recognize that these procedures are intrusive to some degree. However, we must balance the need for individual privacy against that of safety and security for all who work and learn in our building.

Individualized Searches

In the event that the school administration has a reasonable suspicion that a particular student is in possession of contraband items, the student, his/her possessions, and locker may be subject to a search. Any contraband items discovered as a result of these searches will be handled in the manner specified by the Code of Student Conduct and Pittsburgh Student Achievement Center School Rules.

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 pages highlight 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.



Family Resources

Alliance for Community Respite Care - 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, that 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 or 888-272-7229

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.aftit.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.bbbspittsburgh.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) 456-6999

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 Pittsburgh citizens.
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.ywcapgh.org

Cultural Organizations

Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh - (412) 622-3131 Natural History & Art, (412) 237-3400 Science Center, (412) 237-8300 Andy Warhol
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 also 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) 323-7235

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

