

Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8

7100 Reynolds Street | Pittsburgh, PA 15208 | Phone: 412.247.7870 | Fax: 412.247.7877
Parent Hotline: 412.622.7920 | www.pps.k12.pa.us

Welcome!

The policies and procedures contained in this handbook are the results of a concerted effort on the part of the faculty and the administration. This information has been carefully prepared and presented so that it will be of great value in helping you to adjust to our school, and to become an integral part of it.

The ultimate purpose of education is to help each student become an effective citizen in a democracy. To develop and accept the responsibilities and obligations of good citizenship will help you to participate successfully in the world of tomorrow. We hope that you will participate in our varied activities and thus find those things within our school, which will prepare you to live a better life, and finally take your place in this complex society. Remember that your success in this school will be directly proportional to your efforts.

I hope that parents and students will read this handbook together and that you will put it in a safe place where you can access it when necessary.

Finally, I ask that parents join us as partners in educating your child. Our commitment is to address the educational needs of every child who enters Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8 and we will succeed in this endeavor by working together in preparing him/her for the next stage in their educational experience – high school.

Sincerely yours,

Sarah L. Sumpter, Principal

OUR VISION

Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8 provides a safe environment where cultural diversity and individual differences are appreciated and all students are encouraged to achieve their potential. Our school emphasizes cognitive thinking skills, computer skills, and creative skills as all students are prepared to compete

in the 21st century. Moreover, all students are continually challenged to excel by teachers, parents and the community at large working together. This relationship results in fostering a lifelong love of learning and a responsibility for one's community. With this support, the talents of all students are nurtured and each student is encouraged to develop into socially responsible young adults who give freely of their time and energy for the betterment of our society.

Core Values about People

- Diversity of participants insures broader perspectives and better choices.
- People are resources, not instruments.
- Openness to new ideas is critical to renewal and productivity.
- Shared decision-making is a strength, not a weakness.
- People need feedback — it facilitates growth and development.
- The use of objective data and accurate information promotes better decision-making.
- Mutual trust and respect of all members in a group is necessary for school-based improvement to occur.
- Clear goals and how to reach them must be known by all participants.

Core Values about Schools

- All children can learn.
- All students can become responsible for their learning.
- Effort must be recognized and rewarded.
- High expectations and strong encouragement leads to higher academic achievement.
- Students' creativity and artistic talents must be nurtured.

- Schools must provide a safe, friendly environment.
- Schools must be flexible to meet the ever-changing needs of students and society.
- Schools and students need to be evaluated to determine if school goals and student goals are being met.

School improvement plans must focus on improving student achievement, as well as student-faculty and student-student relationships. Parent and community involvement in a school will lead to better communication between these groups, which, in turn, will result in more productive schools and students. Schools are accountable to the students, parents, and the community; as partners, we must all work cooperatively to facilitate our students' education and to ensure our society's future.

Goals

- Develop and implement a strong academic core of basic middle school subjects.
- Expand and enrich the curriculum with classical studies.
- Emphasize the influence of past western and non-western civilizations.
- Develop interdisciplinary teaching units that highlight the inter-relationships among history, language, literature, science, mathematics, and the arts.
- Provide opportunities for students to share cultural experiences in an integrated setting.
- Provide creative school experiences that accommodate social and emotional changes that the students are experiencing.

Twelve Steps to Success at Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8

- Be confident
- Be responsible
- Be here
- Be on time
- Be friendly
- Be polite
- Be prepared
- Be a listener
- Be a doer
- Be a tough worker
- Be a risk taker
- Be a goal setter
- School spirit

School spirit may be divided into three categories:

1. Courtesy- toward teachers, fellow students, and the officials of school activities
2. Pride in everything our school endeavors to accomplish and has accomplished
3. Positive sportsmanship - the ability to win and lose gracefully

School spirit means loyalty to all functions of the school. A loyal student supports his/her school and does his/her utmost to keep his/her academic and social standards at the highest possible level.

Motivators

Special motivational events encourage achievement in "esprit de corps" for Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8 Classical Academy. These events include but are not limited to the following:

- Principal's birthday club
- Special assemblies
- Special field trips
- Rewards day for exemplary behavior
- After-school clubs and activities
- Certificates of recognition for academic achievement and random acts of kindness

Students should work to avoid the following sanctions for school behaviors that negatively impact academic success and social maturity:

- E's or U's in any subject areas
- Lunch detentions
- Learning Adjustment Center Assignments (LAC)
- Saturday detentions
- Out-of-school suspensions

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.

Attendance

Students are expected to be in school except in cases of emergency or for reasons as explained in the Code of Student Conduct, located within your welcome packet.

Steps to follow when absent:

- A parent or guardian must phone the school before 9:30 a.m. on the day of the absence.
- A written excuse with the student's full name, date(s) of absence(s), reason for absence, and signature of parent or guardian must be presented to the student's homeroom teacher upon the student's return to school. Failure to provide a written excuse within a reasonable period of time will result in lunch detentions until such an excuse is provided.
- It is the student's responsibility to ask all of his/her teachers for make-up assignments. Assignments that are not made up will be reflected in the student's grade. Students must make-up all class assignments that are missed during absences.
- If absence is due to work, travel, or some other reason, a parent or guardian should notify the school in writing one week prior to the absence.

Tardiness

Students who are tardy to school should be admitted to the homeroom until 9:10 a.m. After that, they will be admitted through the office and given an admission slip. Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated and may result in the student's referral to Pupil Services. Students who arrive after 9:15 a.m. must have a written note or home contact before admittance. Promptness to class is very important. Students are to be in their seats and ready to work when the bell rings.

Class cuts and tardiness

Any student who cuts class will be referred to the principal's office for possible out-of-school suspension. Tardiness will result in a lunch detention.

Lunch detention cuts

Any student who cuts lunch detention will automatically be re-assigned and if missed again will be placed in after-school detention.

Early Dismissals

All students requesting early dismissals are to report to the main office with a note from a parent or guardian. All requests are to be made at the end of the morning announcements. Students granted early dismissals after the daily absence bulletin is printed will be given a yellow form (HS 12). Office personnel may contact parents, when necessary, to verify early dismissals. Parents/guardians are expected to report to the main office to pick-up students who need to leave school early.

Illness at School

Every student is to report to his/her assigned teacher at the beginning of every period. If a student is ill, the student should report to the scheduled teacher, inform the teacher that he/she is ill, and ask for a corridor pass to the nurse's office on the day the nurse is at Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8. If the nurse is not in attendance at the time, the student is to go to the main office where an attempt will be made to contact a parent or guardian. Parents should provide the office with an emergency telephone number on the emergency care form filed at the school.

Withdrawal and Transfer

The procedure for withdrawal or transferring is as follows:

- Secure authorization withdrawal or transfer note from a parent and /or guardian.
- Obtain appropriate forms from the counselor's office.
- Have the forms filled out by teachers, return all schoolbooks and school property, and make sure all fees are paid.
- Take completed forms to the counselor's office for final clearance.

Fire Drills

A fire drill plan is posted in each room. Students should study the plan and become familiar with how to exit the building for safety reasons.

When the fire alarm sounds, students will leave the room. Before leaving the room, all windows and doors are to be closed and lights are to be turned off. No one is to pass another or break the line. Running is not permitted. The first student to reach the outside doors is to hold them open until all have left the building.

Students are not permitted to talk during a fire drill and are to remain at least 50 feet away from the building until the signal is given to re-enter. No one is to return to the building until the principal or his/her authorized representative gives the signal.

Total Evacuation Drill

There are times when we may have to clear the school premises. When such drills take place, 6th grade students will gather on the Reynolds Street sidewalk below the backstop, 7th graders will gather on the Edgerton sidewalk below the soccer goal area, and 8th graders will be taken to the entrance of Frick Park.

Visitors

No one will be permitted to visit the school unless they are properly identified and have a definite purpose in mind. The office will issue a visitor's pass. Friends or relatives are not permitted to accompany a student for the day. Shadow days for the purpose of school selection are permitted with arrangements made prior to the visitation day.

Behavior

Assemblies: The student's behavior should be refined and courteous at all times. The conduct of its student body at an assembly is an indication of the cultural level of the school. Whether guests are present or not, each student is personally responsible for the impression made by the school as a whole. Unacceptable conduct would include whistling, uncalled-for-clapping, boisterousness, and unwarranted talking during a program. Prior to an assembly, students will usually report to their homerooms where textbooks and other materials are to be left. Purses and billfolds are to be taken into the auditorium as the students report to their assigned seats.

Cafeteria: Students' behavior in the cafeteria should be based on courtesy and cleanliness. Students will go through the cafeteria line and pay for their choice of food. Students are to remain seated in the cafeteria until they have finished eating. Students are required to clean up after themselves. After lunch, students may report to the playground, or gym. Students are not to go into areas where classes are being held during their lunch hour. Students are not permitted to enter or leave the cafeteria by the doors nearest the Fine Arts area. At no time are students allowed to take food outside of the cafeteria. Cafeteria bills should be paid on a monthly basis.

Hallway: Students should be in the halls only at the beginning and close of school and while moving from one class to another. Students in the halls during class time must have a hall pass or blue corridor pass. The time and reason for presence in the halls will be noted on the pass. Courteous behavior in the hall is essential. Slamming locker doors, purposely hitting or bumping others, running, and shouting are never permitted. These types of behavior will be brought to the attention of the principal and consequences will be rendered.

School Dress Code

We take pride in the appearance of our students. Student's attire reflects the quality of the school. All students are expected to dress in clothes that are suitable for school activities and to groom themselves neatly. Parents should monitor their children's attire. The following are not permitted:

- Bare midriffs for boys or girls
- skirts/dresses shorter than two inches above the knee
- Sags (all pants should be belted and at the waist.)
- shirts with obscenities or inappropriate language
- Undershirts and tank tops
- shirts or other clothing with gang signs and/or symbols
- Short shorts (specific length at discretion of principal)
- Clothing with holes - pants/tops
- head scarves
- Combs stuck in the hair
- halters

Coats and hats should be kept in lockers at all times. They should not be worn or carried to classes; otherwise, a lunch detention will be assigned.

Candy and Junk Food

Candy, food, and beverages are prohibited during the school day except at lunchtime, and only in the cafeteria. Wrappers are to be disposed of in the trash barrels. Gum is prohibited at all times. Lunch detention will be assigned for violation of this rule.

Library

The library contains more than 4,000 books and receives more than 15 periodicals and the daily newspaper. Individual and group research projects are encouraged and regular instruction in library use and study skills is provided. Of course, reading for enjoyment is widely publicized and encouraged. The library also has vast filmstrip, record, film and transparency holdings for teacher and student use.

Bulletins and Announcements

All notices of club meetings, athletic and social events, general information for the day, and specific instructions are announced daily. Athletics are held immediately after school. Students must keep up with classwork while participating in any activities.

Telephone and Office

The telephones at school are for school business. Students are only permitted to make calls or receive calls from their parents on the office telephone in the event of an emergency. Students should make their calls during their lunch period. Students are not to be in the main office without a note from the teacher they are assigned to or unless called to the office by an administrator.

Lockers

Students will have lockers assigned to them by their homeroom teachers. Students are not permitted to use any locker other than the one assigned to them. Due to space problems, students must share lockers with at least one classmate. Students are required to use a lock on their lockers. We recommend using a combination lock. Never leave money or other valuables in an unlocked locker. Homeroom teachers will conduct periodic locker checks. Food should be removed from lockers daily for sanitary and health reasons.

Teachers or authorized school personnel may request lock removal in cases of emergency or for security reasons. Only the homeroom teacher may issue, in writing, the request for lock removal. The school is not responsible for items taken from lockers. Students are permitted to go to their lockers during homeroom, after third period, after second lunch and at the end of the day.

Field Trips

It is often beneficial for students to be exposed to environments outside the school. Field trips provide cultural, educational enrichment for students in a supervised off-campus setting. Parent permission forms must be completed by the parent and signed and submitted on time to the trip sponsor prior to the trip.

While these trips are educational, they involve risks that are different from the normal school day. Teachers, with the approval of the principal, may exclude any student if that student's behavior has been poor or there seems to be an increased safety risk for the group or a given student because of said individual's participation. Students may also be excluded for poor academic progress. Students must meet academic performance criteria. Students who misbehave on field trips will be returned to school, if possible, and placed in LAC for the remainder of the day. Furthermore, they will be assigned after-school detention or out-of-school suspension for the next day.

Students who are absent on the day of an after-school trip will not be permitted to come to school at the end of the day and participate on that trip. If a student does not attend a field trip, the only monies that will be refunded will be those that can be retrieved from the sponsoring companies. Any monies raised through sales campaigns will not be refunded.

Awards

Numerous awards are presented to students throughout the school year. Awards are given for scholarship, citizenship, attendance, honor roll and

academic progress. Random acts of kindness are also rewarded. Letters, trophies and certificates can be earned through various sports activities and academic programs. Awards are also given by various service and military organizations.

Lost & Found

Lost personal property may be claimed in the main office. Students who find lost articles should take them to the main office. Unclaimed articles will be disposed of after a reasonable amount of time.

Lost books should be returned to the main office where they will be returned to the subject teacher. Students are responsible for all materials that have been assigned to them and will be required to make payments for any lost books or other materials.

Report cards will be held until lost books are returned or payment is made.

Insurance

Students' accident insurance policies are available for all students at the beginning of the school year in September. Students who plan to participate in school sports are urged to purchase this policy, which can be obtained at a nominal cost. Information is sent home with the students.

ACADEMICS

Curriculum

Reading, English, Mathematics, Science, World Cultures

The Arts

Music: vocal, instrumental, general: grades 6, 7, 8

Visual Arts: grades 6, 7, 8

Foreign Language: 6, 7, 8

Physical education: grades 6, 7, 8

Health: grades 6, 7, 8

Scheduling

The school calendar is divided into 182 days. The day is divided into seven periods of equal length, plus a half-hour for lunch and a 15-minute homeroom period. Students attend class five days per week, Monday through Friday. However, the schedule at Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8 consists of six distinct days, which we refer to as Day 1, Day 2, etc. These days follow in sequence, and after Day 6, we start again at Day 1.

Classes are organized according to this six-day schedule. For instance, rather than having a Spanish class that meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, you might have it as a class that meets on Days 1, 2, and 3, whichever days of the week those happen to fall on.

We have adopted this schedule for two reasons. First, it allows students to enroll in a greater variety of classes than they could on a standard five day schedule. Second, it prevents students who are regularly out of school on a particular day of the week (e.g., students in the gifted program, who are regularly out of school on Thursdays) from missing the same classes every week. Note: in the event of an unexpected school cancellation, we maintain our regular calendar schedule.

Homework

Homework at Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8 is part of the educational process and is sanctioned by the Pittsburgh Public School district. Students are expected to complete all assignments promptly and to the best of their ability. Homework turned in on the due day may earn up to 100 percent credit if the work is accurate and complete. Homework turned in the day after the due date may earn a maximum of 70 percent credit. After the second day, teachers do not have to accept homework for credit. Parents are encouraged to supervise homework. Students who have legal excuses for absences may make up homework missed when they check with their teachers. Students who continually fail to turn in homework will have deficiency notices mailed home. Extra-credit assignments will not be substituted for missed assignments.

Academic Performance: Eligibility for Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities

- All teachers will evaluate students.
- Students will receive deficiency notices for missed assignments/projects.
- Students will be declared ineligible for curricular and extra-curricular activities if assignments/projects are not completed.

Make-up Work

It is the students' responsibility to get missed assignments/projects and complete them on time. Parents can request homework through the office after 7:30 a.m. after two or more days of absence. In case of a prolonged absence due to illness or excused legal reason, arrangements must be made with each individual teacher to catch up on the work missed. All missed assignments are due upon a student's return to school. Students missing any class due to other school related activities must contact the teachers whose classes were missed to arrange to make up any missed work.

Books and supplies

Students are responsible for all books issued to them, including library books. Money will be

collected for lost, damaged, or destroyed books. Students must use book covers to protect their textbooks. Book covers, assignment books, pens, and pencils may be on sale in the main office at a nominal cost. All math students may be issued a calculator for which they will be responsible. Money will be collected for any lost calculators.

Students do not need to carry around heavy backpacks containing all their books and belongings to every class. Students are given the opportunity to go to their lockers in the morning before homeroom, after 3rd and 4th period classes and at the end of the day. Required books and supplies must be brought to class or a lunch detention will be assigned.

Student Activities

The following activities are available to students at Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8. Students are encouraged to participate in one or more organizations or activities.

Basketball
Co-Ed Cross Country
Science Competitions
Book Club
Community Service Projects
Soccer
25 Book Reading Competition
Educational Trips
Softball
Caring Program
Environmental Team
Student Council
Chess Team
Holiday Programs
Year-End Recreational Trips
Children's Hospital Fund Drive
Library Aides
Yearbook
Chorus
Math Counts
Y-Teens
NJHS
PJAS Peer Health Council
Promotion Picnic-8th Grade
Mentoring

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)

According to the constitution of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS), 'the purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarships, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to develop character, and to encourage citizenship.

Criteria for nomination to the NJHS are as follows:

- A QPA of 3.0 or better in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters of 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.

- No U's in citizenship
- No D's or E's in any subject area.
- Approval by faculty and principal.
- Mandatory service to the school/community.
- Students must exhibit the five NJHS qualities: leadership, scholarship, service, character and citizenship

Criteria for maintaining NJHS membership in good standing are as follows:

- QPA of 3.0 or better in every grading period after induction.
- No U's in citizenship in any grading period after induction.
- No D's or E's in any subject area in any grading period after induction.
- No inappropriate behavior, e.g., cheating, fighting, etc.

Failure to meet any one of these four criteria will result in probation or expulsion.

Student Council

- Provides for student activities
- Serves as a training experience for both leaders and followers
- Promotes the common good
- Gives students a share in the management of the school
- Develops high ideals of personal conduct
- Acts as a clearing house for student activities
- Seeks to interest students in school affairs
- Helps solve problems that may arise

Members of the council are your representatives and have direct access to the school administration. One representative is elected by the class and one is appointed by the homeroom teacher. Each homeroom's representation will be sexually and racially balanced. Members must meet the academic performance standards to be an active representative. In addition, if a student receives one U during any report period, he/she is removed from Student Council for the year.

Interscholastic Sports

Students are encouraged to participate in before and after-school activities unless they are to

report for detention or are in LAC or out-of-school suspension. Students should inform their parents whenever they are staying after school for any reason so that the parents do not worry when the students do not arrive home at the usual time. Rules for before and after school activities are the same as those during the school day.

Eligibility:

- Participants must have a physical exam before they try out for any team. Physicals may be performed by the school nurse or your family doctor.
- Participants and their parents must complete certain athletic forms to participate
- Participants must have a separate physical exam for each interscholastic sport. The physical must be dated not more than two months before the first day of practice.
- Participants must maintain at least a 2.0 QPA and/or five grades of C or better in the report period in which the activity occurs.

Fall Sports Activities

Girls' softball
Boys' baseball
Co-ed cross-country
Volleyball - Boys and Girls

Winter Sports Activities

Girls' basketball
Boys' basketball

Spring Sports Activities

Girls' soccer
Boys' soccer

A parent or guardian must accompany spectators at interscholastic sporting events.

PUPIL SERVICES

Guidance and Counseling

The counselor devotes a major part of his/her time to individual counseling in academic-vocational, personal-social and adjustment areas. Students should view the counselor as a person with whom they can speak confidentially about their personal problems and academic progress. Primarily, the counselor serves as a liaison for all members of the professional staff in dealing with student problems and works with the principal in resolving adjustment/discipline problems. In a very real sense, the guidance function is the primary responsibility of all teachers, administrators, and non-professional staff.

Conferences and Pupil Records

Parents are encouraged to arrange conferences with the teachers and the counselor to review student records and performance. To arrange an appointment, call the school office to contact the person desired. Visitors for conferences should report directly to the main office.

Health Services

- A nurse is assigned, on a part-time basis, to Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8 to conduct all state-mandated examinations.
- Major tasks include individual health counseling, testing, examinations, exclusions, first aid and re-admissions.
- If it is necessary for a student to take any form of medication at a school, a signed form from a parent and physician must be presented to the office. All medications will be kept in and dispensed through the office.
- Any staff person, including the nurse, cannot give aspirin and other such medication to students, unless appropriate documentation is on file in our office.

Tutoring Services

Tutoring services will be available during first and second lunch periods. Peer tutoring is arranged through faculty team leaders; faculty is available during study halls for individual student tutoring upon student-initiated requests. After-school tutoring is available for math and reading for all students who are willing to stay for services.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The parent as a teaching partner:

- Work with the teacher to ensure educational success for your child. You are your child's most significant role model. Your attitude toward education will be the most powerful influence on your child.
- Emphasize the importance of school.
- Help your child develop good study habits.
- Show interest in your child's schoolwork and homework.
- Call your child's teacher or arrange for a conference to discuss your child's progress or obtain ideas about helping your child learn at home.
- Respond promptly to progress notices.

- Help your child be prepared for school by having materials (pencil, paper, books, etc.), being on time for school, and supporting school policies.
- Post the school calendar in your home for easy reference regarding the daily schedule and special events. The school calendar is issued the week before each school month begins. Extra copies are available in the main office. Parents should watch for the calendar to arrive.
- Become an active participant in the activities in which your child is involved.
- Do not become an enabler for your child by making excuses for incomplete assignments or inappropriate behavior.
- Pay attention to what your child has to say.
- Feel free to initiate discussions of your child's problems and concerns. Our counselor is always available with outside resources for your assistance. Please urge your child to seek your help or our help for uncomfortable situations that arise in and out of school.
- Take your child to the library for a library card. Librarians are trained to help find the right books for your child. Please show interest and encourage your child's selections of his/her own reading materials. Information regarding reading levels can be obtained from the school. Read books and newspapers together. Anything your child reads will help.
- Provide educational puzzles, games, and situations in your home. This helps your child's concentration and problem-solving abilities, and makes learning fun.
- Attend parent-teacher organization meetings and parent school community council meetings on a regular basis. Call or contact the school for information (412.247.7870).
- Consider becoming a parent volunteer.
- Provide the school with up-to-date phone numbers so we can contact you in case of illness, emergency, etc.
- Complete and submit the emergency care form. Complete with your signature and your physician's signature the Administration of Medication form.
- Use the help resources listed below to support your child with homework or extra practice:
 - The monthly school calendar with long-term assignments
 - Your own child's schedule/planner
 - Individual course syllabi

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)/ Parent School Community Council (PSCC)

Goals:

- To participate in the decision-making process affecting school policy
- To enhance effective communication among all involved groups, i.e., parents, teachers, students, and administrators.
- To seek to mobilize the resources of parents and teachers in order to exert a united effort when issues requiring such action arise
- To raise and provide needed funds for school projects where funding is not provided or available elsewhere.

Membership in the PTO is open to anyone whose child attends Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8 and to any member of the staff. Suggested dues are \$5 per family. Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 p.m.

The following sales events are organized by the PTO. All proceeds benefit the entire student body.

September: Magazine Sale

October-February: Lottery Ticket Sale

February-March: Hoagie/Pizza Sale

November or April: Book Fair

May: Teachers' Appreciation Week

The PTO also:

- Holds programs and workshops - plans and executes programs of interest to parents.
- Provides hospitality- welcomes parents to school functions and provides refreshments.
- Aide in communication- seeks ways to better inform all school parties and enhance participation in all areas of our school.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Please call the Grade Level Team Leader for your child's grade and she will set up an appointment for you to meet with all of the necessary teachers. If you need to speak to an individual teacher, please call the school and the secretary will tell you what time to call to speak to that specific teacher. If you want an appointment with that teacher, you may schedule one when you speak to that teacher on the phone.

When you come to the school you are to report to the main office; you will be given specific directions as to where to go for the meeting. Under no circumstances are you to go directly to any classroom without specific permission of the principal or the teacher. If you are given permission to go elsewhere in the building, please be sure to have a visitor's pass.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Discipline is one of the most important components of a student's education. While it does not appear as a subject, discipline underlies the whole educational structure. It is the training that develops self-control, character, orderliness, and efficiency. It is the key to good conduct and proper consideration for other people. It must be based on mutual respect between each student and his teachers. For more information, please refer to the Code of Student Conduct.

Lunch Detention

Students who are assigned lunch detention because of tardiness, improper behavior, or other infractions of the rules must report to their assigned lunch detention room. Lunch will be brought to them. If a student arrives more than five minutes after the lunch period begins, he/she will be assigned one additional day of said detention.

If a student fails to attend an assigned lunch detention, he/she will receive an automatic after-school detention assignment. Lunch detention takes precedence over all other activities or assignments (e.g., tutoring, rehearsal, etc.)

After-school detention

On occasion, students may be assigned after-school detention for repeated infractions of rules or problems of a more serious nature. Parents will be notified in advance and transportation will be provided via the after school activity buses.

Learning Adjustment Center (LAC)

Students in LAC will receive assignments from their teachers and from the team leader. It is the student's responsibility to return all assignments to the appropriate teacher. A student in LAC will not participate in any extracurricular activities such as assemblies or after-school sports.

Saturday Detention Program

Administrators will determine which students will be assigned to Saturday detention and call the list of names into the Pittsburgh Public School District's options center no later than 11:00 a.m. on the last day of the school week. Students will report to the Options Center on Saturday for a three-hour detention, starting from the time the student signs in for the day. No one will be admitted after 12 p.m. Transportation must be provided by the student's parents.

Attendance at the Options Center will be kept and Pittsburgh Sterrett 6-8 administrators will be notified of absences the following Monday between 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. If a student who is assigned Saturday detention does not attend, that student has an

automatic suspension from his/her home school on the following Monday. The options center will be staffed with one administrator, one security guard, and/or one teacher.

Out-of-School Suspension

When a student has served three after-school detention assignments in a report period, he/she will receive an out-of-school suspension. For some serious infractions, a student may be assigned an out-of-school suspension for a single offense.

Out-of-school suspensions will last for a minimum of one day, but might be longer for more serious offenses. Parents will be notified when a student receives an out-of-school suspension. A parent or guardian is encouraged to accompany the student upon his/her return to school after the suspension and meet with the school's administrators to develop a plan for a smooth return.

