

Pathways Charter Academy

**Parent/Student Handbook
and
Legal Notifications for the
2022-23 School Year**



Pathways Charter Academy Staff

Administration

Thomas Reusser, Superintendent
Brian Gault, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Chris Reyna, Principal

Teacher

Jim Whitaker

Office Staff

Londa Lamb, Administrative Secretary
Jennifer Gomez, Receptionist

Counselor

Maria Oliveras

Intervention Specialist

Jose Vasquez

Campus Supervisor/Attendance/Outreach

Ron Fagan

Pathways Charter Academy provides an educational opportunity that offers California standards-aligned curriculum, individualized instruction through an independent study/personalized learning approach designed to maximize the growth of all students, and a goal-oriented program of helping every student realize his or her potential. All students will complete a comprehensive intake assessment to create an individualized success plan that includes a rigorous individualized learning plan tailoring students' education to their personal needs, strengths, weaknesses, abilities, and interests. Social-emotional-behavioral supports, career exploration and preparation, and college attendance, are strong components of our educational focus to make learning relative and meaningful. Pathway Charter operates three programs; a core program Intensive Core Program, and a ComeBack Program for adult learners wishing to obtain a diploma or High School Equivalency.

PCA believes learning best occurs when a variety of modes and methods of instruction are: targeted to students' needs, strengths, weaknesses, interests, and abilities; supported by a robust multi-tiered system of supports; enriched with opportunities for interest-based learning and college/career learning; and implemented with all students being held to high academic and character standards. Collaborative efforts by all stakeholders will help our students achieve their goals, becoming self-motivated, confident, and life-long learners.

Table of Contents

Vision/Mission and Orientation Process	3
School Calendar	4-5
Attendance	6
General Information	7-8
Grading Process	8
Credit Opportunities	9
Graduation Requirements/Statewide Assessment	10
School Rules and Expectations	11-14
SCOS Notice to Parents and Guardians	15-16
Title 1 School-Parent Compact	15-16
General Notification Requirements for Certain Ed Codes	17

MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

OUR MISSION:

Pathways Charter Academy empowers students to take charge of their education and achieve success by connecting their individual needs, strengths, weaknesses, and interests to appropriate resources through a comprehensive individualized success plan that includes a rigorous and meaningful individualized learning plan. Through this process, students become educated and responsible citizens, critical problem-solvers, self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners. This foundation enables our students to live successful, healthy, and stable lives as productive members of our community and the world.

OUR VISION IS TO:

- Develop relationships among students, staff, and peers that emphasize respectful and responsible behavior in all endeavors
- Provide a rigorous alternative academic program guiding school-wide and individual goals

- Empower students to think critically and develop problem-solving skills
- Prepare our students for a successful personal and professional future

As STUDENTS:

- We are **Responsible**
- We are **Respectful**
- We are **Safe**
- We are **Kind**

ORIENTATION PROCESS

New students and at least one parent or guardian are required to attend an orientation before starting classes at PCA. Orientations will be scheduled once an appropriate referral and all registration paperwork are received. During orientation students and parents will be asked to check all completed registration paperwork for accuracy. Students and parents will be introduced to PCA and the opportunities that students are afforded at PCA. **Students and parents will review the Parent/Student Handbook and Legal Notifications for the 2020/21 School Year. They will be asked to sign, indicating that they have received a copy, understand, and are willing to comply with all rules, expectations, policies, and laws.** A student picture is then taken to include in the school data information system (Aeries). Once these steps are completed each student will be scheduled into classes and will start school. The time between orientation and the student's first day of classroom attendance, allows PCA staff to request records, and review transcripts, behavior, and any other pertinent information to design each student's program for a more successful transition.

Once enrolled, student academic assessments and intake process appointments will be scheduled during the student's first week of attendance. Students will then meet with a school counselor to begin the intake process. This process will **only occur on Mondays or Wednesdays** and will involve an Individual Learning Plan, a school welcome tour, some initial assessments, and goal setting with a counselor. This will assist in the placement of students into appropriate classes as well as provide additional support if needed. Each student and their parents will have the opportunity to review the student transcripts and participate in developing an Individual Learning Plan (ILP).

Our Personalized Learning/Independent Study approach begins with a careful analysis of the student's individual needs based on intake assessment data that includes, but is not limited to, all available attendance records, academic records, behavioral records as well as parent and student input. Beginning with the first meeting, we engage students and parents in learning and goal setting. PCA staff will be trained to guide students toward best-suited courses and learning options that lead toward a high school diploma and completion of a career or college pathway program. By using adaptive assessments to prescribe instructional goals and instruction, every student will receive targeted instruction matching their needs for intervention and extension of learning. This approach will allow each student to be appropriately challenged to expand their learning opportunities and to pace themselves to achieve maximum success. The student, parent, and teacher team will interact a minimum of twice every 30 school days to determine the student's goals for each learning period as well as to review overall goals.

Enrollment in an Independent Study (non-seat-based) educational setting is voluntary. Parents/Guardians have the choice to request a transfer to a seat-based educational setting available at Feather River Academy.

**FEATHER RIVER ACADEMY
STUDENT ATTENDANCE CALENDAR
2022-2023**

	Legal Holiday
	Beginning & End of School
	Student Non Attendance
	Minimum Day
	End of Quarter
	Extended School Year
	Staff Work Day

First Day August 8, 2022
Last Day June 2, 2023

August 2022

M	T	W	TH	F
	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

18

September 2022

M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

17

October 2022

M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

21

November 2022

M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

16

Legal /Observed Holidays

September 5, 2022 Labor Day
November 11, 2022 Veteran's Day
November 24, 2022 Thanksgiving Day
December 25, 2022 Christmas Day
January 1, 2023 New Year's Day
January 16, 2023 Martin Luther King Day
February 17, 2023 Lincoln's Birthday (observed)
February 20, 2023 President's Day (observed)
May 29, 2023 Memorial Day

December 2022

M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

12

January 2023

M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

20

Student Non-Attendance Days

November 21-25, 2022
Dec. 19, 2022 - Jan. 2, 2023
April 10-14, 2023

February 2023

M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28			

14

March 2023

M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

23

Extended School Year

September 27-30, 2022
February 21-24, 2023
June 5-23, 2023

April 2023

M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

15

May 2023

M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

22

First Semester = 84
Second Semester = 96

1st Quarter = 44
2nd Quarter = 40
3rd Quarter = 47
4th Quarter = 49

June 2023

M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23

2

Days 180
Approved by Board

***PATHWAYS CHARTER ACADEMY FOLLOWS FEATHER RIVER ACADEMY ADOPTED SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2022/2023**

ATTENDANCE

We encourage Parents/Guardians to phone beforehand if they know that their student is unable to make a scheduled appointment or agreed upon Learning Lab time. The appointment must be rescheduled at the earliest mutually agreeable time. Students that are 18 years of age and older may communicate directly with the Personalized Learning Teacher (“PLT”) with a valid *18-Year Old Waiver* on file, however, we reserve the right to confirm the absences with a parent and/or agency.

Change in personal Information

It is the parent/ guardian’s responsibility to inform the school of any changes in demographic information including addresses or phone numbers.

School Attendance Review Board (SARB)

Education Code Section 48263- If any minor in a county district is habitually truant, as defined in *Education Code Section 48262*, the pupil may be referred to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB).

Attendance Accounting

PCA will offer, at a minimum, the number of minutes of instruction as required by law set forth in Education Code Section 47612.5 and its implementing regulations on Independent Study. There is no “typical” school day. Each child adheres to a Personalized Learning Plan as designed by the parent/student/teacher team. Work samples during the attendance accounting period must be collected with dates that correspond to days within that period. Learning records, work samples, teacher evaluations, learning logs, and attendance records are referenced as required documentation.

Time Value

Time value accounting is also completed by the PLT. The interpretation of time value is the assessment by the student’s certificated teacher of the student’s progress during the attendance period. This is a subjective assessment based on the professional judgment of the certificated teacher. Teachers determine the time value of the work completed and report attendance based on progress during the attendance period. As allowed by law, a certificated designee of PCA may act on behalf of a designated teacher.

Students and parents agree to an accountability policy and Acknowledgement of Responsibilities, which states that at least 90% of assignments must be completed by their due date. According to the Independent Study Policy, failure to accomplish this goal will result in a Missing Assignment Report (MAR). If a Missing Assignment Report is issued, short-term goals are set and mandatory meetings are scheduled. Upon a second MAR, the Administrator/Designee sends a letter to the family conveying concerns and offering an opportunity to meet as a Student Success Team. A written record of the meeting is issued to all parties. A letter also follows a third MAR, which includes notification of transfer to seat-based instruction provided at Feather River Academy for students under expulsion orders or dis-enrollment for students attending by choice. Prior to dis-enrollment, students will be afforded all due process rights consistent with Education Code section 47605, subdivision (b)(5)(J). The parent/guardian may request a Student Success Team meeting to appeal the decision. The request must be made within 5 school days. If there is no response to the final letter, the teacher of record will complete the withdrawal form. PCA reserves the right to continue enrollment upon acceptable terms that it believes will result in student success.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Academic Review and Individual Learning Plans

All students have the opportunity to develop an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) with a staff member to review and help evaluate their current status, progress, and post-secondary goals. Parents are invited to attend these meetings.

Bookroom Process

Books and other materials or equipment used by students remain the property of the school. All materials and equipment must be returned in good condition. Students will be required to pay for the cost of repair or replacement for damaged or lost items. The bookroom will be open to students by making an appointment with the receptionist. Books will not be checked out without prior approval from the supervising teacher.

Curriculum and Technology Checkout Process

Books, and other instructional materials or equipment used by students remain the property of the school. All materials and equipment must be returned in good condition. Students will be required to pay for the cost of repair or replacement for damaged or lost items. Books and equipment will be assigned and checked out by the Personalized Learning Teacher.

Counseling and Intervention & Prevention Programs

In an effort to best serve your student, PCA offers many services and programs to address the social-emotional needs of our students. These services are offered and coordinated by the School Counselor and support staff. Additional resources and programs may be provided by community collaborators. Please contact the school office for further information.

Emergency Evacuation Drills

One of PCA's highest priorities is your student's safety. Emergency drills are in place to keep your student safe. When an alarm sounds, students need to follow the instructions given by their teacher and follow the plan identified in the School's Safety Plan (available in the school office). If a student is out of class when the alarm sounds, he/she needs to proceed to the nearest classroom/evacuation route. Students who cause intentional interference with staff or emergency personnel shall be considered defiant of school rules and will receive consequences from the school and/or law enforcement.

Field Trips

Parents/Guardians will be notified if a student is invited to attend a field trip, and a permission slip will need to be signed and returned to the school office in order for the student to attend the event.

'Home/ Hospital Instruction' Parent Guidelines/Eligibility

Students whose acute/chronic health issues or injuries cause them to be severely restricted and temporarily unable to attend school or report for regular meetings may be eligible for services through the *Home and Hospital Instruction Program*. Home and Hospital Instruction **must** be recommended by a licensed medical doctor who has determined that the student is completely unable to attend school for a period of not more than 30 days. A temporary disability is defined as a physical, mental, or emotional disability incurred while enrolled in a regular or alternative education program, after which the pupil can reasonably be expected to return to his/her regular educational program.

PG-13 and R-rated Movies

Students may view academically relevant movies that may be rated PG-13 or R-rated. Parents who wish to withhold permission for students to see PG-13 or R-rated movies for the entire school year will have the option to do so at the end of the orientation process. You can change this at any time by contacting the school office. Students may decline to view a film on the syllabus. Any students who do not view a film will be entitled to an appropriate and comparable alternative assignment.

Students Returning to Home School

Students wishing to return to their home school must work closely with PCA staff and their home school, **the semester prior to going back**. The counselor will work closely with these students and keep staff updated on potential transfer

students. If the student is expelled they will need to clear their expulsion prior to applying for readmission to their district of residence.

Transportation

Yuba-Sutter Transit monthly bus passes may be provided to students for transportation to and from school. One monthly bus pass will be issued to a student per month upon request. Lost or stolen bus passes will need to be replaced at the expense of the student. As deemed necessary by site administration, transportation may be provided to assist with attendance or other special circumstances.

Work Permits

Work permits are issued through the main office. In order to be issued a work permit, students need to request a work permit application form from the office Secretary. Work permits may be revoked at any time for excessive absences and or excessive suspensions. Prior to issuing a work permit, the administration reserves the right to require regular attendance and positive behavior. **Students are not to attend work when they are absent or suspended from school.**

GRADING POLICY

Pathways Charter Academy works on a variable credit system and has a “product-driven” philosophy when it comes to earning credits. In order to maintain progress and position in the core program, all students are expected to earn a minimum of 15 credits per quarter/30 credits per semester:

- Classes are worth 2.5 credits per quarter. Middle school students do not earn credits for work, they simply earn grades for the report card.
- Grading Scale

A+	97 - 100	C+	77 - 79.99
A	93 - 96.99	C	73 - 76.99
A-	90 - 92.99	C-	70 - 72.99
B+	87 - 89.99	D+	67 - 69.99
B	83 - 86.99	D	60 - 66.99
B-	80 - 82.99	F	0 - 59.99

- Students enrolled for the entire quarter, but earning a grade of less than 60% may be eligible for partial credit and a grade no higher than a D.
- Students enrolled for less than the entire quarter may earn less than 2.5 credits and receive a letter grade based on the quality of their work.
- Students enrolled at PCA for less than **three weeks before the end of the quarter** may receive NM (no mark) or NC (no credit) for that quarter’s grade.

- Classwork, projects, and assessments shall be assigned value using points and shall not be assigned a credit value. (*Exceptions may be made for students with IEPs*)
- Students can earn extra credits if and only if they have earned the required 2.5 credits for the class.

All report cards are mailed to the home address that is on file in the PCA Office.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate from California public high schools, students must complete specific state and local graduation requirements. Local school districts (and County Offices of Education) have the authority and responsibility for establishing high school graduation requirements. These requirements vary among school districts. However, California Education Code Section 51225.3 specifies that students must pass a minimum set of required courses. These requirements should be viewed as minimums and support for the regulations specified by the local school (and county offices of education) boards. The minimum number of credits required for graduation from Pathways Charter Academy is 220.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Subjects	Credits			
English	30	For the purpose of grade level opportunities and graduation evaluation, the following are used to determine class status. This may be different than the grade level on the official roll.		
World History	10			
U.S. History	10			
American Gov.	5			
Economics	5			
Algebra	10			
Mathematics	10		9 th grade students	<u>Credits</u> 0-60
Life Science	10		10 th grade students	60-120
Physical Science	10		11 th grade students	120-180
Physical Education	20		12 th grade students	180-220
Fine Arts/F. Lang	10			
State Requirements	5			
Electives	85			
<hr/> Total				
	220			

STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress: Each spring, students in grades three through eight and grade eleven, participate in the administration of the Smarter Balanced assessments. The Smarter Balanced assessments are a part of California’s testing system called the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). Students take tests online in English-Language Arts and Mathematics. Students in grades five, eight, and one grade in high school also take an online test for Science. If you do not want your child to participate in an area of the CAASPP program, you may submit a written request to the school site coordinator prior to the beginning of testing. This must be completed annually and include your child’s name, birthdate, and the specific test or content area in which he/she is to be exempted.

English Language Proficiency Assessment for California: Students for whom a language other than English is indicated on the Home Language Survey are assessed on the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California upon enrollment. The initial assessment determines language proficiency in English and program placement. English Learners are assessed annually on the ELPAC until reclassification criteria are met.

Physical Fitness Test: The Physical Fitness Test is administered to students in grades five, seven, and nine. Six components, Aerobic Capacity, Body Composition, Upper Body Strength, Abdominal Strength, Trunk Extension, and Flexibility are measured against the guidelines established in the State's Healthy Fitness Zones.

SCHOOL RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

Campus Visitors

All visitors, including parents, must check in with the office and obtain a **Visitor's Badge**. Students may not have a guest at school at any time.

Computer System and Network Use Policy

Computers are available to students for tutorials, testing, software practice, and research. They are **not** for the following:

- Loading outside software or downloading software.
- Accessing personal computer accounts including email, Facebook, etc.
- Using the Campus Network to gain unauthorized access to any computer systems.
- Connecting unauthorized equipment/flash drives to computers or the campus network.
- Unauthorized attempts to circumvent data protection schemes or uncover security loopholes.
- Knowingly or carelessly performing an act that will interfere with the normal operation of computers, terminals, peripherals, or networks.
- Knowingly or carelessly running or installing on any computer system or network, or giving to another user a program intended to damage or to place excessive load on a computer system or network. This includes, but is not limited to programs known as computer viruses, Trojan Horses, and worms.
- Deliberately damaging a computer terminal, central processing unit, or peripheral device.
- Deliberately wasting/overloading computing resources, or printing excess copies of a document.
- Violating copyright laws and their fair use provisions through inappropriate reproduction or dissemination of the copyrighted text, images, etc.
- Displaying obscene, lewd, combative, hostile, or sexually harassing images or text on a computer that can be viewed by others.
- Using a computer or other electronic device to intimidate, harass or threaten others. This includes inappropriate communication through social media, sending repeated and/or unwanted emails to another user, inappropriate mass mailing, and multiple mailings to newsgroups, mailing lists, or individuals.
- Forging the identity of a user or machine in electronic communication.
- Transmitting or reproducing materials that are slanderous or defamatory in nature or that otherwise violate existing laws or campus regulations.
- Using PCA resources for commercial activity such as creating products or services for sale.
- Attempting to monitor or tamper with another user's electronic communications, or reading, copying, changing, or deleting another user's files or software without the explicit agreement of the owner.

VIOLATIONS WILL RESULT IN PROMPT REMOVAL OF COMPUTER PRIVILEGES AND/OR LEGAL ACTION

Delivery of Items to Students

Balloons, flowers, food or other items should not be ordered for delivery at school. If deliveries arrive, they will be held in the main office until the end of the school day.

Dress Code Violation

Students who are not appropriately dressed for school will be given an opportunity to call home for a change of clothing. When needed, clean t-shirts and shorts are available in the office to loan for the school day. Students who repeatedly violate

the dress code will receive progressive disciplinary consequences.

2022-2023 Dress Code

All students are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate for school. Clothing shall be neat, clean, safe, and not disruptive to instructional activities. The following rules apply to all students:

- No short shorts, skirts, or dresses. Shorts, dresses, and skirts must be at least knuckle length when the arms are at the sides.
- No sagging pants. Pants must be at or above hip bones.
- No exposed cleavage.
- No spaghetti strap, halter, racerback, or tube tops. All tank tops must have straps that are a minimum of 1" wide (approximately the width of two fingers).
- No sheer clothing.
- No drug, gang, or alcohol-related clothing.
- No clothing that discriminates or is derogatory to any group.
- No clothing/accessory that may be deemed dangerous i.e. chains, studded collars, spikes, etc.
- No Gang or gang-related clothing. For example, blue or red clothing, excessively baggy clothing, belts worn excessively long, monikers or insignias, hair nets, headbands or "rags" worn on a person or displayed Old English style or "graffiti style" writing on any item school officials view as denoting gang membership or affiliation. (Denoting membership in a gang is prohibited – California Education Code 35183).
- No sunglasses in class, assemblies, or at any indoor school function unless they are prescribed or have a doctor's note.

Any student who deviates from the accepted standards set forth in this policy will be required to prepare properly for the classroom before being admitted. Refusal to cooperate will result in disciplinary action.

Drug-Free, Tobacco-Free Zone

PCA is a drug-free, tobacco-free closed campus. Use, possession, or sale of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or any other controlled substance or paraphernalia including electronic cigarettes and related products are not permitted on campus or any immediate areas. This applies at all times on campus, including school activities that are held after school (Penal Code § 308). Consequences enforced will range from suspension to loss of placement at PCA.

Graffiti and Vandalism

Damaging, defacing, or destroying school property is against the law. Students guilty of such acts will receive consequences to the full extent that California Education Code, California penal Code, and County Policy allow. **Parents are responsible and financially liable for acts of vandalism committed by their students.**

Plagiarism/Cheating

PCA is an educational community that values personal integrity. Academic dishonesty in all its forms (coursework, exams, or other academically related activities) will not be tolerated and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Cheating on any project, quiz, or exam.
- Copying from another student or knowingly allowing another to copy.
- Using unauthorized materials and/or technologies.
- Claiming as one's own a paper from a paper writing service, free or otherwise.
- Plagiarism: Paraphrasing material from a source without appropriate documentation.
- Knowingly obtaining, possessing, providing, using, buying, selling, or soliciting, in whole or in part, the contents of an examination.
- Intentionally causing a disadvantage to other students (tainting lab results, destroying another person's product, erasing another person's program, work, etc.).
- Tampering and/or changing any official classroom document.

Cell Phone/Personal Music Device Policy

Cell phones can be helpful to facilitate student-parent/guardian communications; however, the use of cell phones, personal music devices, and electronics on campus is at the discretion of the school staff. It is against school policy for a student to use an electronic device during instructional time or during the passing time without explicit permission from the classroom teacher. We make every effort to discourage classroom interruptions. Violation of this policy may include having the device visible or audible during instructional time. The consequences for violating this policy are listed below and also posted in every classroom:

- **Student directed to put the device away**
- **Student directed to the front office to turn in device for the remainder of the day**
- **Student required to check phone daily on arrival at school**
- **Student and parent are directed to leave the phone at home**
- **A locker will be assigned to the student if the device is a persistent issue.**

Please be advised that PCA is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or broken personal electronic devices.

Possession of weapons

Possession of weapons such as firearms, knives, explosives, or any dangerous objects is not permitted on any school campus. Possession of a weapon will result in a Law Enforcement Intervention.

Profanity/Vulgarity

Profanity and vulgarity are not tolerated on school grounds or at any school event. Staff will intervene when necessary. Defiance to staff and/or profanity or vulgarity being directed toward any staff member is not acceptable and will result in consequences. Profanity and vulgarity in the classroom are not acceptable and will result in consequences ranging from a warning to suspension.

Prohibited items

Other items prohibited include, but are not limited to Bluetooth speakers, permanent markers, laser pointers, aerosol containers, spikes, and water pistols. These items will be confiscated and will not be returned.

Questioning by Outside Authority

Any law enforcement agent, with appropriate identification, has the authority and right to question students while at school.

Skateboards, Bicycles and Scooters

Students are responsible for locking their bicycle while on campus. The use of skateboards and scooters is prohibited on campus. These items will be confiscated if observed being used. PCA is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged items. Bikes must be locked on the racks provided outside of the office.

Student Parking

Students may not go to their cars during school hours. Student parking and driving on campus is a privilege, and violations may result in disciplinary action and possible loss of on-campus parking. The school and SCSOS are not responsible for theft or damage to a student's vehicle or theft of the contents inside the vehicle. California Highway Patrol, Yuba City Police Department, and Fire Department personnel may issue citations to parked vehicles in violation of safety, handicapped and fire access codes. Any unsafe driving on or around the school will result in disciplinary action.

The Role of Discipline

The most important role of discipline in the school is to create a safe and comfortable learning environment for all members of the school community. Good citizenship and appropriate behavior are expected of all students at PCA. Communication between the home and school concerning discipline matters and academic progress is paramount to creating a safe environment conducive to learning.

Students who exhibit inappropriate behavior are given consequences increasing in severity. This includes conferences and a list of Alternative Means of Correction (AMC) identified at PCA as the *Progressive Discipline Plan* (available upon request). Suspension from school ranges from one to five days, and continued misbehavior may result in referral back to home school or referral to an alternate school or program.

The Use of Metal Detectors

The County Superintendent of Schools finds that the presence of weapons in the schools threatens the district's ability to provide the safe and orderly learning environment to which district students and staff are entitled. The County Superintendent also finds that metal detector searches offer a reasonable means to keep weapons out of the schools and mitigate the fears of students and staff.

The following safeguards shall be used when making metal detector scans:

1. Before the walk-through, students shall be asked to empty their pockets and belongings of metallic objects.
2. If an initial handheld metal detector activation occurs, students shall be asked to remove other metallic objects that they may be wearing (e.g., belt and jewelry) and will be scanned a second time.
3. If the activation is not eliminated or explained, the school administration shall escort the student to a private area where an expanded search shall be conducted.
4. The search shall be limited to the detection of the cause of the activation.

Know Your Educational Rights

Your Child has the Right to a Free Public Education:

- All children in the United States have a Constitutional right to equal access to free public education, regardless of immigration status and regardless of the immigration status of the students' parents or guardians.
- In California: All children have the right to a free public education.
- All children ages 6 to 18 years must be enrolled in school.
- All students and staff have the right to attend safe, secure, and peaceful schools.
- All students have a right to be in a public school learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, violence, and intimidation.
- All students have equal opportunity to participate in any program or activity offered by the school, and cannot be discriminated against based on their race, nationality, gender, religion, or immigration status, among other characteristics.

Information Required for School Enrollment:

- When enrolling a child, schools must accept a variety of documents from the student's parent or guardian to demonstrate proof of child's age or residency.
- You never have to provide information about citizenship/immigration status to have your child enrolled in school. Also, you never have to provide a Social Security number to have your child enrolled in school.

Confidentiality of Personal Information:

- Federal and state laws protect student education records and personal information. These laws generally require that schools get written consent from parents or guardians before releasing student information, unless the release of information is for educational purposes, is already public, or is in response to a court order or subpoena.

- Some schools collect and provide publicly basic student “directory information.” If they do, then each year, your child’s school district must provide parents/guardians with written notice of the school’s directory information policy, and let you know of your option to refuse release of your child’s information in the directory.

Family Safety Plans if You Are Detained or Deported:

- You have the option to provide your child’s school with emergency contact information, including the information of secondary contacts, to identify a trusted adult guardian who can care for your child in the event you are detained or deported.
- You have the option to complete a Caregiver’s Authorization Affidavit or a Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardian of the Person, which may enable a trusted adult the authority to make educational and medical decisions for your child.

Right to File a Complaint:

- Your child has the right to report a hate crime or file a complaint to the school district if he or she is discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied on the basis of his or her actual or perceived nationality, ethnicity, or immigration status.

FEATHER RIVER ACADEMY
TITLE 1 SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Sutter County Superintendent of Schools, Feather River Academy, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during the school year 2022-2023

School Responsibilities

Feather River Academy will:

Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

1. All Teachers and staff will:

- Encourage and support students' learning
- Believe that each student can learn
- Use positive actions and words
- Maintain and foster high standards of academic achievement and positive behavior
- Respectfully and accurately inform parents of their child's progress
- Have high expectations for students and be committed to continuous growth for the teacher, staff, and the school
- Respect the cultural differences of students, their families, and other staff members
- Help students resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways
- Coordinate efforts with other staff to support the success of each child
- Create a caring, inclusive, stimulating, and safe school/classroom setting.

2. As it relates to individual student achievement, this compact will be discussed with parents during orientation.

- Orientation is held prior to a student enrolling at Feather River Academy
- Back to School Night is held in the first 4 to 6 weeks of each new school year

3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide as follows:

- Progress reports with letter grades are mailed to parents/guardians approximately four to five weeks into each quarter.
- Grade reports with letter grades are sent to parents/guardians at the end of each nine-week period.
- Provide parents with reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents

Parent Responsibilities

As a Parent or Guardian, I will:

- See that my child attends school regularly and on time
- Provide the necessary material for class participation
- Maintain and foster standards of high academic achievement and positive behavior
- Make sure all homework is completed and returned on time
- Communicate on a regular basis with my child's teachers
- Encourage my child to practice reading and math activities at home
- Show respect and support for my child, the teachers, and the school
- Volunteer and participate, as appropriate, during school events

Student Responsibilities

I, as a student, will:

- Always do my best in my work and in my behavior
- Work cooperatively with my classmates and teachers
- Show respect for myself, my school, teachers and others
- Obey the school rules
- Take pride in my school and my schoolwork
- Come to school prepared with my homework and my supplies
- Believe that I can and will learn

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

Pathways Charter Academy School Compact, SCSOS 2022-2023 School Year

PCA PARENT AND STUDENT AGREEMENTS

I have received the school rules and behavior expectations and understand that I am responsible for knowing and following all school rules. I also understand that I am subject to disciplinary action if I choose to disregard them. In the event that I am involved in any violation of any school rule, or commit a violation of the Education Code, I may be subject to the maximum consequences allowable.

Please initial the following statements and sign on the appropriate line

Parent/Guardian:

- _____ I participated in the Orientation Process, received and reviewed the PCA Handbook, and understand all accompanying Parent/Student Notifications and have had my questions answered.
- _____ I understand that PCA has a school Dress Code and I agree to comply with this policy by ensuring that my child will arrive to school in the proper clothing. If my child does not conform, I understand I will be required to bring his/her appropriate clothing to school.
- _____ I understand and agree to the Pathways Charter Academy Computer Contract Conditions of Use.
- _____ I understand and agree to uphold the cell phone/personal music device policies and understand that PCA is not responsible for any lost, stolen or broken cell phone/personal music device. Confiscated phones/music devices will be returned only to parents/guardians.
- _____ I understand and agree to uphold the closed campus policy.
- _____ I understand and agree that my child may be interviewed and/or photographed for publication, media, websites and school publications.
- _____ I understand and agree that transportation **may be** provided by PCA staff to assist with attendance or other special circumstances.
- _____ I have received a copy and agree to the School-Parent Compact
- _____ I understand and agree to uphold the school rules and expectations and have received a copy of the parent/student handbook and legal notifications.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

Opt-out option - I do not want my child to watch PG-13 or R-rated movies _____

Student:

- _____ I participated in the Orientation Process, received and reviewed the PCA Handbook, and understand all accompanying Parent/Student Notifications and have had my questions answered.
- _____ I understand I am required to comply with the PCA's Dress Code. I agree to come to school in the appropriate clothing. I understand I may receive detention for any class time missed due to a Dress Code violation.
- _____ I understand and agree to the Pathways Charter Academy Computer Contract Conditions of Use.
- _____ I understand and agree to uphold the cell phone/personal music device policies and understand that PCA is not responsible for any lost, stolen or broken cell phone/personal music device. Confiscated phones/music devices will be returned only to parents/guardians.
- _____ I understand and agree to uphold the closed campus policy.
- _____ I understand that I may be interviewed and/or photographed for publication, media, websites and school publications.
- _____ I have received a copy and agree to the School-Parent Compact
- _____ I understand and agree to uphold all school rules and expectations and have received a copy of the parent/student handbook and legal notifications.

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____