



7834 North 56th Street Tampa, FL 33617  
Phone: 813-988-7700 Fax: 813-988-7740

### Supplemental Admissions Questionnaire

*To be completed by both parents. This is an open book questionnaire. You will find our answers on pages 3 and 4.*

Name of Parent (s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Do you fully support the following aspects of the school curriculum, policies, and program?

Please circle your response:      Y= Yes   N= No   Q= Qualified

Classical subjects (Latin, Logic, Rhetoric)	Y	N	Q
Discipline Policy	Y	N	Q
Homework	Y	N	Q
Uniform and Dress Code	Y	N	Q
Parent Involvement	Y	N	Q

Please explain any "No" or "Qualified" answers. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Why do you want your child(ren) to attend Paideia Classical Christian School? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What are your expectations for the way in which Biblical values are manifested at school? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. If a conflict arises between you (or your child) and the classroom teacher, another student, an administrator, or board member would you contact other parents? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Which virtues would you most like your child to exhibit? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. What do you (as a parent) believe is a more important priority for your child: high achievement (e.g. honor roll, getting lead roles in school plays, leading the team in scoring) or doing one's best? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. If you found that your child was struggling academically, how would you respond? \_\_\_\_\_

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8. What is the purpose of homework and your family's expectation concerning work outside of the classroom?

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9. Should a grade of "C" be a cause for praise if a student is working to be the best of his potential? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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10. Would you expect a teacher in a class of 20 students to spend 25% of his effort on one child with academic, emotional or behavioral problems? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Father's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Why are we giving you an open-book test? It's similar to a driver's license examination. You get the questions and answers ahead of time because the goal is not to flunk applicants, but rather to make sure they read and understand the lesson. Every one of these questions deals with real issues and concerns we have at Paideia Classical Christian School. When you read these answers which reflect the school's philosophy, you may wholeheartedly agree, you may wholeheartedly disagree, or find yourself somewhere in the middle. The Lord God (Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Ephesians 6:4) requires parents to be active leaders in the education of their children, so it is vital that you choose wisely and well. We are eager to answer any questions you may have which will help you make a good decision.

1. You would be surprised how often a parent will object to just one facet of the curriculum. They may love the reading program, but don't see why their child has to memorize, or take Latin, or wear a school-approved uniform. We have prayerfully made many choices concerning our curriculum and program, and we believe we have made sound decisions. We are constantly seeking to upgrade the curriculum and make positive changes to our program. We need parents and students to support them willingly and cheerfully in order to create a positive, harmonious campus culture.

2. & 3. There is no right answer here, of course. We simply want to know what is important to your family.

4. Conflicts should be resolved by keeping the circle of those involved as small as possible for as long as possible, in accordance with the principles of Matthew 5, Matthew 18, and Galatians 6. If you wish to express a concern to a teacher, the principal, a board member, or other parents, you must first meet with the person involved, and if an agreement cannot be reached, both parties should then approach the next level of authority. This is not easy, but it is Biblical, and it is the best path to healthy relationships. Please do not fear confrontation: our teachers are mature professionals, and they can accept constructive criticism in the same manner in which it is offered. Please do not fear retaliation: our teachers' love children, and they would never take out their frustrations on their students. Gossip, backbiting, and stirring up dissension among brothers just have no place in a Christian school.

5. Answers to this question will vary from family to family and child to child. We simply wish to get an idea of what values are important to your family.

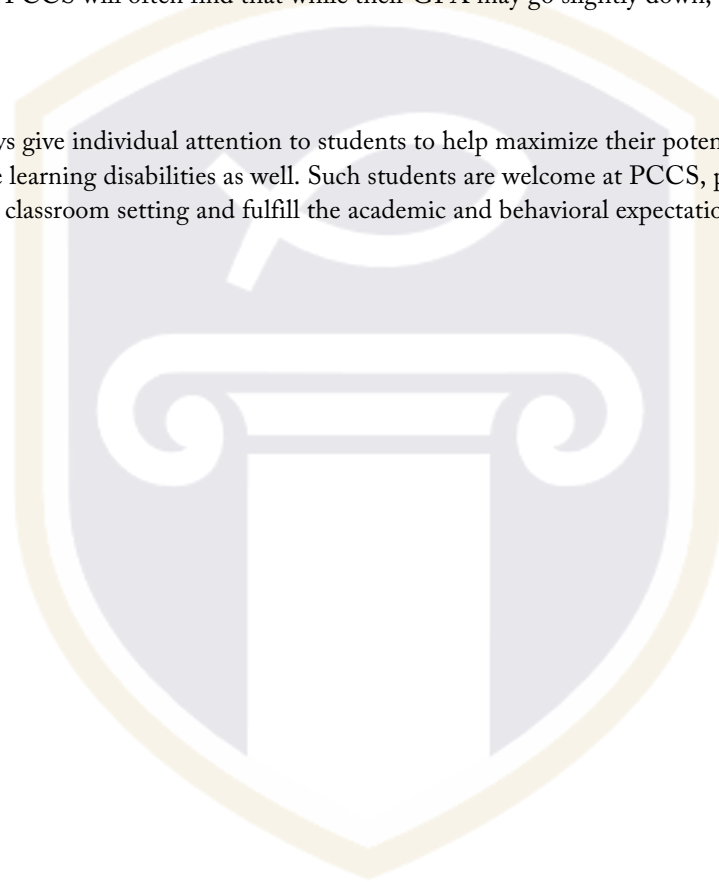
6. Wise parents will not contribute to modern society's worship of success by paying too much attention to the outward marks of achievement. Our goal is for every student to do his best, to work up to his potential in every area. Not every student can slam-dunk a basketball, and not every student can get "straight A's" at Paideia Classical Christian School. We all have our strengths and weaknesses. Our teachers will celebrate their students' strengths even as they train them in their weaknesses – all for the glory of God and the good of the children.

7. One of PCCS's greatest strengths is academic excellence. Our curriculum goals are relatively rigorous and demand much effort from every student. We have "set the bar high" in our academic standards. We do not intend to be "Smart-Kid Academy," but the "average" student will have to work hard to get satisfactory grades at PCCS. We define an average grade as a "C." Parents of students who must work harder to keep up with the academic demands may well need to limit extracurricular activities, spend extra time helping with homework each night, or even secure an outside tutor to assist the student.

8. We highly value family time and will do all we can to respect it. A balanced student has time for academic excellence, family, church and other outside activities. If your student uses the time given in class to work, normally he should not have an excessive amount of homework.

9. American education is far too fixated on grades and test scores. We don't have grade inflation at PCCS. A grade of "C" may represent average achievement but also excellent effort by a given student. That student who is working at maximum capacity should not be made to feel inferior by the culture's unrealistic expectations for higher marks. Students transferring to PCCS will often find that while their GPA may go slightly down, their actual learning curve will go way up.

10. Good teachers always give individual attention to students to help maximize their potential. This applies to students with less severe learning disabilities as well. Such students are welcome at PCCS, provided they can function in a traditional classroom setting and fulfill the academic and behavioral expectations with reasonable individual attention.



## Philosophy Of Education

PCCS is a Classical Christian school. This Classical Christian model equips the student to live purposefully in the service of God and man. Education is the cultivation of wisdom and virtue by nourishing the soul on truth, goodness, and beauty so that the student may glorify God and enjoy him forever.

The School is distinctly Classical. As such, we employ the time-proven method of the Trivium in education, the essence of which is the Language Arts. The goal of this Trivium-based pedagogical program is to educate students not primarily in *what* to think, but in *how* to think: thoroughly, maturely and Biblically - in other words, to equip them with the tools of learning. The framework of this educational program encompasses three distinct and progressive stages of childhood development, each named for one of the disciplines of the Trivium and each emphasizing a primary mode of teaching and certain helpful teaching methods.

- 1) The *Grammar* stage studies the facts and rules of various subjects and disciplines in order to build a foundation of knowledge. Questions of who, what, where, and when are the focus.
- 2) The *Dialectic* stage brings factual data into ordered relationships, both within and across subjects and disciplines. The goal is to equip students with the thinking skills necessary to recognize sound arguments and ideas, and to detect and correct fallacious ones. This stage addresses the questions of how and why, and includes study in formal logic and the intensive study of classical languages.
- 3) The *Rhetoric* stage seeks to produce students who can use language and marshal arguments, both written and spoken, to express their thoughts precisely, eloquently, and persuasively. It includes the study of formal rhetoric as well as Biblical doctrine and apologetics.

The School is distinctly Christian. As such, we believe:

- 1) That parents are responsible to educate their children in the Lord;
- 2) That fathers are the God-ordained heads of their households, and that whenever possible, each father should assume leadership in the education of his children;
- 3) That Biblical discipline, the encouragement of an obedient child and the correction of a disobedient child, is a critical and necessary part of education;
- 4) That the role of formal educators is to be *in loco parentis*, "in the place of the parent," in other words, that such educators are the delegates of the parents, assisting them in the education of their children, but never usurping their God-given parental prerogative and responsibility;
- 5) That every subject must fully integrate the Word of God and teach that all knowledge and life extend from the triune Creator God who is Lord and sovereign ruler over all the affairs of mankind; and
- 6) That God's Word is the standard in the reading, understanding and enjoyment of the world's great ideas in the arts and sciences.



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