

The Pro-Vision Academy

2020-2021

Student/Parent

Handbook



Interim Superintendent - Warner Ervin
Interim Executive Principal – Dr. Phyllis Tyler
Assistant Principal - Michael Henry

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SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Statement of Non-Discrimination

The Pro-Vision Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in providing educational services, activities, and programs, including vocational and career technology programs. The Pro-Vision Academy complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”), as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and any other legally-protected classification or status protected by applicable law.

Any questions or concerns about The Pro-Vision Academy’s compliance with these federal programs should be brought to the attention of the following persons designated as being responsible for coordinating compliance with these requirements:

- The Title IX Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of sex/gender, is Ronnie Courtney, Athletic Coordinator at 4590 Wilmington Street, Houston, Texas, 77051, 713-748-0030.
- Section 504 Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of disability, is Sonja Turner, 4590 Wilmington Street, Houston, Texas, 77051, 713-748-0030.
- ADA concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of disability, is Carrie Tate, Special Services Coordinator, 4590 Wilmington Street, Houston, Texas, 77051, 713-748-0030.
- The Age Discrimination Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of age, is Tracey Hooks, Compliance Officer at 4590 Houston, Texas, 77051, 713-748-0030.
- All other concerns regarding discrimination may be directed to Tracey Hooks, Compliance Officer, 4590 Wilmington Street, Houston, Texas, 77051, 713-748-0030.

General Admissions and Enrollment Information

Admission and enrollment of students shall be open to persons who reside within the geographic boundaries stated in the School’s charter, and who are eligible for admission based on lawful criteria identified in the charter and in state law. The total number of students enrolled in The Pro-Vision Academy shall not exceed the number of students approved in the charter or subsequent amendments. Total enrollment may further be limited by The Pro-Vision Academy based on occupancy limitations, code compliance and staffing requirements as deemed necessary.

In accordance with state law, The Pro-Vision Academy does not discriminate in its admissions policy on the basis of sex; national origin; ethnicity; religion; disability; academic, artistic, or athletic ability; or the district the child would otherwise attend.

Exclusion from Admission

As authorized by The Pro-Vision Academy charter and Texas Education Code § 12.111(a)(5)(A), students with a documented history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or other discipline problems under Texas Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A may be excluded from admission and enrollment in The Pro-Vision Academy.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001

Homeless children and youth are ensured specific educational rights and protections. A listing of these specific rights may be obtained from The Pro-Vision Academy by contacting Courtney Miller, Registrar, 4590 Wilmington Street, Houston, Texas, 77051, 713-748-0030.

“Homeless children and youth” as defined and covered by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001:

- Means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.
- Includes children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.
- Are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations.
- Are living in emergency or transitional shelters.
- Are abandoned in hospitals or are awaiting foster care placement.
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations.

Parents of students in homeless situations can keep their students in their schools of origin (the school that the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled even if the student is now residing outside the school attendance area or school district) or enroll them in any public school that students living in the same attendance area are eligible to attend.

Student Information

Any student admitted to The Pro-Vision Academy must have records, such as a report card and/or transcript from the previous school attended, to verify his or her academic standing. Verification of residency and current immunization records are also required. Every student enrolling in the School for the first time must present documentation of immunizations as required by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

No later than 30 days after enrolling in the School, the parent and school district in which the student was previously enrolled shall furnish records that verify the identity of the student. These records may include the student’s birth certificate or a copy of the student’s school records from the most recently attended school. Students will not be denied enrollment because they failed to meet this requirement.

The Pro-Vision Academy will forward a student’s records on request to a school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll without the necessity of the parents’ consent.

Food Allergy Information

The parent of each student enrolled in the School must complete a form provided by The Pro-Vision Academy that discloses (1) whether the child has a food allergy or a severe food allergy that should be disclosed to The Pro-Vision Academy to enable it to take any necessary precautions regarding the child's safety and (2) specifies the food(s) to which the child is allergic and the nature of the allergic reaction.

For purposes of this requirement, the term "severe food allergy" means a dangerous or life-threatening reaction of the human body to a food-borne allergen introduced by inhalation, ingestion, or skin contact that requires immediate medical attention.

The Pro-Vision Academy may also require information from a child's physician if the child has food allergies.

Food allergy information forms will be maintained in the child's student records and shall remain confidential. Information provided on food allergy information forms may be disclosed to teachers, school counselors, school nurses, and other appropriate school personnel only to the extent consistent with Board policy and as permissible under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 ("FERPA").

Establishing Identification

Any of the following documents are acceptable for proof of identification and age: birth certificate; driver's license; passport; school ID card; records, or report card; military ID; hospital birth records; adoption records; church baptismal record; or any other legal document that establishes identity.

Undocumented Students

Enrollment may not be denied to children who are not legally admitted into the United States.

Residency Verification

The Texas Education Code authorizes schools to obtain evidence that a person is eligible to attend public schools. To be eligible for continued enrollment in The Pro-Vision Academy, each student's parent must show proof of residency at the time of enrollment. Residency may be verified through observation, documentation, and other means, including, but not limited to:

1. A recently paid rent receipt,
2. A current lease agreement,
3. The most recent tax receipt indicating home ownership,
4. A current utility bill indication the address and name of the residence occupiers,
5. Mailing addresses of the residence occupiers,
6. Visual inspection of the residence,
7. Interviews with persons with relevant information, or
8. Building permits issued to a parent on or before September 1st of the school year in which admission is sought (permits will serve as evidence of residency for the school year in which admission is sought only).

Falsification of residence on an enrollment form is a criminal offense.

School Calendar

The Pro-Vision Academy operates according to the school calendar adopted annually by the Board of

Directors. Holidays may be used as school make-up days for days lost due to bad weather. The latest changes to the calendar will be available on the School's website.

School Day

All schools begin classes at 7:30 a.m. and are dismissed at 3:15 p.m. Students may be dropped off as early as 7:00 a.m. They will be supervised, but there are no organized activities before the instructional day begins.

Students who are not engaged in supervised after-school activities are expected to be picked up by 3:30 pm.

Students are engaged in supervised after-school activities are expected to be picked up 15 minutes after their after-school program is finished.

Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

All students must be dropped off and picked up ONLY in the circular driveway located at the front of the school. If a student arrives after 7:45 am, the parent or guardian must come inside and sign the student in at the front office desk. If a parent wishes to pick-up their child up for early dismissal you must sign the child out at the front office prior to 2:45 pm. Parent(s) or guardian(s) will need to remain in their vehicle and the student will be called for dismissal.

Student Drivers and Parking

All student drivers must hold a valid driver's license and insurance. Students driving to school must park in the designated lot. Only students who have completed a parking sticker application and have been approved may park on campus. Parking permit stickers must be visible on the left corner of the windshield. Students may not go to their cars during the school day. Students must also drive in a manner that is safe and does not disrupt the learning environment or school community in any way. Students who fail to follow these guidelines will have their driving privileges suspended or revoked and may be subject to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct.

Attendance

All Pro-Vision Academy students are expected to attend each class period daily due to the rigor of our curriculum. Consistent school attendance is an essential component of each student's education. Official attendance is taken each day at 10:00 am. Tardies, period-by-period attendance, and early checkouts are also recorded each day.

Absence from school will affect a student's ability to succeed in class; therefore, students and parents should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences. Additionally, state law mandates compulsory school attendance for children of a certain age, and The Pro-Vision Academy's policy deals with attendance for course credit and a student's final grade. These items/laws are discussed below.

Texas Compulsory Attendance Law

The state compulsory attendance law requires that a student between the ages of six and 19 must attend school and school-required tutorial sessions unless the student is otherwise legally exempted or excused. The Pro-Vision Academy' staff must investigate and report violations of the state compulsory attendance law. A student absent from school without permission from any class, from required special programs, or from required tutorials will be considered "truant" and subject to disciplinary action.

A student who voluntarily enrolls after his or her 19th birthday is required to attend each school day. If a student 19 years of age or older has more than five unexcused absences in a semester, The Pro-Vision

Academy may revoke the student's enrollment, except that The Pro-Vision Academy may not revoke the enrollment on a day on which the student is physically present at school. The student's presence on school property thereafter would be unauthorized and may be considered trespassing. Prior to revoking the student's enrollment, The Pro-Vision Academy shall issue a warning letter to the student after the third unexcused absence stating that the student's enrollment may be revoked for the remainder of the school year if the student has more than five unexcused absences in a semester. As an alternative to revoking enrollment, The Pro-Vision Academy may impose a behavior improvement plan.

Notice to Parents: *Under Texas Education Code § 25.095(a), you are hereby notified that if a student is absent from school on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year, the student's parent is subject to prosecution under Texas Education Code § 25.093; and the student is subject to referral to a truancy court for truant conduct under Texas Family Code § 65.003(a).*

The Pro-Vision Academy shall notify a student's parent if the student has been absent from school, without excuse, on three days or parts of days within a four-week period. The notice will inform the parent that it is the parent's duty to monitor the student's school attendance and require the student to attend school; the student is subject to truancy prevention measures under Texas Education Code § 25.0915; and that a conference between school officials and the parent is needed to discuss the absences.

Attendance for Credit or Final Grade

To receive credit or a final grade in a class, a student must attend at least at least 90% of the days the class is offered. These days include both excused and unexcused absences. A student who attends fewer than 90% of the days the class is offered may be referred to the Attendance Review Committee to determine whether the absences were due to extenuating circumstances and how the student may regain credit or earn a final grade.

The Attendance Review Committee will consider the following factors when determining whether there are extenuating circumstances for the absence:

1. All absences, whether excused or unexcused, must be considered, with consideration given to special circumstances as defined by the Texas Education Code.
2. For a student transferring into The Pro-Vision Academy after school begins, including a migrant student, only those absences after enrollment will be considered.
3. In reaching consensus about a student's absences, the committee will attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student.
4. The committee will consider whether the absences were for reasons over which the student or parent could exercise control.
5. The committee will consider the acceptability and authenticity of documentation expressing reasons for the student's absences.
6. The committee will consider the extent to which the student has completed all assignments, mastered the essential knowledge and skills, and maintained passing grades in the course or subject.
7. The student, parent or other representative will be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit.

If credit is lost or a final grade is not earned due to excessive absences, the Attendance Review Committee will decide how the student may regain credit or earn a final grade. If the committee determines there are no extenuating circumstances and that credit or a final grade may not be earned, the student or parent may appeal the committee's decision to the Superintendent by filing a written request with the Principal.

The appeal notice must be postmarked to the following address within 10 days following the last day of instruction in the semester for which credit was denied:

The Pro-Vision
Academy Attendance
4590 Wilmington Street
Houston, Texas 77051

The Superintendent or designee shall inform the student or parent of the final decision.

Absence and Tardiness

When a student must be absent from school, parents are asked to call the School each day the student will be absent. Upon returning to school, the student must bring a note, signed by the parent, or a medical excuse signed and dated by a provider that describes the reason for the absence. Notes should be submitted to the school registrar, and may be scanned and emailed, submitted through the The Pro-Vision Academy website, or faxed to the School. If a note is not received within 5 school days of the absence, the absence will be recorded as unexcused.

Because excessive absences are considered truancy under state law, The Pro-Vision Academy reserves the right to take extreme absence cases to court.

The School recognizes two kinds of absences: excused and unexcused. Students and parents should read this section carefully to understand the School's expectations. Students and parents should also be aware of the School's policy regarding homework, quizzes, and tests following an absence.

Excused Absences

State law allows exemptions to the compulsory attendance requirements for several types of absences if the student makes up all work. These include the following activities and events:

- Religious holy days.
- Required court appearances.
- Activities related to obtaining United States citizenship.
- Service as an election clerk.
- Documented health-care appointments for the student or a child of the student, including absences for recognized services for students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. If a student returns to school the same day or attends part of the day prior to a doctor's appointment and then presents a doctor's note verifying the appointment, the absence is excused and the student is counted present. Students should be picked up and signed out for early dismissal in the office. We cannot call your student from the classroom until you are in the front office signing them out.
- For students in the conservatorship (custody) of the state.
- Mental health or therapy appointments.
- Court-ordered family visitations or any other court-ordered activity provided it is not practicable to schedule the student's participation in the activity outside of school hours.

A junior or senior student may also be absent for up to two days per school year for purposes of visiting a college or university, so long as the student obtains permission for the visit from the Principal, follows the School's procedures to verify the visit, and makes up any work missed due to the absence.

A student may also be absent for up to two days in a school year for service as an early voting clerk,

provided the student receives approval from the school principal prior to the absence and informs his or teachers of the absence.

Absences of up to five days will be excused for a student to visit with a parent, stepparent, or legal guardian who has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from certain deployments.

For religious holy days, required court appearances, activities related to obtaining citizenship, and services an election clerk, one day of travel to the site and one day of travel from the site shall also be excused by the School.

The only additional excused absences are for personal illness, death in the immediate family (parent, sibling, grandparent, or member of the immediate household), a school-related absence or an absence approved in advance by the camps principal due to extenuating circumstances.

College Days

High school students who meet the following criteria will be allowed to have two excused days of absence for a college visit during their junior year and two excused days of absence for a college visit during their senior year:

- The student must have passed the required parts of the STAAR/equivalent state assessment for the previous year.
- The student must be on track to graduate on time.
- The student must be classified as a junior or senior based upon credits earned.
- The student must be passing all course work.
- The student must have no truancy or other attendance problems.

Students must submit a written request to the school office at least two days prior to the day requested for a college visit so that eligibility criteria for an excused day of absence can be verified and approval granted prior to the student participating in a college visit. Approval will not be granted for a college visit on a day when major exams are scheduled, and no partial days will be approved.

Unexcused Absences

Any absence not listed above or approved in advance by the school principal due to extenuating circumstances will be considered an unexcused absence.

Tardiness and Late Arrival

Students who arrive late must sign in at the school office; the parent or guardian must sign in for students in grades 3-8. Late arrivals are documented. Any student arriving after the official attendance time of 10:00 a.m. will be marked absent for average daily attendance purposes.

Make-Up Work

If a student has an excused absence from class, a teacher may assign make-up work that incorporates the instructional objectives for the class and that will assist the student to master the essential knowledge and skills necessary to meet subject or course requirements. Students are responsible for obtaining and completing the make-up work in a satisfactory manner and within the grading cycle that it was missed. Teachers will provide students and parents with additional information regarding penalties for failure to complete make-up work within the time allotted, and the process for making up tests missed due to absence.

Students are not allowed to make-up work for unexcused absences.

Driver's License Attendance Verification

The Texas Department of Public Safety ("DPS") requires the school to verify the attendance records of a student between the ages of 16 and 18 who is seeking to obtain or renew a driver's license. In order for DPS to access this information or, in certain circumstances, for a school administrator to provide the attendance information to DPS, written parental permission must be obtained. Students may obtain the required Verification of Enrollment ("VOE") form from the School office.

Release of Students from School

Every student that is checked out early must be signed out through the school office. State rules require that parental written consent be obtained before a student under the age of 18 may leave campus at any point in the school day. To ensure that the end of the day dismissal is the safest environment, students cannot be checked out after 2:45 pm.

Because class time is important, doctor's appointments or meetings with other professionals should be scheduled at times when the student will not miss instructional time, if possible.

Closed Campus

Students are not permitted to leave campus for lunch. Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their child in the cafeteria, but they must sign in through the front office. Parents may only bring lunch for their own children. Students and adults may not bring in or give away food to other students during lunch times.

Withdrawals

Voluntary Withdrawal

A student under 18 years of age may be withdrawn from school only by a parent. The Pro-Vision Academy requests notice from the parent at least three days in advance so that records and documents may be prepared. Parents may obtain a withdrawal form from the main office. The parent shall also provide the name of the new school the student will attend, and must sign the withdrawal request to document that the student will continue to be enrolled in a school as required by compulsory attendance laws.

A student who is 18 years of age or older, who is married, or who has been declared by a court to be an emancipated minor, may withdraw without parental signature.

Withdrawing students and parents are expected to:

- Return all textbooks and checked-out materials and equipment;
- Complete any make-up work assigned;
- Pay any unpaid balance for student fees, if any; and
- Sign a release of student records.

In all cases, withdrawal forms must be appropriately completed and signed before withdrawal is complete.

Dress Code

The School's uniform standards are designed to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. Students must come to school cleanly and neatly groomed and wearing clothing that will not be a health or safety hazard to the student or others, and that will not distract from the educational atmosphere of the School. Students are required to arrive in proper uniform attire every day.

Students must be in dress code from the moment they arrive on school property (including school bus) until they leave. Students who do not follow the School's guidelines for personal attire and appearance may be subject to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, a parent may be contacted to bring an acceptable change of clothing to school.

The Pro-Vision Academy students are expected to dress in a manner that conveys respect for their learning community and communicates a message of personal confidence and pride. The following specific guidelines must be adhered to:

The Pro-Vision Academy' Uniform (**Dress Code**):

“Absolutely No Hoodies”

Monday – Wednesday

Male students:

PV polo shirt (Blue for Middle School and Gray for High School)

Black slacks

Belt (black or brown)

Female students:

PV polo shirt (Blue for Middle School and Gray for High School)

Black slacks or PV plaid skirt

Belt (black or brown)

Thursday (Dress for Success)

Male and Female Students:

White button-down shirt (short or long sleeves) Black tie (cross tie for females)

Black slacks (or PV plaid skirt for females, optional) Belt (black or brown)

Black, white, or gray tennis shoes.

PV Sweater Vest (Blue Vest for Middle School and Gray for High School)

Friday (optional dress)

The PV polo shirt, College Shirts or PV spirit shirt

Blue jeans without holes, torn, ripped or frayed design

SHOES

Black, white, or gray tennis shoes.

While it is inevitable that there will be differences of opinion as to the appropriateness of dress, grooming, and/or determining whether or not a student's attire is disruptive or distracting to the educational environment of the school, the final determination will be made by the campus principal. Any student who does not comply with the dress code will be removed from the regular school setting until the student complies with this code.

Other Standards:

- Clothing or conspicuously displayed jewelry or accessories with inappropriate advertising or statements that are offensive or inflammatory are prohibited. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, alcoholic beverages, profanity, sex, tobacco, drugs, gangs, guns and other weapons, excessively violent or gory imagery, and the promotion of violence.
 - Hats, caps, visors, bandanas, stocking caps and other head coverings are not allowed inside any school facilities.
 - Facial jewelry is not allowed, even if covered with a band-aid. This includes, but is not limited to tongues, chins, noses, eyebrows, lips, etc. No "grace period" exists for jewelry in new piercings. This means that we will not tolerate facial jewelry just because they cannot be removed for a certain period of time.
 - Only two earrings are allowed in each ear. Earrings must have standard-sized posts. No gauged earrings of any size or type are allowed. This applies to both male and female students.
 - Bracelets and necklaces must be worn in moderation. Pet collars, pet chains, and chain wallets are not allowed. Jewelry with spikes is prohibited.
 - Any clothing, jewelry, or other item that is gang related or shows affiliation with any other inappropriate organization is prohibited.
 - Hair must be neat and clean. Unconventional hairstyles that are considered to be distracting and/or disruptive to the educational environment are prohibited. Designs, letters, or number may not be shaved into the hair. Students may wear natural hair colors only. For further clarification on what is unconventional, please consult with the campus administration.
 - Male students may have neatly trimmed facial hair. "Neatly trimmed" is strictly enforced!
 - Visible tattoos and similar body painting(s) that promote violence or reflect gang activity are prohibited. Visible tattoos and similar body painting(s) that are considered offensive, inflammatory or disruptive to the learning environment are prohibited. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, inappropriate advertising or statements that are offensive or inflammatory alcoholic beverages, profanity, sex, tobacco, drugs, gangs, guns and other weapons, excessively violent or gory imagery, and the promotion of violence.
- The Pro-Vision Academy will periodically review its dress and grooming policies, and make changes as needed.

Student Fees

Materials that are part of the basic educational program are provided with state and local funds at no charge to a student. Students may be required to pay certain fees or deposits, including:

1. A fee for materials for a class project that the student will keep, if the fee does not exceed the cost of materials;
2. Membership dues in voluntary student clubs or organizations and admission fees to

- extracurricular activities;
3. A fee for personal physical education and athletic equipment and apparel, although a student may provide the student's own equipment or apparel if it meets reasonable requirements and standards relating to health and safety;
 4. A fee for voluntarily purchased items, such as student publications, class rings, pictures, yearbooks, graduation announcements, etc.;
 5. A fee for voluntary student health and accident benefit plan;
 6. A reasonable fee, not to exceed the actual annual maintenance cost, for the use of musical instruments and uniforms owned or rented by the school;
 7. A fee for items of personal apparel used in extracurricular activities that become the property of the student;
 8. A fee for replacement of a student identification card;
 9. If offered, a fee for a driver training course, not to exceed the actual cost per student in the program for the current school year;
 10. A fee for an optional course offered for credit that requires the use of facilities not available on campus or the employment of an educator who is not part of the school's regular staff;
 11. A fee for summer school courses that are offered tuition-free during the regular school year;
 12. A reasonable fee, not to exceed \$50, for costs associated with an educational program offered outside of regular school hours through which a student who was absent from class receives instruction voluntarily for the purpose of making up the missed instruction and meeting the level of attendance required for class credit, so long as the fee would not create a financial hardship or discourage the student from attending the program;
 13. A reasonable fee, not to exceed \$50, for use of computer equipment for personal educational use.
 14. A fee specifically permitted by any other statute

The Pro-Vision Academy may waive any fee or deposit if the student and parent are unable to pay. A request for such a waiver must be made in writing to the Principal or designee, and include evidence of inability to pay. Details for the fee waiver are available in the school office or school website.

Families are responsible for paying all fees associated with extra-curricular programs, including clubs, parking, athletics and fine arts prior to participation.

Textbooks and Curriculum Materials

State-approved textbooks and additional curriculum materials are provided free of charge for each subject or class. Materials must be used by the students as directed by the teacher, and treated with care. A student who is issued damaged materials should report the damage to the teacher.

Students must return all non-consumable textbooks and supplemental materials to the teacher at the end of the school year or when the student withdraws from school. Any student failing to return issued materials in an acceptable condition loses the right to free textbooks and educational materials until the student and/or parent pay for the damages. However, a student will be provided textbooks and educational materials for use during the school day. The Pro-Vision Academy may reduce or waive the payment requirement if the student is from a low-income family.

Food Service

The Pro-Vision Academy participates in the National School Lunch Program and offers nutritionally balanced breakfasts and lunches. Guidelines set by the Texas Department of Agriculture (“TDA”) and United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) are followed to meet the nutritional needs of all students. Menus may be obtained at the school office.

Free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches are available based on financial need. Information about a student’s participation is confidential. See the Child Nutrition Director to apply. Students must apply for meal assistance each school year.

State-Mandated Nutrition Guidelines

The TDA places strict limits on any food or drink provided or sold to students other than through The Pro-Vision Academy’s food and nutrition services. More detailed information may be obtained at the school office or online at www.squaremeals.org.

Transportation

The Pro-Vision Academy provides bus transportation at no cost for students living two or more miles from school. Bus routes and any subsequent changes are posted in the school office. Further information may be obtained by calling the school office.

Riding a school bus is a privilege. School bus drivers have the authority to maintain discipline and require seating charts. When riding a school vehicle, students are held to behavioral standards established in this Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct. Students must:

1. Follow the driver’s directions at all times;
2. Enter and leave the bus in an orderly manner;
3. Keep feet, books, instrument cases, and other objects out of the aisle;
4. Not deface the vehicle or its equipment;
5. Not put head, hands, arms, legs, or an object out of any window; and
6. Wait for the driver’s signal in order to leave or cross in front of the vehicle.
7. Not eat or drink on the school bus.

Only approved students are allowed to ride the bus. Students may neither ride the bus to a different location nor have friends ride the bus to participate in after-school activities.

If a student with a disability is receiving school transportation as a result of an IEP, the Admission Review and Dismissal (“ARD”) Committee will have the discretion in determining appropriate disciplinary consequences related to inappropriate behavior in a school bus.

Transcripts

The Pro-Vision Academy maintains an academic achievement record (or transcript) for each student enrolled. Transcripts provide complete personal student data, give complete scholastic grades, performance acknowledgements and scores for standardized tests. Requests for transcripts should be made to the campus registrar. Students are provided with 5 free official transcripts. Additional transcripts are \$2.00 each for current and former students. Payments should be made at the time of the request in either cash or money order. Official transcripts may be picked up from the campus registrar three-five business days after the request is submitted (during normal business hours of operation).

Displaying a Student's Artwork, Projects, Photos, and Other Original Work

Teachers may display student work in classrooms or elsewhere on campus as recognition of student achievement. However, The Pro-Vision Academy will seek parental consent before displaying student artwork, special projects, photographs taken by students, and other original works on the The Pro-Vision Academy' website, on any campus or classroom website, in printed materials, by video, or by any other method of mass communication. The Pro-Vision Academy will also seek consent before displaying or publishing an original video or voice recording in this manner.

Distribution of Materials or Documents

School Materials

Publications prepared by and for The Pro-Vision Academy may be posted or distributed with prior approval by the Principal and/or teacher. Such items may include school posters, brochures, murals, etc.

Non-School Materials

Students must obtain express prior approval of the Principal or designee before distributing, posting, selling, or circulating written materials, handbills, photographs, pictures, petitions, films, tapes, posters, or other visual or auditory materials on campus.

Non-school literature shall not be distributed by students on The Pro-Vision Academy's property if:

- The materials are obscene, vulgar, or otherwise inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience.
- The materials endorse actions endangering the health or safety of students.
- The materials promote illegal use of drugs, alcohol, or other controlled substances.
- The distribution of such materials would violate the intellectual property rights, privacy rights, or other rights of another person.
- The materials contain defamatory statements about public figures or others.
- The materials advocate imminent lawless or disruptive action and are likely to incite or produce such action.
- The materials are hate literature or similar publications that scurrilously attack ethnic, religious, or racial groups or contain content aimed at creating hostility and violence, and the materials would materially and substantially interfere with school activities or the rights of others.
- There is reasonable cause to believe that distribution of the non-school literature would result in material and substantial interference with School activities or the rights of others.

Any student who posts material without prior approval will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Materials displayed without approval will be removed.

Written or printed materials, handbills, photographs, pictures, films, tapes, or other visual or auditory materials over which The Pro-Vision Academy does not exercise control shall not be sold, circulated, or distributed by persons or groups not associated with The Pro-Vision Academy or a school support group on school premises unless the person or group obtains specific prior approval from the Superintendent or designee. To be considered, any non-school material must include the name of the sponsoring organization or individual. The requestor may appeal the Principal or designee's decision in accordance with Board policy.

Electronic Device Policy

Electronic and telecommunication devices are a major source of distraction in the classroom. If a student is permitted to possess an electronic or telecommunications device at school, including a cell phone, all such devices must be turned off during school hours unless it is being used in an approved classroom activity. If a School employee observes a student using any electronic or telecommunication device (including a cell phone) during the school day in a non-school/class-related activity, the employee will collect the item and turn it in to the Principal's office.

A parent will be contacted to pick up the item and pay the applicable fee. A \$15 fee will be assessed before the parent is able to retrieve the device. An additional \$15 fee will be assessed each subsequent time a device is confiscated. Any disciplinary action will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

The Pro-Vision Academy will not be responsible for damage to or loss or theft of confiscated items.

Pledges of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Each school day, students will recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag. Parents may submit a written request to the Superintendent or designee to excuse their student from reciting a pledge.

State law requires that one minute of silence will follow recitation of the pledges. Each student may choose to reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent activity during that minute so long as the silent activity does not interfere with or distract others. In addition, state law requires that The Pro-Vision Academy provide for the observance of one minute of silence at the beginning of the first period class when September 11 falls on a regular school day in remembrance of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

Recitation of the Declaration of Independence

State law requires students in social studies classes in grades 3–12 to recite a portion of the text of the Declaration of Independence during "Celebrate Freedom Week." A student will be exempted from this requirement if a parent provides a written statement requesting that the student be excused, The Pro-Vision Academy determines that the student has a conscientious objection to the recitation, or the parent is a representative of a foreign government to whom the United States extends diplomatic immunity.

Prayer and Meditation

Students have a right to individually, silently, and voluntarily pray or meditate in school in a manner that does not disrupt instructional or other school activities. The Pro-Vision Academy will not require, encourage, or coerce a student to engage in or refrain from such prayer or meditation during any school activity.

SECTION 2: STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY

Alcohol-Free School Notice

In order to provide a safe and alcohol-free environment for students and employees, all alcoholic beverages are prohibited on The Pro-Vision Academy property at all times, and at all school-sanctioned activities occurring on or off School property. Student violators are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

Tobacco-Free School Notice

Smoking (including electronic cigarettes, cigars, and pipes) and using tobacco products is prohibited in school buildings, vehicles, or on or near school property, or at school-related or school-sanctioned events off school property. Students may not possess tobacco products at any of the locations or activities listed above. Student violators are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

Drug-Free School Notice

The Pro-Vision Academy believes that student use of illicit drugs is both wrong and harmful. Consequently, The Pro-Vision Academy prohibits the use, sale, possession, or distribution of illicit drugs by students on school premises or any school activity, regardless of its location. The Pro-Vision Academy also prohibits the use, sale, possession, or distribution of look-alike substances and/or synthetic substances designed to imitate the look and/or effects of illicit drugs. Student violators are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention

If you are worried that your child may be using or is in danger of experimenting, using, or abusing illegal drugs or other prohibited substances, please contact the school counselor. The school principal can provide you with a list of community resources that may be of assistance to you. The Texas Department of State Health Services (“TDSHS”) maintains information regarding children’s mental health and substance abuse intervention services on its Web site: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhsa-child-adolescent-services/>.

Suicide Awareness

The Pro-Vision Academy is committed to partnering with parents to support the healthy mental, emotional, and behavioral development of its students. If you are concerned about your child, please access <http://www.texassuicideprevention.org> or contact the school principal for more information related to suicide prevention services available in your area.

Bacterial Meningitis Information

State law requires The Pro-Vision Academy to provide the following information:

What is bacterial meningitis?

Meningitis is an inflammation of the membranes that surround the brain and spinal cord. Meningitis can be caused by viruses, parasites, fungi and bacteria. Viral meningitis is common and most people recover fully. Parasitic and fungal meningitis are very rare. However, bacterial meningitis is very serious and may involve complicated medical, surgical, pharmaceutical and life support management.

What are the symptoms of bacterial meningitis?

Someone with meningitis will become very ill. The illness may develop over one or two days, but it can also rapidly progress in a matter of hours. Not everyone with meningitis will have the same symptoms.

Children (over 2 years old) and adults with bacterial meningitis commonly have a severe headache, high fever, and neck stiffness. Other symptoms might include nausea, vomiting, seizures, discomfort looking into bright lights, confusion and sleepiness and lethargy. In both children and adults, there may be a rash of tiny, red-purple spots or purple patches on the skin. These can occur anywhere on the body. The more symptoms, the higher the risk, so when these symptoms appear seek immediate medical attention.

The diagnosis of bacterial meningitis is based on a combination of symptoms and laboratory results.

How serious is bacterial meningitis?

Bacterial meningitis is a serious, potentially deadly disease that can progress extremely fast. If it is diagnosed early and treated promptly, the majority of people make a complete recovery. However, in some cases it can be fatal or a person may be left with permanent severe health problems or disability.

How is bacterial meningitis spread?

Fortunately, none of the bacteria that cause meningitis are as contagious as diseases like the common cold or the flu, and they are not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with meningitis has been. They are spread when people exchange saliva (such as by kissing, or by sharing drinking containers, food, utensils, cigarettes, toothbrushes, etc.) or come in contact with respiratory or throat secretions (such as by coughing or sneezing).

The germ does not cause meningitis in most people. Instead, most people become carriers of the germ for days, weeks, or even months. The bacteria rarely overcome the body's immune system and cause meningitis or another serious illness.

How can bacterial meningitis be prevented?

Maintaining healthy habits, like getting plenty of rest, can help prevent infection. Using good health practices such as covering your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing and washing your hands frequently with soap and water can also help stop the spread of the bacteria. It's a good idea not to share food, drinks, utensils, toothbrushes, or cigarettes. Limit the number of persons you kiss.

There are vaccines available to offer protection from some of the bacteria that can cause bacterial meningitis.* the vaccines are safe and effective (85–90 percent). They can cause mild side effects, such as redness and pain at the injection site lasting up to two days. Immunity develops within seven to ten days after the vaccine is given and lasts for from three to five years.

* Please note that the Texas Department of State Health Services (“TDSHS”) requires at least one meningococcal vaccination for grades 7 through 12, and state guidelines recommend this vaccination be administered between age 11 and 12, with a booster dose at 16 years of age. Also note that entering college students must show, with limited exception, evidence of receiving a bacterial meningitis vaccination within the five-year period prior to enrolling in and taking courses at an institution of higher education. Please see the school nurse for more information, as this may affect a student who wishes to enroll in a dual credit course taken off campus.

What should you do if you think you or a friend might have bacterial meningitis? You should seek prompt medical attention.

Where can you get more information?

Your family doctor and the staff at your local or regional health department office are excellent sources for information on all communicable diseases. You may also call your local health department or Regional Texas Department of Health office to ask about meningococcal vaccine. Additional information may also be found at the web sites for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov and the Texas Department of State Health Services: <https://www.dshs.tx.us/idcu/disease/meningitis/>.

Communicable Diseases

To protect other students from contagious illnesses, students infected with certain diseases are not allowed to come to school while contagious. Parents of students with a communicable or contagious disease should notify the Principal or designee so that other students who might have been exposed to the disease can be alerted. School authorities will report those students who are suspected of having a reportable condition. A list of reportable conditions can be found on the Texas Department of State Health Services website at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/investigation/conditions/>.

Any student excluded from school attendance for reason of communicable disease may be readmitted by one or more of the following methods, as determined by the local health authority:

- Certificate of the attending physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant attesting that the child does not currently have signs or symptoms of a communicable disease or to the disease’s non-infectiousness in a school setting;
- Submitting a permit for readmission issued by a local health authority; or
- Meeting readmission criteria as established by the commissioner of health.

Head Lice

Head lice, although not an illness or a disease, is very common among children and is spread very easily through head-to-head contact during play, sports, or nap time and when children share things like brushes, combs, hats, and headphones. If careful observation indicates that a student has head lice, the school secretary will contact the student’s parent to pick the child up from school and to discuss a plan for treatment with an FDA-approved medicated shampoo or cream rinse that may be purchased from any drug or grocery store. After the student has undergone one treatment, the parent should check in with the school secretary to discuss the treatment used. The nurse can also offer additional recommendations, including subsequent treatments and how best to get rid of lice and prevent their return. Once the child is free from lice, he or she may return to school.

More information on head lice can be obtained from the TDSHS website at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/lice.shtm>.

Immunization Requirements

The State of Texas requires that every child in the state be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with an established immunization schedule.

To determine the specific number of doses that are required for your student, please read “2020-2021” Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Students Grades K–12.” For specific immunization requirements, please contact the Texas Department of State Health Services at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/>.

Proof of immunization may be personal records from a licensed physician or public health clinic with a signature or rubber-stamp validation.

Provisional Enrollment

A student can be enrolled provisionally for no more than 30 days if her or she transfers from one Texas school to another, pending the transfer of the immunization record.

A student may be enrolled provisionally if the student has an immunization record that indicates the student has received at least one dose of each specified age-appropriate required vaccine. To remain enrolled, the student must complete the required subsequent doses in each vaccine series on schedule and as rapidly as is medically feasible and provide acceptable evidence of vaccination to the school. The Pro-Vision Academy shall review the immunization status of a provisionally enrolled student every 30 days to ensure continued compliance in completing the required doses of vaccination. If at the end of the 30-day period, a student has not received a subsequent dose of vaccine, then the student is not in compliance and The Pro-Vision Academy shall exclude the student from school attendance until the required dose is administered.

A student who is homeless, as defined by the McKinney Act (42 U.S.C. § 11302), shall be admitted temporarily for 30 days if acceptable evidence of vaccination is not available. The Pro-Vision Academy shall promptly refer the student to appropriate public health programs to obtain the required vaccinations.

Exclusions from Immunization Requirements

Exclusions from immunization requirements are allowable on an individual basis for medical reasons, reasons of conscience (including a religious belief), and active duty with the armed forces of the United States.

To claim exclusion for medical reasons, the student must present a statement signed by the student’s physician (M.D. or D.O.), duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States who has examined the student, in which it is stated that, in the physician’s opinion, the vaccine required is medically contraindicated or poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of the student or any member of the student’s household. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

To claim an exclusion for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, a signed Texas Department of State Health Services (“TDSHS”) affidavit must be presented by the student’s parent, stating that the student’s parent declines vaccinations for reasons of conscience, including because of the person’s religious beliefs. The affidavit will be valid for a period of two years. The form affidavit may be obtained by writing the TDSHS Immunization Branch (MC 1946), P.O. Box 149347, Austin, Texas 78714-9347, or online at <https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco/default.aspx>. The form must be submitted to the Superintendent within 90 days from the date it is notarized. If the parent is seeking an exemption for more than one student in the family, a separate form must be provided for each student. Students, who have not

received the required immunizations for reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs, may be excluded from school in times of emergency or epidemic declared by the commissioner of public health. To claim exclusion for armed forces, the student must prove that he or she is serving on active duty with the armed forces of the United States.

Immunization Records Reporting

The School's record of a student's immunization history, while private in most instances, may be inspected by the Texas Education Agency, local health departments, and TDSHS and transferred to other schools associated with the transfer of the student to those schools.

Emergency Medical Treatment

If a student has a medical emergency at school or a school-related activity and the parent cannot be reached, The Pro-Vision Academy' staff will seek emergency medical treatment unless the parent has previously provided a written statement denying this authorization. Therefore, parents are asked each year to complete an emergency care consent form. Parents should keep emergency care information up to date (name of doctor, emergency phone numbers, allergies, etc.). Please contact the campus registrar to update any information.

Student Illness

When your child is ill, please contact the School to let us know he or she will not be attending that day. Students must be fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication and must be free of vomiting/diarrhea without the use of diarrhea suppressing medication for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

If a student becomes ill during the school day, he or she must receive permission from the teacher before reporting to the front office. If the administration determines that the child should go home, the front office will contact the parent.

Administration of Medication

Medication should be administered at home whenever possible. If necessary, prescription medication can be administered at school by the school appointed staff member under the following circumstances:

1. Prescription medications must be submitted in a labeled container showing the student's name, name of the medication, reason the medication is being given, proper dosage amounts, the time the medication must be taken, and the method used to administer the medication. Medications sent in plastic baggies or unlabeled containers will NOT be administered.
2. Prescription medications administered during school hours must be prescribed by a physician or advanced nurse practitioner ("ANP") and filled by a pharmacist licensed in the State of Texas. In accordance with the Texas Board of Nursing's Nurse Practice Act, The Pro-Vision Academy will not administer medications prescribed or fulfilled in Mexico.
3. If the substance is herbal or a dietary supplement, it must be provided by the parent and will be administered only if required by the students Individualized Education Program ("IEP") or Section 504 plan for a student with disabilities.
4. Only the amount of medication needed should be delivered to The Pro-Vision Academy, *i.e.*, enough medication to last one day, one week, etc. In cases of prolonged need, send in the amount for a clearly specified period. Extra medication will not be sent home with the student.
5. Changes to daily medications require written instruction from the physician or ANP and written permission from the parent. Parents are responsible for advising The Pro-Vision Academy that a medication has been discontinued.

Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication

Asthma and anaphylaxis are life-threatening conditions, and students with those conditions are entitled to possess and self-administer prescription medication while on The Pro-Vision Academy property or at school-related events.

Student possession and self-administration of asthma or anaphylaxis medication at school requires the student to demonstrate his or her ability to self-administer the medication to the student's physician or other licensed health care provider and the school administration, if available. Requirements also include written authorization from the student's parent **and** physician or other licensed health care provider on file in the school office indicating the student is capable of independently administering his or her own asthma or emergency anaphylaxis medication. Medication in a student's possession must be in an original container with a prescription label. Please note that most pharmacies will place a label on the inhaler device upon request.

Steroid Notice

The Pro-Vision Academy does not permit steroid use. A notice shall be posted in a conspicuous location in the school gym or in each other place in a building where physical education classes are conducted.

Dyslexia and Related Disorders

From time to time, students may be tested and, where appropriate, treated for dyslexia and related disorders in accordance with programs, rules and standard approved by the state. Parents will be notified should The Pro-Vision Academy determine a need to identify or assess their student for dyslexia and related disorders.

Fitness Testing

According to requirements under state law, The Pro-Vision Academy will annually assess the physical fitness of students. The Pro-Vision Academy is not required to assess a student for whom, as a result of disability or other condition identified by rule or law, the assessment exam is inappropriate.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

All children enrolled in Texas schools must be screened for possible vision and hearing problems in accordance with regulations issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services. Students in certain grade levels identified by state regulations shall be screened for vision and hearing problems annually.

Screening records for individual students may be inspected by the TDSHS or a local health department, and may be transferred to another school without parental consent.

Exemption: A student is exempt from screening requirements if screening conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination of which the individual is an adherent or a member. To qualify for the exemption, the individual or, if the individual is a minor, the minor's parent, managing conservator, or guardian, must submit to the Superintendent or designee on or before the day of admission an affidavit stating the objections to screening.

Freedom from Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

Statement of Nondiscrimination

The Pro-Vision Academy prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any student on the basis

of race, color, religion, gender or sex, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law. The Pro-Vision Academy also prohibits dating violence, as defined by this Handbook. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of school policy.

Discrimination

For purposes of this Handbook, discrimination against a student is defined as conduct directed at a student on the basis of race, color, religion, gender or sex, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law and that adversely affects the student.

Prohibited Harassment

Prohibited harassment of a student is defined as physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct based on the student's race, color, religion, gender or sex, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

- Affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
- Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

Examples of prohibited harassment may include offensive or derogatory language directed at another person's religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for accommodation; threatening or intimidating conduct; offensive jokes; name calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; display of graffiti or printed material promoting racial, ethnic, or other negative stereotypes; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

Sexual Harassment and Gender-Based Harassment

In compliance with the requirements of Title IX, The Pro-Vision Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs or activities. Sexual harassment of a student, including harassment committed by another student, includes unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; or sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct when the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:

- Affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

Examples of sexual harassment of a student may include sexual advances; touching intimate body parts or coercing physical contact that is sexual in nature; jokes or conversations of a sexual nature; and other sexually motivated conduct, communications, or contact.

The Pro-Vision Academy also does not tolerate sexual harassment of a student by school employees. Romantic or inappropriate social relationships between students and school employees are prohibited. Any sexual relationship between a student and a school employee is always prohibited, even if consensual.

Sexual harassment of a student by a school employee includes both welcome and unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct; or other conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

- A school employee causes the student to believe that the student must submit to the conduct in order to participate in a school program or activity, or that the employee will make an educational decision based on whether or not the student submits to the conduct; or
- The conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:
 - Affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities; or
 - Creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or abusive educational environment.

Gender-based harassment includes harassment based on a student's gender, expression by the student of stereotypical characteristics associated with the student's gender, or the student's failure to conform to stereotypical behavior related to gender.

Examples of gender-based harassment directed against a student, regardless of the student's or the harasser's actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, may include, but not be limited to, offensive jokes, name-calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; threatening or intimidating conduct; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

Dating Violence

Dating violence occurs when a person in a current or past dating relationship uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control the other partner. Examples of dating violence against a student may include physical or sexual assaults, name-calling, put-downs, threats to hurt the student or the student's family members or members of the student's household, destroying property belonging to the student, threats to commit suicide or homicide if the student ends the relationship, attempts to isolate the student from friends and family, stalking, or encouraging others to engage in these behaviors.

For purposes of this Handbook, dating violence is considered prohibited harassment if the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

- Affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
- Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

Retaliation

The Pro-Vision Academy prohibits retaliation against a student alleged to have experienced discrimination or harassment, including dating violence, or another student who, in good faith, makes a report, serves as a witness, or otherwise participates in an investigation. Examples of retaliation may include threats, rumor spreading, ostracism, and assault, destruction of property, unjustified punishments, or unwarranted grade reductions. Unlawful retaliation does not include petty slights or annoyances.

A student who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false statements, or refuses to cooperate with a school investigation regarding discrimination or harassment is subject to appropriate discipline.

Reporting Procedures

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced prohibited harassment or believes that another student has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to a teacher, counselor, the Principal or designee, or other school employee. Alternatively, a student may report prohibited harassment directly to the appropriate Compliance.

A student shall not be required to report prohibited harassment to the person alleged to have committed the conduct. Reports concerning prohibited conduct, including reports against the Title IX Coordinator, the ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, and/or the Age Discrimination Coordinator may be directed to Tracey Hooks, Compliance Officer at 713- 748-0030. If a report is made directly to Tracey Hooks, The Pro-Vision Academy shall appoint an appropriate person to conduct an investigation.

Investigation of Complaints

After receiving a complaint of prohibited discrimination or harassment, The Pro-Vision Academy may, but need not, require the student to prepare a written report. Oral complaints will be reduced to written form. Upon receipt of a complaint, the appropriate Compliance Coordinator or other authorized School official shall promptly authorize and undertake an investigation. Following completion of the investigation, the Compliance Coordinator or other authorized School official will prepare a written decision regarding the complaint, including a determination of whether prohibited discrimination or harassment occurred.

When appropriate, The Pro-Vision Academy may take interim action to avoid additional opportunities for discrimination or harassment. The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the person making the report, the person against whom the report is filed, and any others with knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the allegations. If the results of the investigation establish that prohibited discrimination or harassment occurred, The Pro-Vision Academy shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the discrimination or harassment and prevent its recurrence. The Pro-Vision Academy may take disciplinary action based on the results of an investigation, even if the School concludes that the conduct did not rise to the level of harassment prohibited by law or policy.

Confidentiality

To the greatest extent possible, The Pro-Vision Academy shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation and comply with applicable law.

Appeal

A student or parent who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal through the The Pro-Vision Academy grievance procedure. A student shall be informed of his or her right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

Freedom from Bullying and Cyber-bullying

The Pro-Vision Academy prohibit bullying as defined by this section, as well as retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process. Bullying occurs when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by The Pro-Vision Academy that:

- Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or
- Is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

Conduct described above is considered bullying if that conduct:

- Exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator and the student victim through written or verbal expression or physical conduct; and
- Interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of The Pro-Vision Academy.

The Pro-Vision Academy also prohibits cyberbullying, which is defined as the use of any electronic communication device to engage in bullying or intimidation.

Reporting Procedures

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced any form of bullying or believes that another student has experienced bullying should immediately report the alleged acts to the Principal or designee, a teacher, counselor, or other school employee. A report may be made orally or in writing. Any school employee who receives notice that a student has or may have experienced bullying shall immediately notify the Principal or designee.

Investigation of Report

The Principal or designee shall determine whether the allegations in the report, if proven, would constitute prohibited harassment, and if so, proceed under that policy instead. The Principal or designee shall conduct an appropriate investigation based on the allegations in the report and shall take prompt interim action calculated to prevent hazing and/or bullying during the course of an investigation, if appropriate.

The Principal or designee shall prepare a written report of the investigation, including a determination of whether hazing and/or bullying occurred. If the results of an investigation indicated that hazing and/or bullying occurred, the school shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the conduct in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. The Pro-Vision Academy may take action based on the results of an investigation, even if the school concludes that the conduct did not rise to the level of hazing and/or bullying under this policy.

Confidentiality

To the greatest extent possible, The Pro-Vision Academy shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation.

Appeal

A student or parent who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal through The Pro- Vision Academy grievance procedure.

Law Enforcement Agencies

Questioning of Students

When law enforcement officers or other lawful authorities wish to question or interview a student at school, the Principal will cooperate fully regarding the conditions of the interview if the questioning or interview is part of a child abuse investigation. In other circumstances:

1. The Principal or designee shall verify and record the identity of the official and request an explanation of the need to question or interview the student at school.
2. The Principal or designee ordinarily will make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent, unless the interviewer raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection.
3. The Principal or designee ordinarily will be present during the questioning or interview, unless the interviewer raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection.

When the investigation involves allegations of child abuse, special rules apply.

Students Taken into Custody

State law requires The Pro-Vision Academy to permit a student to be taken into legal custody:

1. Pursuant to an order of the juvenile court;
2. Pursuant to the laws of arrest;
3. By a law enforcement officer if there is probable cause to believe the student has engaged in conduct that violates a penal law, delinquent conduct or conduct in need of supervision, or conduct that violates a condition of probation imposed by the juvenile court;
4. By a probation officer if there is a probable cause to believe the student has violated a condition of probation imposed by the juvenile court;
5. Pursuant to a properly issued directive to apprehend; or
6. By an authorized representative of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services ("TDFPS"), a law enforcement officer, or a juvenile probation officer, without a court order, under the conditions set out in Section 262.104 of the Texas Family Code relating to the student's physical health or safety.

Before a student is released to a law enforcement officer or other legally authorized person, the Principal or designee will verify the officer's identity and, to the best of his or her ability, verify the official's authority to take custody of the student.

The Principal or designee will immediately notify the Superintendent and will ordinarily attempt to notify the parent unless the officer or other authorized person raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection to notifying the parents. Because the Principal or designee does not have the authority to prevent or delay a student's release to a law enforcement officer, any notification will most likely be after the fact.

Child Abuse Reporting and Programs

The Pro-Vision Academy provides child abuse anti-victimization programs and cooperates with official child abuse investigators as required by law. The School also provides training to its teachers and students in preventing and addressing incidents of sexual abuse and other maltreatment of children, including

knowledge of likely warning signs indicating that a child may be a victim of sexual abuse or maltreatment. Assistance, interventions and counseling options are also available.

The School's administration shall cooperate with law enforcement investigations of child abuse, including investigations by the Texas Department of Protective and Family Services. School officials may not refuse to permit an investigator to interview a student who is alleged to be a victim of abuse or neglect at school. School officials may not require the investigator to permit school personnel to be present during an interview conducted at school.

Investigations at school may be conducted by authorized law enforcement or state agencies without prior notification or consent of the student's parent, if necessary.

Plan for Addressing Sexual Abuse and Other Maltreatment of Children

What is Sexual Abuse of a Child?

The Texas Family Code defines "sexual abuse" as any sexual conduct harmful to a child's mental, emotional, or physical welfare as well as, in certain circumstances, failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct harmful to a child.

What is Other Maltreatment of a Child?

Under State law, "other maltreatment" of a child includes "abuse" or "neglect," as defined by Texas Family Code sections 261.001 and 261.401.

Reporting Obligation

Anyone who suspects that a child has been or may be abused or neglected has a legal responsibility, under state law, for reporting the suspected abuse or neglect to law enforcement or to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services ("DFPS"). Reports may be made by contacting one of the following:

- Texas Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400 or, in non-emergency situations only;
- <http://www.txabusehotline.org>;
- Your local police department; or
- Call 911 for emergency situations.

The Pro-Vision Academy has established a plan for addressing child sexual abuse and other maltreatment of children (the "Plan"). The Plan is addressed in this section of the Handbook.

Methods for Increasing Awareness Regarding Sexual Abuse or Other Maltreatment of Children

For Staff: The Pro-Vision Academy annually trains staff in all content areas addressed in the Plan. Training is provided by campus staff, administrative staff, or outside agencies as determined by the campus administration.

For Students: School counseling staff will address issues to increase awareness regarding sexual abuse and other maltreatment of children and anti-victimization programs with age appropriate conversation and materials no less than once per school year. These discussions will occur in classroom group settings.

For Parents: Parents must be aware of warning signs indicating that their child may have been or is being sexually abused or otherwise maltreated. A child who has experienced sexual abuse or other maltreatment should be encouraged to seek out a trusted adult. Be aware as a parent or other trusted adult that evidence of sexual abuse or other maltreatment may be more indirect than disclosures or signs of physical abuse. It is important to remain calm and comforting if your child, or another child, confides in you. Reassure the child that he or she did the right thing in coming to you.

The fact that the abuser is a parent or other family member does not remove your obligation to protect the child. Parents who permit their child to remain in a situation where he or she may be injured or abused may also be subject to prosecution for child abuse. And, if you are frightened for your own safety or that of your child, you should call 911 or 1-800-252-5400.

Also remember that parents are legally responsible for the care of their children and must provide their children with safe and adequate food, clothing, shelter, protection, medical care and supervision, or arrange for someone else to provide these things. Failure to do so may be considered neglect.

The Principal or designee will provide information regarding counseling options available in your area for you and your child if your child is a victim of sexual abuse or other maltreatment. The DFPS also provides early abuse intervention through counseling programs. Services available in your county can be accessed at the following web address:

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Prevention_and_Early_Intervention/Programs_Available_In_Your_County/default.asp.

These websites are also helpful:

- Texas Education Agency – Prevention of Child Abuse Overview:
http://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Schools/Safe_and_Healthy_Schools/Child_Abuse_Prevention/Child_Abuse_Prevention_Overview/
- Sexual Abuse Prevention Programs:
<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/programs/sexualabuse/>
- Promoting Healthy Families in Your Neighborhood:
<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/packet.pdf>
- Signs of Child Abuse:
http://www.keepkidshealthy.com/welcome/commonproblems/child_abuse.html
- DFPS – Prevent Child Abuse (HelpandHope.org) <http://helpandhope.org>
DFPS – How to Report Child Abuse or Neglect
http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Contact_us/report_abuse.asp
- Texas Attorney General – What Can We Do About Child Abuse?
<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/what-can-we-do-about-child-abuse>
- Prevent Child Abuse.org – Texas Chapter
www.preventchildabusetexas.org
- Texas Council on Family Violence – Abuse Prevention Links <http://www.tcfv.org/>

Likely Warning Signs of Sexual Abuse or Other Maltreatment

Psychological and behavioral signs of possible sexual abuse or other maltreatment may include:

- Nightmares, sleep problems, extreme fears without an obvious explanation.
- Sudden or unexplained personality changes; becoming withdrawn, angry, moody, clingy, “checking out” or showing significant changes in eating habits.
- Depression or irritability.
- An older child behaving like a young child, for example, bedwetting or thumb sucking.
- Developing fear of certain places or resisting being alone with an adult or young person for unknown reasons.
- Resistance to routine bathing, toileting, or removing clothes, even in appropriate situations.
- Play, writing, drawings, or dreams of sexual or frightening images.
- Refusal to talk about a secret he or she has with an adult or older child.
- Leaving clues that seem likely to provoke a discussion about sexual issues.
- Using new or adult words for body parts.
- Engaging in adult-like sexual activities with toys, objects or other children.
- Developing special relationships with older friends that may include unexplained money, gifts, or privileges.
- Intentionally harming him or herself, for example, drug/alcohol use, cutting, burring, running away, and sexual promiscuity.
- Thinking of self or body as repulsive, dirty, or bad.
- Becoming increasingly secretive about Internet or telephone use.

Physical symptoms of possible sexual abuse or other maltreatment include:

- Stomachaches or illness, often with no identifiable reason.
- Difficulty in walking or sitting.
- Stained or bloody underwear.
- Genital or rectal pain, itching, swelling, redness, or discharge.
- Bruises or other injuries in the genital or rectal area.
- Unexplained soreness, pain or bruises around mouth, sexually transmitted disease, or pregnancy.

Any one sign does not necessarily mean that a child has been sexually abused or maltreated, but the presence of several signs is the time you should begin asking questions and seeking help. Often signs first emerge at other times of stress, such as during a divorce, death of a family member or pet, problems at school or with friends, or other traumatic or anxiety-inducing events.

Actions That a Child Who Is a Victim of Sexual Abuse or Other Maltreatment Should Take

During student awareness sessions concerning sexual abuse and other maltreatment issues, students will be encouraged to tell a trusted adult in a private and confidential conversation if they have been a victim of sexual abuse or other maltreatment or have been in situations that make them feel uncomfortable in any way. School employees are trained to take appropriate actions to help the child obtain assistance and to follow proper reporting procedures. Older students will also be provided with local crisis hotline numbers to obtain assistance.

Available Outside Counseling Options

A list of counseling providers can be found at:

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Prevention_and_Early_Intervention/Programs_Available_In_Your_County/

Interrogations and Searches

In the interest of promoting student safety and attempting to ensure that The Pro-Vision Academy is safe and drug free, school officials may from time to time conduct searches. Such searches are conducted without a warrant and as permitted by law.

Administrators, teachers and other professional personnel may question a student regarding the student's own conduct or the conduct of other students. In the context of school discipline, students have no claim to the right not to incriminate themselves.

Students shall be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by school officials. School officials may search a student's outer clothing, pockets, or property by establishing reasonable cause or securing the student's voluntary consent.

A search is reasonable if (1) the school official has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will uncover evidence of a rule violation or a criminal violation and (2) the scope of the search is reasonably related to the circumstances justifying the search, such as the extent of the search, the objectives of the search, the age and sex of the student, and the nature of the infraction.

Desk and Locker Searches

Students should have no expectation of privacy in the contents of their lockers, desks or other school property. Lockers and desks assigned to students remain at all times under the control and jurisdiction of The Pro-Vision Academy. The School will make periodic inspections of lockers and desks at any time, with or without notice or student consent. School officials will remove any item that violates school policy or that may potentially be dangerous.

Students have full responsibility for the security of their desks and shall be held responsible for any prohibited items found therein. A student's parent shall be notified if any prohibited articles or materials are found in a student's desk, or on the student's person.

Vehicles on Campus

Vehicles parked on school property and property under school control are under the jurisdiction of The Pro-Vision Academy and may be searched at any time if reasonable suspicion exists to believe that the search will result in evidence that school rules or other laws have been violated. If a vehicle subject to search is locked, the student shall be asked to unlock the vehicle and consent to a search of the vehicle. If the student refuses to permit the vehicle to be searched, The Pro-Vision Academy may contact the student's parents and/or law enforcement officials. A student may be held responsible for and in possession of prohibited items found in his or her vehicle parked on school property or at a school-related event.

Random Drug Searches

In order to ensure a drug-free learning environment, The Pro-Vision Academy conducts random drug searches of all school facilities. The Pro-Vision Academy may use or contract for specially trained nonaggressive dogs to sniff out and alert school officials to the current presence of concealed prohibited or illegal items, including drugs and alcohol. Canine visits may be unannounced. The dogs shall be used to search vacant classrooms, vacant common areas, the areas around student lockers, and the areas where vehicles are parked on The Pro-Vision Academy property or at school-related events. The dogs shall not be asked to alert on students. A dog alert to a locker, vehicle, or item in a classroom, constitutes reasonable grounds for a search by school officials.

Procedures for Use of Restraint and Time-Outs

School employees, volunteers or independent contractors are authorized to use restraint in the event of an emergency and subject to the following limitations:

- Only reasonable force, necessary to address the emergency, may be used.
- The restraint must be discontinued at the point at which the emergency no longer exists.
- The restraint must be implemented in such a way as to protect the health and safety of the student and others.
- The student may not be deprived of basic human necessities.

At no time, however, may a student be placed in seclusion.

A student with a disability may not be confined in a locked box, locked closet or other specially designated locked space as either a discipline management practice or a behavior management technique.

Visitor and Volunteer Policy

The Pro-Vision Academy encourages parents and family members to regularly visit the school and become involved in student activities. The impact that positive parental involvement has on the learning and development of students is immeasurable. With that in mind, the following policies must be adhered to so that a safe, secure, and productive learning environment can be ensured for all.

- Visitors MUST sign in at the main office whenever they are on campus. They will be provided with a visitor ID that must be worn while on campus. Visitors are not permitted to make unscheduled or drop-in visits to classrooms.
- When visiting campus to meet with teaching staff, visitors must have a pre-arranged time set up with the teacher(s) in question except for urgent matters. Times are best arranged via email. An email directory is located on our website. With few exceptions, conferences are scheduled during teacher/team planning time, and/or immediately before or after school. Under no circumstances can a teacher be interrupted while providing instruction during the school day to meet with a parent.
- Visitors to campus must be the parent, guardians, or other adult family members with permission of the parent/guardian. Students' friends, younger siblings, and other non-related individuals cannot visit the campus during school hours.
- Volunteers MUST go through a background check conducted by our district office. Once the check is cleared, volunteers are notified and may begin helping on campus. Until this clearance is obtained, they are not to be involved in any educational or extra-curricular activities.

Additionally, the Principal or designee may take the following actions whenever there is a visitor to the school:

- Establish an electronic database for the purpose of storing information concerning visitors. Information stored in the electronic database may be used only for the purpose of school security, and may not be sold or otherwise disseminated to a third party for any purpose.
- Verify whether the visitor is a sex offender registered with the computerized central database maintained by the Department of Public Safety or any other database accessible by The Pro-Vision Academy.
- Identified sex offenders will be denied access to any part of the campus and escorted from the premises.

Disruptions

In order to protect student safety and sustain an educational program free from disruption, state law permits The Pro-Vision Academy to take action against any person – student or nonstudent – who:

- Disrupts classes while on school property or on public property that is within 500 feet of school property. Class disruption includes making loud noises; trying to entice a student away from, or to prevent a student from attending, a required class or activity; entering a classroom without authorization; and disrupting the activity with profane language or any misconduct.
- Interferes with an authorized activity by seizing control of all or part of a building.
- Interferes with the movement of people at an exit or an entrance to school property.
- Interferes with the movement of people in an exit, an entrance, or a hallway of a school building without authorization from an administrator.
- Interferes with the transportation of students in school vehicles.
- Uses force, violence, or threats in an attempt to prevent participation in an authorized assembly.
- Uses force, violence, or threats in an attempt to prevent people from entering or leaving school property without authorization from an administrator.
- Uses force, violence, or threats to cause disruption during an assembly.

Emergency Closings

Generally, The Pro-Vision Academy dismisses classes for weather-related events on the same days as surrounding local independent school districts. Any closures for weather will be broadcast on local television and/or radio stations. The Pro-Vision Academy may also need to close during certain emergency situations beyond the control of school officials. The announcement of non-weather related school closings will be broadcast on local television and/or radio stations as early as possible. Any emergency closures will also be posted on the The Pro-Vision Academy website.

Drills: Fire, Tornado, and Other Emergencies

Students, teachers, and other staff will participate in drills of emergency procedures. When the alarm is sounded, students should follow the direction of school staff quickly, quietly, and in an orderly manner. Order rather than speed shall be stressed. Defined instructions for vacating each room will be posted in each room, and students should familiarize themselves with these instructions.

Pest Control Information

The Pro-Vision Academy periodically applies pesticides inside school buildings and on school grounds. Except in an emergency, signs will be posted 24 hours before application. Students may not reenter a treated area inside a building or use an area on school grounds for at least 12 hours following application. Parents who want to be notified prior to pesticide application may contact the Principal or designee.

Videotaping of Students

For safety purposes, including the maintenance of order and discipline, surveillance cameras may be used to monitor student behavior in classrooms, on school vehicles, and in school common areas. Video recordings may be reviewed routinely to document student misconduct and used by The Pro-Vision Academy staff when investigating an incident. Tapes and other video recordings will be available for viewing pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”).

SECTION 3: STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY

Academic Programs

The Principal will provide students and parents with information regarding academic programs to prepare for higher education and career choices. A student removed from the regular classroom to in-school suspension or another setting will have an opportunity to complete his or her daily work just as if they were in the regular learning center.

Students and parents are encouraged to discuss options for ensuring that students complete all work required with a teacher or the Principal.

Curriculum and Instruction

The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (“TEKS”) require all students to demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to read, write, compute, problem solve, think critically, apply technology, and communicate across all subject areas. TEKS are the basis of curricular planning for each grade level and each content area. All students enrolled in grades 3-12 will participate in the appropriate Texas state assessments.

The Pro-Vision Academy offers instruction in the TEKS of the appropriate grade levels in the following required curriculum:

1. A foundation curriculum that includes:
 - a. English language arts and reading;
 - b. Mathematics;
 - c. Science;
 - d. Social studies; and
2. An enrichment curriculum that includes
 - a. Languages other than English, to the extent possible;
 - b. Health education;
 - c. Physical education (“PE”);
 - d. Fine Arts;
 - e. Career and technical education; and
 - f. Technology applications.

Homework and Assignments

Research reveals that homework, when carefully designed, implemented, and evaluated, is an effective tool for improving understanding, enriching learning, encouraging personal connections, and providing opportunities to pursue special interests. In broad terms, homework includes written work, reading, studying and preparing for class, and other activities related to classroom work, but assigned to be done at home. Teachers have the discretion to set deadlines for students to complete and return homework and other assignments.

Progress Reports/Report Cards

Students and parents are provided a progress note every 3rd week of a grading cycle., and a report card every six weeks. Please familiarize yourself with our school calendar and our marking periods.

For students receiving special education services, progress is reported in the same manner as all students. The student’s ARD committee will conduct at least one formal annual review each year to evaluate overall progress.

Promotion and Retention

A student may be promoted on the basis of academic achievement and/or demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter of the course or grade level. To earn credit in a course, a student must demonstrate mastery on grade level standards and meet The Pro-Vision Academy' requirements for attendance.

Middle School Promotion Standards

Students in grades 3–8 will be advanced based on a number of factors.

1. Student must attain an overall average of 70 or above for all subjects, and
2. Student must attain an average of 70 or above in the following:
Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science.

Parents are notified at least three weeks before the end of the school year if retention is a possibility.

In addition to the requirements listed above, students in grades 5 and 8 may be considered for retention if they have met any of the following criteria:

1. failed one or more core subject areas;
2. failed one or more state assessments
3. is below level in one or more core subject areas;
4. missed more than 10% of instructional days in an academic year.

Parents of students who do not perform satisfactorily on their STAAR assessments will be notified that their child will participate in an Accelerated Instructional Program designed to improve performance. A student in grade 5 or 8 who is not successful on the Reading or Math STAAR test will have two additional opportunities to take the failed assessment. If a student fails a second time, a grade placement committee, consisting of the Principal or designee, the student's teacher, and the student's parent will determine the additional special instruction the student will receive.

If a student fails after a third attempt, the student will be retained at his or her current grade level. The parent, however, may appeal this decision to the Grade Placement Committee. The decision must be made by a committee, which is comprised of the child's core subject area teachers, the parent, and the Principal.

Regardless of whether the student is retained or promoted, an educational plan for the student will be designed to enable the student to perform at grade level by the end of the next school year.

Grades 8 Courses and Credits

The Pro-Vision Academy students enrolled in the 8th grade have the opportunity to take courses for high school credit.

If a student in grade 8 is enrolled in a class or course intended for students above his or her current grade level in which the student will be administered a state-mandated assessment, the student will be required to take an applicable state mandated assessment only for the course in which he or she is enrolled, unless otherwise required to do so by federal law.

Students with Disabilities

Upon the recommendation of the Admission, Review, and Dismissal (“ARD”) Committee, a student with disabilities who is receiving special education services may be promoted under the provisions of his or her Individualized Education Program (“IEP”).

High School Classification

Students are classified at the beginning of each school year according to the number of credits they have earned. Classification will remain the same throughout the school year except for graduating seniors, who may be reclassified at the end of the first semester. Minimum grade classification requirements are as follows:

Grade Classification	State/Local Credits Earned
Freshman - 9th	0 - 5.5
Sophomore - 10th	6 - 11.5
Junior - 11th	12 - 17.5
Senior - 12th	18 +

Grades 9–12 Courses and Credits

Credits are given for each course in grades 9–12; therefore, each course stands alone in counting towards graduation. Credit will be awarded for an average of 70 or higher in each course. In courses that are two-semester courses, credit will be awarded when an average of the two semesters is 70 or higher.

Graduation Requirements

The Pro-Vision Academy shall ensure that each student enrolls in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education (“SBOE”) for the foundation high school program, or the recommended or advanced high school program.

Requirements for a Diploma Beginning with the 2014–2015 School Year

Beginning with students who enter grade 9 in the 2014–2015 school year, as well as any currently enrolled high school student who decides to graduate under the new foundation graduation program, a student must meet the following requirements to receive a high school diploma:

1. Complete the required number of credits established by the State and any additional credits required by The Pro-Vision Academy;
2. Achieve passing scores on certain EOC assessments or approved substitute assessments, unless specifically waived as permitted by State law; and
3. Demonstrate proficiency, as determined by The Pro-Vision Academy, in the specific communication skills required by the State Board of Education.

End of Course Exam (EOC) - *Testing Requirements for Graduation*

Students are required, with limited exceptions, to perform satisfactorily on the following End of Course (EOC) assessments: English I, English II, Algebra I, Biology, and United States History. A student who has not achieved sufficient scores on the EOC assessments to graduate will have multiple opportunities to retake the assessments. State law and state rules also provide for certain scores on norm-referenced national standardized assessments (SAT or ACT) to substitute for the requirement to meet satisfactory performance on an applicable EOC assessment should a student choose this option. See the Counselor or the Principal for more information on the State testing requirements for graduation.

If a student fails to perform satisfactorily on an EOC assessment, The Pro-Vision Academy will provide remediation in the content area for which the performance standard was not met. This may require student participation before or after normal school hours, or at times of the year outside of normal school operations.

Individual Graduation Committee Decisions

A student who was enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade for the 2014–2015, 2015–2016, or 2016–2017 school year and who has failed the EOC assessment graduation requirements for no more than two courses may receive a high school diploma if the student has qualified to graduate by means of an individual graduation committee (“IGC”). A student may not graduate under an IGC if the student did not take each required EOC assessment or an approved substitute assessment for each course for which there is an EOC assessment.

Please see the Academic Counselor for more information on the makeup of an IGC and all other requirements for graduation.

Students with Disabilities

Upon the recommendation of the Admission, Review, and Dismissal (“ARD”) Committee, a student with disabilities who is receiving special education services may be permitted to graduate under the provisions of his or her Individualized Education Program (“IEP”).

A student who receives special education services and has completed four years of high school, but has not met the requirements of his or her IEP, may participate in graduation ceremonies and receive a certificate of attendance. Even if the student participates in graduation ceremonies to receive the certificate of attendance, he or she may remain enrolled to complete the IEP and earn his or her high school diploma; however, the student will only be allowed to participate in one graduation ceremony.

Minimum, Recommended, and Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Graduation Programs

For students who were enrolled in high school prior to the 2014–2015 school year, The Pro-Vision Academy offers the Minimum, Recommended, and Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Graduation programs. Students enrolled in high school prior to the 2014–2015 school year also have the option to pursue the foundation graduation program as described below.

Foundation Graduation Program

Students who enter grade 9 in the 2014–2015 school year and thereafter will graduate under a new program called the “Foundation School Program.” Within the Foundation Graduation Program are “endorsements,” which are paths of interest that include Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (“STEM”); Business and Industry; Public Services; Arts and Humanities; and Multidisciplinary Studies. **The Pro-Vision Academy offers: Multi-disciplinary Studies, Arts and Humanities and Business and Industry Only.** Endorsements earned by a student will be noted on the student’s transcript and diploma. The Foundation Graduation Program also involves the term “Distinguished Level of Achievement,” which reflects the completion of at least one endorsement and Algebra II as one of the required advanced mathematics credits. State law and rules prohibit a student from graduating solely under the Foundation Graduation Program without an endorsement unless, after the student’s sophomore year, the student and the student’s parent are advised of the specific benefits of graduating with an endorsement and submit written permission to an appropriate school administrator for the student to graduate without an endorsement. A student who anticipates graduating under the

Foundation Graduation Program without an endorsement and who wishes to attend a four-year university or college after graduation must carefully consider whether this will satisfy the admission requirements of the student’s desired college or university.

Graduating under the Foundation Graduation Program will also provide opportunities to earn “performance acknowledgements” that will be acknowledged on a student’s diploma and transcript. Performance acknowledgements are available for outstanding performance in bilingualism and Bi-literacy, in a dual credit course; on an AP or IB exam; on the PSAT, ACT-Plan, SAT, or ACT exam; or for earning a nationally or internationally recognized license or certificate. The criteria for earning these performance acknowledgements are prescribed by state rules, and the Principal can provide more information about these acknowledgments.

GPA and Class Rank

Grade Point Average (“GPA”) is calculated at the end of each semester beginning with the end of the first semester of a student’s freshman year.

The GPA is a cumulative average of all semester grades earned in selected courses in high school and recorded on the Academic Assessment Record (AAR) Transcript. The semester averages of all State-approved courses will be included in the calculation of the GPA. Local credit courses are not counted in the GPA. Classes taken for high school credit during junior high are not used in calculating the GPA.

The 4.0 College GPA requested by colleges and universities for admission purposes is calculated based on the straight average of all semester grades for all classes where:

A=4.0
B=3.0
C=2.0
D=1.0
F=0.0

Class rank is calculated at the end of a student's 9th-11th grade year, and early Spring Semester of the 12th grade year.

The Valedictorian and Salutatorian shall be determined once FINAL GPA and Class Rank is completed during early Spring Semester. The Valedictorian and the Salutatorian shall be the two graduating seniors with the highest rank in class. To be eligible, a student shall have been enrolled in the School for six consecutive semesters.

Breaking a Tie for Valedictorian/Salutatorian

In case of a tie, the following method shall be used to determine who shall be recognized as valedictorian or salutatorian:

1. Compute the weighted grade point average to the maximum number of decimal places in the district computer system to break the tie.
2. If a tie still occurs, Co-Valedictorians may share honors.

Early Graduates and Beyond 4-Year Continuers

A student's class rank shall be determined within the graduating class of the school year in which the student completes all requirements for a diploma, regardless of the number of years the student is enrolled in high school.

OTHER TESTING

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System ("TELPAS")

The Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System ("TELPAS") is a system of statewide assessments administered to all Limited English Proficient ("LEP") students in grades K–12. The TELPAS measures English ability based on the stages of language development of second language learners. These results will further the understanding of the educational needs of LEP students by providing a state-level measure of both their current academic English levels and their annual progress in English.

Texas Success Initiative Assessment

Prior to enrollment in a Texas public college or university, most students must take a standardized test called the Texas Success Initiative ("TSI") assessment. The purpose of the TSI assessment is to assess the reading, mathematics, and writing skills that entering freshmen-level students should have if they are to perform effectively in undergraduate certificate or degree programs in Texas public colleges and universities.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Transfer Student Grades

All incoming students' GPAs shall be converted to the system used by the School to determine the GPA and rank in class.

Withdrawal Prior to the End of the Semester

Students who withdraw prior to the end of the semester and before all exams are completed will NOT receive a semester grade or semester credit from a The Pro-Vision Academy campus. The grade in progress at the time of withdrawal will be sent to the new school. The student's new school will determine how the grade information sent by The Pro-Vision Academy for the current grading period will be processed and credits calculated/awarded.

Enrollment Prior to the End of the Semester

If the previous school has not completed the semester, the withdrawal/transfer grades from the previous school will be used with the grades earned for the remainder of the grading period to determine the grade for the grading period. The student will take the semester final to be used in calculating the semester average and course credit.

Placement of Former Home School Students

High School Course Credits

Students entering The Pro-Vision Academy who wish to obtain high school level credit for courses completed in home school settings must follow the procedures below.

2. Request high school credit earned through home school within the first nine weeks of enrollment at The Pro-Vision Academy.
3. Submit copies of student assessment results, work samples, and any other evidence of course completion.
4. Submit a detailed outline and/or course syllabus and copies of instructional materials.

All required items above should be given to the Registrar. After submission of the credit request and required items, The Pro-Vision Academy staff will review the materials, and course credit will be awarded based on the level and type of work completed, relevancy of the course itself, and the level to which the course addresses the Texas state standards (TEKS) for the credit being requested. Submission of the credit request and required items does not guarantee public school credit. In addition, acceptance of home school credit by other private schools does not obligate or guarantee credit for these courses by The Pro-Vision Academy.

If The Pro-Vision Academy determines that the student appears to be deficient in particular areas of the course or not enough documentation is available to award course credit, the student will be required to complete an end-of-semester, end-of-course, or an equivalent exam to determine course credit. Such exams will assess overall content knowledge of the courses as outlined in the Texas state standards (TEKS).

Grades K-8 Placement

Students entering The Pro-Vision Academy in grades K–8 from home school programs will follow the same procedures 1–3 above for high school. Work completed in home school settings will be assessed by school staff to determine the level to which the grade-level and subjects align to Texas state standards (TEKS) and The Pro-Vision Academy courses. Students in grades 3–4 will also be given reading and math assessments upon enrollment. Data from these assessments will be used in conjunction with the overall assessment of the curriculum used in the home school setting to place the students in the appropriate grade.

Special Programs

Bilingual/ESL Services

The Pro-Vision Academy offers Bilingual/English as a Second Language (“ESL”) services for English language learners who are limited to their English proficiency. The program is designed to assist students identified as having Limited English Proficiency with development in language – listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The goal of this program is to provide additional English language assistance to students, enabling them to become academically successful in all classes. Students are assessed with state-approved Oral Language Proficiency and Norm-Referenced Test to qualify for placement in the program. If the test results indicate either limited oral or limited cognitive academic English ability, the student (with parent approval) is provided additional English language support.

Special Education Services

Special education services are specifically designed to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities. Each student who receives special education services has an Individual Education Plan (“IEP”), which is developed by the student’s IEP Committee. The IEP Committee considers the student’s disability and determines appropriate accommodations, supplementary aids, and/or services that are necessary for the student to participate in the general curriculum.

All special education services are provided in the least restrictive environment, which may be special education settings, general education settings, or a combination of both. All students receiving special education services are educated to the maximum extent appropriate with their non-disabled peers as well as participating in all school activities on the same basis as students who are not disabled.

The *Notice of Procedural Safeguards – Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities*, can be obtained from a campus administrator or at the Texas Education Agency Special Education Website: http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum_and_Instructional_Programs/Special_Education/.

Providing Assistance to Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need Special Education Services

If a student is experiencing learning difficulties, the parent may contact Patricia Rodgers, Special Education Director, 713-748-0030 to learn about The Pro-Vision Academy’s overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other academic or behavior support services that are available to all students, including a process based on Response to Intervention (“RtI”). The implementation of RtI has the potential to have a positive impact on The Pro-Vision Academy’s ability to meet the needs of all struggling students.

At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services by presenting a written request to the campus special education teacher, or an administrative employee. The Pro-Vision Academy must, within 15 school days of receiving the request, either (1) give the parent an opportunity to give written consent for the evaluation or (2) refuse to provide the evaluation and provide the parent with written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a

statement that informs the parents of their rights if they disagree with The Pro-Vision Academy. Additionally, the parent will receive a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards – Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities*.

If consent for evaluation is obtained, The Pro-Vision Academy must complete the evaluation and report

within 45 school days of the date The Pro-Vision Academy receives the written consent. The Pro-Vision Academy must give a copy of the evaluation report to the parent.

Section 504 Services

The Pro-Vision Academy provides a free appropriate public education to each qualified student with a disability, regardless of the nature or severity of the student’s disability. A “student with a disability” is one who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the student’s major life activities, has a record of having such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment.

An appropriate education is the provision of regular or special education and related services that are (1) designed to meet the student’s individual educational needs as adequately as the needs of students who do not have disabilities are met; and (2) based on adherence to procedures that satisfy federal requirements for educational setting, evaluation and placement, and procedural safeguards.

Qualified students with disabilities will be placed in the regular educational environment, unless The Pro-Vision Academy demonstrates that education in the regular environment with the use of supplemental aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. Should an alternate educational environment be necessary, The Pro-Vision Academy will comply with all legal requirements regarding least restrictive environment and comparable facilities for students with disabilities. In providing or arranging for nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities, The Pro-Vision Academy will ensure that a qualified student with a disability participates with students who do not have disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate.

To be eligible for services and protections against discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, a student must be determined, as a result of an evaluation, to have a “physical or mental impairment” that substantially limits one or more major life activities. If a student has or is suspected of having a disability, or requires special services, parents or teachers should contact the Principal for information concerning available programs, assessments, and services.

OTHER SERVICES

Distance Learning

Distance learning and correspondence courses include courses that encompass the state-required essential knowledge and skills but are taught through multiple technologies and alternative methodologies, such as mail, satellite, Internet, video-conferencing, and instructional television.

If a student wishes to enroll in a correspondence course or a distance learning course in order to earn credit in a course or subject, the student must receive permission from the Dean of Curriculum and Instructions prior to enrolling in the course or subject. If the student does not receive prior approval, The Pro-Vision Academy may not recognize and/or apply the course or subject toward graduation requirements or subject mastery.

Computer Resources

To prepare students for an increasingly computerized society, The Pro-Vision Academy has made a substantial investment in computer technology for instructional purposes. Use of these resources is restricted to students working under a teacher's supervision and for approved purposes only. Students and parents must read and agree to abide by the Student Acceptable Use Policy found in this Handbook.

Counseling

Academic Counseling

Students and parents are encouraged to talk with the Academic Counselor to learn about course offerings, graduation requirements, and early graduation procedures. Each spring, students in 8th–12th grade will be provided with information on anticipated course offerings for the next year and other information that will help to make the most of academic and vocational opportunities.

To plan for the future, including attendance at a college, university, or training school or pursuing some other type of advanced education, students should work closely with the Academic Counselor to take the courses that best prepare them for the future. The Academic Counselor can also provide information about entrance exams and application deadlines, as well as information about automatic admission to state colleges and universities, financial aid, housing, and scholarships.

Extracurricular Activities, Clubs, and Organizations

Participation in school-related activities is an excellent way for a student to develop talents, receive individual recognition, and build strong friendships with other students. Participation, however, is a privilege and not a right. Eligibility for participation in many school-related activities is governed by state law and rules of the University Interscholastic League (“UIL”), a statewide association overseeing interscholastic competition between public schools. Additional information regarding extracurricular activities, clubs, and organizations may be obtained from the Principal.

Participation in these activities may result in events that occur off-campus. When The Pro-Vision Academy arranges transportation for these events, students are required to use the transportation provide by The Pro-Vision Academy to and from the event. Exceptions may only be made with approval from the activity's coach or sponsor.

Please note: Sponsors of student clubs and performing groups such as the choir and athletic teams may establish standards of behavior – including consequences for misbehavior – that are stricter than those for students in general. If a violation of organization rules is also a violation of school rules, the consequences specified by the Student Code of Conduct or by local policy will apply in addition to any consequences specified by the organization.

SECTION 4: IMPORTANT NOTICES

Annual Notice of Parent and Student Rights (Annual FERPA Confidentiality Notice)

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s educational records. These rights include the following:

The Right to Inspect and Review

Parents and/or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student’s educational records within 45 days of the day the school receives an access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the Principal or designee a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The Pro-Vision Academy will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student for the time and place where the records may be inspected.

If circumstances effectively prevent they parent or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the student’s educational records, The Pro-Vision Academy shall provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the records requested to make arrangements for the parent or eligible student to inspect and review the requested records.

If the student’s educational records contain information on more than one student, the parent or eligible student may inspect and review or be informed of only the specific information about that student.

The Right to Seek Amendment of the Student’s Educational Records

Parents or eligible students may ask The Pro-Vision Academy to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student’s privacy rights. Parents or eligible students should submit to the Principal or designee a written request that clearly identifies the part of the record they want changed, and specifies why it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student’s privacy rights. The Pro-Vision Academy will decide whether to amend the record as requested within a reasonable time after receiving the request. If The Pro-Vision Academy decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent of eligible student, the School will notify the parent of eligible student of the decision and advise them to their right to a hearing to challenge the content of the student’s education records on the grounds that the information contained in the educational records is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student’s privacy rights.

If, as a result of the hearing, The Pro-Vision Academy decides that the information in the educational record is not inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student’s privacy rights, it shall inform the parent or eligible student of the right to place a statement in the record commenting on the contested information in the record or stating why he or she disagrees with the decision of The Pro-Vision Academy. If the School places an amended statement in the student’s educational records, The Pro-Vision Academy is obligated to maintain the amended statement with the contested part of the record for as long as the record is maintained and disclose the statement whenever it discloses the portion of the record to which the statement relates.

The Right to Consent Prior to Disclosure

Parents and/or eligible students have the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s educational records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interest. A “school official” is a person employed by The Pro-Vision Academy as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law

enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the Board of Directors; a person or company with whom The Pro-Vision Academy has outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an educational record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, The Pro-Vision Academy discloses educational records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled, so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

The Right to File a Complaint

Parents and/or eligible students have the right to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office of the U.S. Department of Education ("Office") concerning alleged failures by The Pro-Vision Academy to comply with the requirements of FERPA. These complaints should be addressed as follow:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Access to Medical Records

Parents are entitled to access their student's medical records.

Notice for Directory Information

Under FERPA, The Pro-Vision Academy must, with certain exceptions, obtain written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student's education records. However, The Pro-Vision Academy may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless a parent or eligible student has advised The Pro-Vision Academy, in writing, to the contrary. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the School to include this type of information from a student's education records in certain school publications.

The Pro-Vision Academy has designated the following categories of information as directory information for the purpose of disclosure relating to school-related purposes:

- Student name;
- Date and place of birth;
- Major field of study
- Degrees, honors, and awards received;
- Dates of attendance;
- Grade level;
- Most recent educational institution attended;
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports; and
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams.

School-related purposes are those events/activities that The Pro-Vision Academy conducts and/or sponsors to support the School's educational mission. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular programs or events (school plays, concerns, athletic events, graduation ceremony, etc.).
- Publications (newsletters, yearbook, etc.).
- Honor roll and other student recognition lists.
- Marketing materials of The Pro-Vision Academy (print media, website, videos, newspaper, etc.).

The Pro-Vision Academy has designated the following categories of information as directory information for purposes of disclosure to military recruiters and institutions of higher education, but only for secondary students:

- Student's name, address, and telephone number.

The Pro-Vision Academy shall not release directory information except for the purposes indicated above, namely, disclosure relating to school-sponsored/school-affiliated purposes or for the purposes of disclosure to military recruiters and institutions of higher education for secondary students.

A PARENT OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT MAY OPT OUT OF THE RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION FOR EITHER OR BOTH OF THESE PURPOSES BY SUBMITTING A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THIS "NOTICE OF PARENT AND STUDENT RIGHTS (ANNUAL FERPA CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE)."

Use of Student Work in School Publications

Occasionally, The Pro-Vision Academy wishes to display or publish student artwork, photos taken by the student, or other original work on the school's website, a website affiliated or sponsored by the school (such as a classroom website), and in school publications. The Pro-Vision Academy agrees to use these student projects in this manner.

Parents: Please circle one of the choices below:

I, parent of _____ (student's name), **(do give)** **(do not give)** The Pro-Vision Academy permission to use my child's artwork, photos, or other original work in the manner described above.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Acceptable Use Policy

Computer Resources

To prepare students for an increasingly computerized society, The Pro-Vision Academy has made a substantial investment in computer technology for instructional purposes. Use of those resources is restricted to students working under a teacher's supervision and for approved proposed only. Students with access to The Pro-Vision Academy' computers and their parents agree to follow the following user agreement regarding use of these resources. Violations of this agreement may result in withdrawal of computer privileges and other disciplinary action. Electronic communications, such as e-mail using The Pro-Vision Academy' computers, are not private and may be monitored by school staff.

Technology Mission Statement

The Pro-Vision Academy is committed to utilizing the maximum potential of technology to enhance student learning and increase teacher effectiveness by providing students with technology-related experiences. Recognizing the ever-changing influences of technology on all aspects of our lives, The Pro- Vision Academy is dedicated to providing an integrated technological curriculum for all students and staff. Students will have access to the technology necessary to produce, manage, communicate, and retrieve information in an efficient manner for educational use. In the attainment of both present and future goals, The Pro-Vision Academy will provide a continually evolving staff development program oriented toward the integration of technology in areas of curriculum.

Instructional Resource

The Pro-Vision Academy is proud to bring network and Internet access to school staff and students. The Pro-Vision Academy believes the Internet offers many diverse and unique resources to both student and staff. The Pro-Vision Academy' goal in providing these services to staff and students is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing innovative teaching, and communication skills.

Students and staff have access to numerous research oriented and instructional resources via the Internet. Online encyclopedias, professional journals, and databases filled with timely information on thousands to topic are just a few of the resources provided. School computers have the technology necessary to support student research and to promote academic achievement.

Student Safety

The Pro-Vision Academy is aware that resources which are inappropriate or not designed for use in the educational setting may be accessed on the Internet. To protect students and staff from such inappropriate material, the School's Internet access is filtered with one of the highest rated Internet filtering systems available. However, users must recognize that it is impossible for The Pro-Vision Academy to restrict access to all controversial material and individuals must be responsible for their own actions in navigating the network.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure school-level compliance with all procedures and regulations regarding the local area network and Internet usage. All students, parents, teachers, administrators, and school staff who obtain their Internet access through the school are expected to use these services appropriately.

User Responsibilities

The use of the Internet is a privilege. Abusive conduct will lead to the privilege being revoked. The Pro-Vision Academy is providing Internet resources for educational purposes only. Student/staff use of Internet resources must be related to an expressed educational and/or administrative goal or objective.

1. The use of the School's Internet and computer network must be in support of educational goals, research, and class assignments and be consistent with the educational objectives of The Pro- Vision Academy.
2. Users must have a valid, authorized account to access the network, and use only those computer resources that are authorized. Accounts may be used only in accordance with authorized purposes.
3. Individual accounts may be used only by the owner of the account, except where specifically authorized by administrators. In the case of class accounts, all use must be under the supervision of the sponsoring teacher/supervisor.
4. The user is responsible for safeguarding the computer account. Users are expected to protect access to accounts by periodically changing the password and keeping it confidential. They must respect the privacy of others by not tampering with their files, passwords, or accounts.

Policy Terms and Conditions

Acceptable Use

Users are to properly use The Pro-Vision Academy' network resources for educational and/or administrative purposes. Respectful and responsible network etiquette and behavior should be in keeping with the School's mission statement. Students and staff are expressly prohibited from accessing obscene, profane, vulgar, or pornographic sites or materials.

Students are prohibited from sending or posting electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation or illegal. This prohibition applies to conduct off school property if it results in a substantial disruption to the educational environment.

Any person taking, disseminating, transferring or sharing obscene, sexually oriented, lewd or otherwise illegal images or other content, commonly referred to as "sexting," will be disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct and may, in certain circumstances, be reported to law enforcement. Because engaging in this type of behavior can lead to bullying or harassment, students involved in "sexting" or the sharing of inappropriate images or other content may also be disciplined for violating the school's anti-harassment and bullying policies.

Monitored Use

Electronic mail transmissions and other use of the electronic communications system by students and employees shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by designated The Pro-Vision Academy' staff to ensure appropriate use for educational or administrative purposes. Forgery or attempted forgery of electronic mail messages is prohibited. Only the School's authorized IT Manager may read, delete, copy or modify the electronic mail of other system users.

Vandalism

Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm, disrupt or destroy data of another user of The Pro-Vision Academy' network or any other agencies or networks that are connected to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creating of computer viruses. Any of these actions may be viewed as violations of School policy, administrative regulations and, possibly, as criminal activity under applicable state and federal laws. Users must respect the privacy of other users, and will not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify any file, data, or password belonging to another user, or represent themselves as another user unless explicitly authorized. Deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt system performance and/or degrade, disrupt or bypass system security are violations of School policy and administrative regulations, and may constitute criminal activity under applicable laws.

Any prohibited behavior under this policy will result in the cancellation of technology privileges. The Pro-Vision Academy will, in accordance with School policy, cooperate with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to misuse of the School's network.

Network Etiquette

Each network user is expected to:

- Be polite (i.e., an all-caps message implies shouting);
- Use appropriate language;
- Refrain from any activity that may be considered "cyber bullying," including but not limited to threats of violence, extortion, obscene or harassing messages, harassment, stalking, child pornography, and sexual exploitation;
- Maintain confidentiality of the user, colleagues, and students;
- Respect copyright laws; and
- Be respectful in all aspects of network use.

Consequences

Violation of The Pro-Vision Academy' policies and procedures concerning use of the computer on the network will result in the same disciplinary actions that would result from similar violations in other areas of School policy, including the Student Code of Conduct. Any or all of the following consequences may be enforced if a student violates the terms of this policy:

- Loss of computer privileges/Internet access, with length of time to be determined by campus administration.
- Any disciplinary consequence, including suspension or expulsion, as deemed appropriate by the administration.
- Suspension may be considered for flagrant violations or violations that corrupt the educational value of the computers or the Internet.
- Expulsion may be considered in instances where students have used the school's Internet access to engage in conduct that constitutes felony criminal mischief, and/or have deliberately attempted to bypass installed security software or copy/modify another student's work files.

Violations of law may also result in criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action by the School.

Electronic Communication Device Commitment Form

Electronic communications at school and at school-related functions are subject to regulation by The Pro-Vision Academy.

This Electronic Communication Device Commitment Form grants authority and permission to The Pro-Vision Academy to regulate electronic communication devices when these devices are brought to and/or used while on school property or when attending school related functions and events. Such communication devices include but are not limited to cellular phones, pagers, PDAs, and pocket computers. These regulations are made necessary in light of the unique opportunities these devices create for violations of law and school policies, and to perpetrate conduct disruptive of an educational environment essential to the School's educational program. These concerns are exacerbated by electronic security protections and the personal size of these devices, which are often carried concealed in pockets and purses.

Therefore, all students who would possess or use such devices on school property or at school-related activities are required to sign this form together with their parent, guardian or other adult person having the authority of a parent for school purposes.

Each of you, by your signature below, agrees to the following:

- The possession and use of cellular phones, pagers, PDAs and other electronic communication devices by a student on school property or at school-related events is subject to regulation by The Pro-Vision Academy.
- If a student possesses such devices on school property or while attending school-related events, The Pro-Vision Academy is authorized and has my full consent to confiscate, power on or off, manipulate and do all things necessary to search my device and recover or intercept communications (including but not limited to text messaging) when reasonable suspicion exists that such device has been used to transmit or receive communications in violation of law, the Student Code of Conduct, school policy or regulation.
- I further understand, agree and consent that an electronic communication device used or possessed in violation of law, the Student Code of Conduct, school policy or regulation is subject to confiscation and that The Pro-Vision Academy is not liable for any loss of or damage to confiscated devices.

SIGNATURE LINES AND DATES

_____ Date: _____
(Signature of student)

(Printed name of student)

_____ Date: _____
(Signature of parent/guardian)

The Pro-Vision Academy Parent/School Compact

The Pro-Vision Academy believes in the strength of the connection between home and school to achieve maximum student success. Each has a role to play in helping your child reach their goals. Please sign and return this document to the school office.

The Staff pledge to:

- Provide a safe and supportive environment for children to learn
- Provide high quality curriculum tied to the State's student performance standards
- Provide qualified faculty and staff to ensure high-quality instruction and support
- Strive to identify and address students' unique needs
- Communicate regularly with parents on their student's progress and needs (in their native language)
- Involve parents in decisions relating to the education of their children

Parents/Guardians pledge to:

- Provide a safe and supportive environment for children to grow and develop
- Send students to school on time and prepared to learn (Examples: breakfast, rest, materials, etc.)
- Encourage student learning by monitoring student's homework and providing a study area and necessary materials
- Visit school often and participate in school activities – including open house, parent-teacher conferences, parent education programs, and other related activities
- Collaborate with the classroom teacher(s) to ensure the success of their students
- Adhere to school rules and encourage students to follow rules
- Take a stand against alcohol, drug abuse and violence

Students pledge to:

- Be active participants in their own learning (participate in class)
- Be responsible learners (bring your supplies and work to class)
- Complete all classwork and homework (do your work in class and your homework at home)
- Follow school rules (follow the rules at school)
- Attend school regularly (come to school if you are not sick)
- Promote school safety (be safe at school and on the playground)

Matching Programs to the Needs of the Community

Each year, the school district will assess the needs of parents and children in this community, through a variety of measures – including questionnaires sent home to parents – so that the program will be tailored to meeting those needs. Workshops and other programs will be available (some for parents, some for parents and children) to match the expressed needs. Parents will be notified about these opportunities.

Staff/Parent Communications

Information will be sent home with children. Phone calls and conferences, will be made as needed. Parents are encouraged to take the initiative in calling their child's teacher when they are concerned about a problem. They may also call the school office and ask for a translator for conferences. Notices are provided in languages as needed by parents. Staff are trained on how to improve home-school communication; some parents may be asked to attend these training sessions.

Annual Meeting for Title I Parents

Parents will be given information about Title I guidelines at the annual fall meeting. They will be given copies of the district’s current Parental Involvement Policy, and will provide input in revising and updating the Policy as needed. Parents may volunteer to serve on the District Advisory Council (DAC) and the Campus Advisory Committee. The meeting will be conducted at a time convenient for parents and a translator will be available, if needed.

Evaluation

The District Advisory Committee will be involved in the process of school review and improvement. Parents will be asked for their input in the annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the program. The evaluation will include an assessment of how much parental involvement is increasing and what barriers to parental participation still need to be overcome. The school district will revise its Parental Involvement Policy on the basis of this annual review.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student Signature: (Gr 3-12) _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Campus Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

Acknowledgement and Approval of Parent – Student Handbook

My signature below acknowledges that The Pro-Vision Academy has made its Parent–Student Handbook available to me; that I have been given notice of the rules, responsibilities and consequences outlined in the handbook; that I have been informed that when I or my child is enrolled in The Pro-Vision Academy, all information herein is applicable to me, my child, and all school staff; and that I have expressed intent to review this Handbook contained within and to abide thereby.

Printed Name of Student: _____ Grade: _____

Signature of Student: _____

Signature of Parent: _____

Date: _____