# PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL





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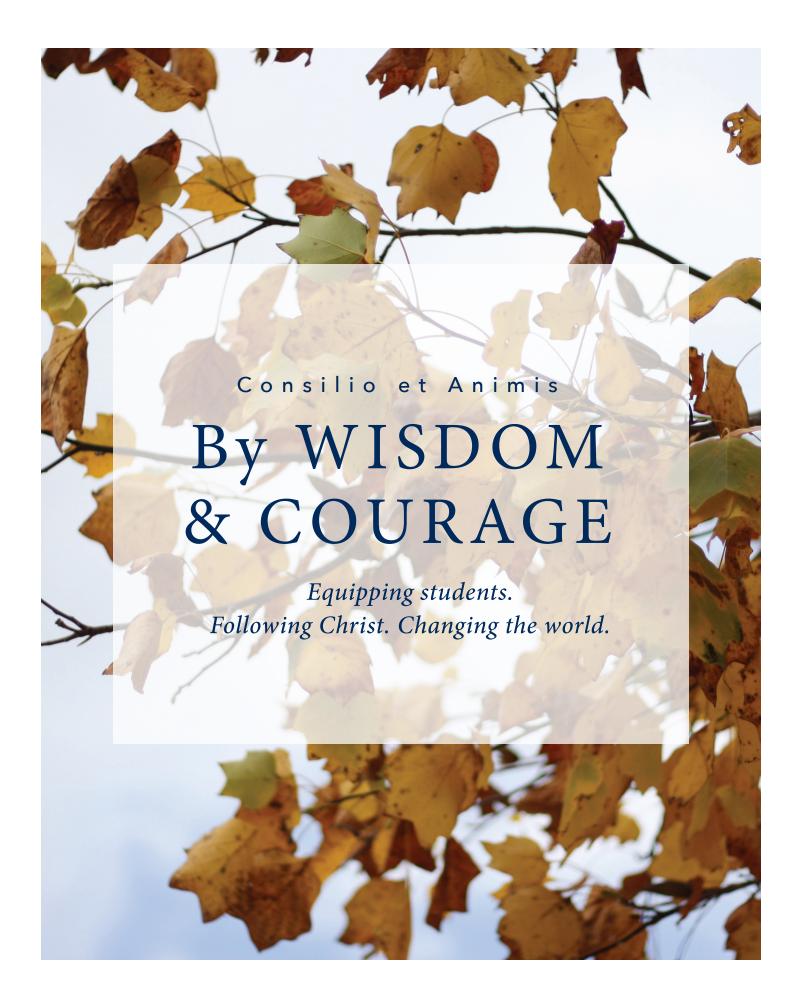
A Classical Christian School

A MINISTRY OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

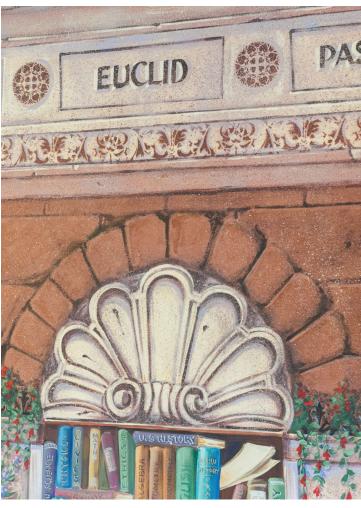
EQUIPPING STUDENTS. FOLLOWING CHRIST. CHANGING THE WORLD.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom

PSALM 111:10 (ESV)







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# MISSION CONCEPT

rovidence Christian School exists as a ministry of First Presbyterian Church (FPC) in partnership with the families of the Wiregrass community who share FPC's vision for classical, Christ-centered education. This educational model emphasizes character development and academic excellence. The families associated with the school will be seen as having the primary responsibility for the spiritual, intellectual, and physical instruction of the children. Providence Christian School's (PCS) aim is to provide a loving atmosphere that complements a godly home. With regard to both academic excellence and godly character development, our mission is, by God's grace:

- 1) To promote principled thinking by helping each student develop a biblical worldview to be consistently applied to every area of life.
- 2) To cultivate in each student a lifelong love of learning and pursuit of academic and moral excellence, for the purpose of bringing glory to God alone.
- 3) To help train and equip each student to be a servantleader who has an impact on those God puts within his reach by living a God-honoring life.

# PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

PROVERBS 22:6

(ESV)

# Five Foundational Principles of Providence Christian School

Scripture teaches that "the fear of the Lord is the • beginning of all wisdom" and that Christians are to "love the Lord with all their minds." Accordingly, we believe in a Christian worldview approach to learning that integrates the truth of the Scriptures with all subject matter. As a result of this conviction, the primary reason for starting a school is not reactionary, but, rather, a calling of the Lord to implement an educational model that, in His time, will produce lives that honor Him in all they do.

The field of education is a major battleground in the ∠ • spiritual warfare that God tells Christians they will encounter. Believers need to be proactive in protecting their right to educate their children from a Christ-centered perspective.

3. It is not possible to teach any subject from a spiritually "neutral perspective"; some worldview, whether God-honoring or not, will be maintained. "Education is built on the foundation of the instructor's worldview and the worldview of those who developed the curriculum." (D. Wilson)

The God-ordained institution of the family is given the primary authority and responsibility for the education of their children

5 • the pillar of the truth and the proclaimer of God's grace. The Church's role in education should never usurp that of the family, but rather, instruct the family from the Scriptures on how to train, teach, and nurture children. The Church and the family need to clearly understand their roles in order for a God-honoring school to exist.



#### In Loco Parentis

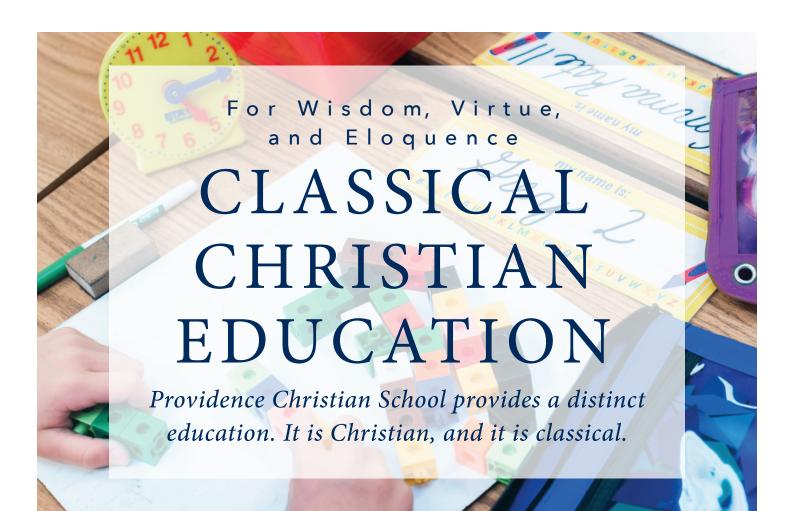
The God-ordained institution of the family (not the school or the state) is given the primary authority and responsibility for the education of their children. Parents of PCS students understand that they are directly responsible before God for their child's education. (Ephesians 6, Deuteronomy 6)

PCS operates with delegated authority (in loco parentis) from the parents (not the state or the church) to assist parents in fulfilling this responsibility.

This does not mean that parents dictate the curriculum or methodology of the school. It does mean that parents will take their responsibility seriously by encouraging their child to be disciplined and diligent in their work, provide assistance in areas of struggle for their child, and be supportive of the teachers and staff of the school as we strive to teach, train, guide, and disciple their child. The expectation is that the parents of the student will support the school in key aspects of school policy. Likewise, the school's perspective is that the parents, specifically the father of the student, will take a primary role in addressing school-related concerns.

This type of partnership necessitates that parents agree with the core values, beliefs, and educational goals of the school.

The key aspects of this agreement are covered in the parent-administrator conference prior to enrollment. Upon satisfactory completion of the family conference, and in conjunction with the parental signature on the Statement of Faith, the family agreement is secured for support of the in loco parentis policy.



rovidence Christian School provides a distinct L education. It is Christian, and it is classical. In preparing young men and women to be tomorrow's leaders, PCS believes Scripture is clear: education's pursuits begin and end with Christ. The Gospel of Mark calls us to "love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength" (12:30). Undoubtedly, this cannot be approached without a relationship with Jesus, lots of prayer, a believing community, and diligent Christian study. All of which, PCS seeks to faithfully promote.

In addition to Mark, other biblical writers remind us God has much to say on the subject of education. For example, believers are encouraged to provide an all-encompassing biblical education for their children (Deuteronomy 6:4-9). We are told, too, that a right understanding of the world is governed by God-given boundaries (Proverbs 21:30). Finally, we are cautioned that learning is never a neutral enterprise. Christians are either moving towards biblical wisdom or towards worldly foolishness (Psalm 1). In the holy task of educating children, Scripture's testimony is

plain: the Bible should be the rule and guide for what we learn and how we apply it.

Our goal then at PCS? To develop Christian young people who find their identity in Christ and seek to participate in God's renewal of creation by building and sustaining what is true, beautiful, and good. You may be saying, "Wow. Pretty high standard for students!" We agree. Therefore, we believe the best complement for a Christian education, seeking to produce wise, virtuous, and eloquent champions for Christ, is the proven and time-honored methods of a liberal arts education, or a classical education. As evidenced by recent articles at Forbes.com2, The New York Times3, and in the pages of Newsweek<sup>4</sup>, educators are returning to the proven methods of the past to answer the demands of the future. Universities are developing honors colleges which employ the hallmarks of classical study: namely, class discussion, critical thinking, speech and composition, and interdisciplinary work.5 Whether your child will become a preacher, teacher, playwright, a systems analyst or CFO, an engineer, chemist, or architect, he or she needs the tools of learning and habits of the mind advanced by a classical education.

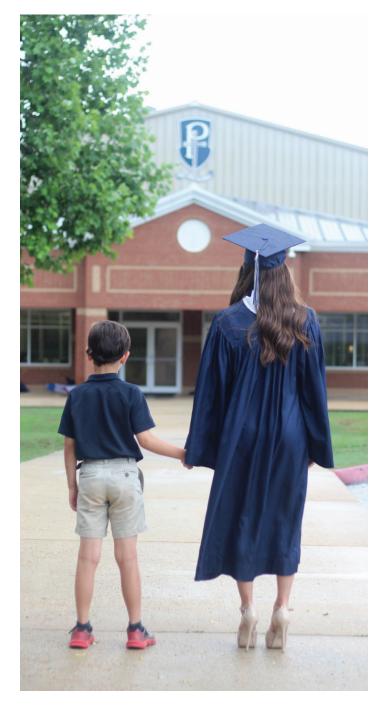
Habits of the mind, modeled by PCS teachers and explicitly taught through our subjects, prepare graduates to be life-long learners ready for any calling. We believe deep analytical thinking and clear, persuasive expression take time to develop. Thoughtful students are created through the incremental work of committed teachers and a robust curriculum targeting measurable objectives. Arrival at such a destination is not happenstance.

At Providence we purposefully travel "the three roads," or, more precisely, we employ the trivium. A hallmark of classical Christian education, the trivium, emphasizes the grammar, logic, and rhetoric of subjects to teach definition, analysis, and expression in all fields of inquiry. The trivium also provides PCS with insight regarding a student's stages of development, so we teach with the grain of a child's cognitive and social maturation. Kindergarten through sixth grade students are primed for defining and accumulating information; in the logic school (grades 7-8), students naturally desire to understand the relationship of information (What middle school student hasn't asked, "Why are we doing this?"); and in the rhetoric school (grades 9-12), students test their knowledge by seeking to communicate it clearly and persuasively. From learning to read to eventually writing and defending a senior thesis, students at PCS are being prepared to embrace their life's calling.

Providence Christian School is readying students for that calling. A calling which we believe takes many forms during our lives. As child, student, friend, spouse, parent, employee, and parishioner, every relationship and role benefits from the wisdom, virtue, and eloquence of a classical Christian education.

A complete educational experience at Providence Christian School will include the following:

• Raising up mission-minded and focused students through servant leadership training, activities and trips



- An accelerated academic curriculum featuring Bible, Phonics, Latin, Logic, Rhetoric, Spanish
- Enrichment opportunities such as art, music, theater, yearbook, and academic teams
- Athletic opportunities include: baseball, softball, volleyball, soccer, basketball, cross-country, cheerleading, football, tennis, golf, track and field

Footnotes for the article titled "Wisdom, Virtue, and Eloquence"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "your" was changed to "our" for purposes of this statement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "In Defense of A Liberal Education" by Carol Geary Schneider

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "A Classical Education: Back to the Future" by Stanley Fish

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Why the Liberal Arts Matter" by Jon Meacham

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See honors.ua.edu or fp.auburn.edu/honors/ for examples.

LOST TOOLS ILLUSTRATED CHART						
Beginning Grammar (Pre-Polly)	Grammar (Poll-Parrot)	Logic (Pert)	Rhetoric (Poetic)			
Grades K-2	Grades 3-7.5	Grades 7.5-9	Grades 10-12			
Approx. ages 4-8	Approx. ages 9-11	Approx. ages 12-14	Approx. ages 15-18			
Student Characteristics:	Student Characteristics:	Student Characteristics:	Student Characteristics:			
<ol> <li>Obviously excited about learning</li> <li>Enjoys games, stories, songs, projects</li> <li>Short attention span</li> <li>Wants to touch, taste, feel, smell, see</li> <li>Imaginative, creative</li> <li>Likes to copy, imitate</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Excited about new, interesting facts</li> <li>Likes to explain, figure out, talk</li> <li>Wants to relate own experiences to topic, or just to tell a story</li> <li>Likes collections, organizing items</li> <li>Likes chants, clever, repetitious word sounds (e.g. Dr. Seuss)</li> <li>Easily memorizes</li> <li>Can assimilate another language well</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Still excitable, but needs challenges</li> <li>Judges, critiques, debates, critical</li> <li>Likes to organize items, others</li> <li>Shows off knowledge</li> <li>Wants to know "behind the scenes" facts</li> <li>Curious about Why? for most things</li> <li>Thinks, acts as though more knowledgeable than adults</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Concerned with present events, especially in own life</li> <li>Interested in justice, fairness</li> <li>Moving toward special interests, topics</li> <li>Can take on responsibility, independent work</li> <li>Can synthesize</li> <li>Desires to express feelings, own ideas</li> <li>Generally idealistic</li> </ol>			
Teaching Methods:	Teaching Methods:	Teaching Methods:	Teaching Methods:			
<ol> <li>Guide discovering</li> <li>Explore, find things</li> <li>Use lots of tactile items to illustrate point</li> <li>Sing, play games, chant, recite, color, draw, paint, build</li> <li>Use body movements</li> <li>Short, creative projects</li> <li>Show and Tell, drama, hear/read/tell stories</li> <li>Field trips</li> <li>Reinforce conceptual understanding of letters, numbers, associated meanings</li> <li>Provide copying, imitating opportunities</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Lots of sensory work, projects</li> <li>Field trips</li> <li>Make collections, displays, models</li> <li>Plan integration of material through variety of means</li> <li>Teach and assign simple research projects</li> <li>Recitations, drama, memorization, chants, sound-offs</li> <li>Drills, games, songs</li> <li>Oral/written presentations</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Time lines, charts, maps (visual materials)</li> <li>Debates, persuasive reports</li> <li>Drama, reenactments, role-playing</li> <li>Evaluate, critique (with guidelines)</li> <li>Formal logic</li> <li>Research projects</li> <li>Oral/written presentations</li> <li>Guest speakers, trips</li> <li>Collaborative work in groups</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Drama, oral presentations, poetry</li> <li>Research, integration of disciplines, synthesis of ideas</li> <li>Classic literature, history, speeches, debates</li> <li>Give responsibilities, e.g. working with younger students, organize activities</li> <li>In-depth field trips</li> <li>World view discussion/written papers</li> <li>Construction/public defense of theses</li> </ol>			

# PROVIDENCE CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL GRADUATE PROFILE AND SCHOOL-WIDE GOALS

## *God is love*. 1 John 4:8 and 1 John 4:7-21

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

MATTHEW 22:36-40

"What if education wasn't first and foremost about what we know, but about what we love?" — James K.A. Smith						
Portrait of a Graduate "The PCS student who"	School-wide Goals "The PCS student will"					
Loves God with heart, soul, and mind	<ol> <li>possess and practice a Christian theology for each discipline and co-curricular activity</li> <li>know, understand, and struggle with the big ideas, essential questions, and enduring understandings of the Great Conversation, framing them in the context of a Christian world-and-life view</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>transfer, connect, and apply knowledge and skills between disciplines, discovering Christ as the center of all learning</li> <li>grow in appreciation for the formative influence of a life of worship: praying, reading, confessing, singing, applying, and listening to the Spirit through the Scriptures</li> </ol>				
Loves others	<ol> <li>identify, pursue, and practice servant-leadership in family, school, and community</li> <li>boldly, yet humbly and persuasively, share and defend the Gospel of Jesus Christ</li> </ol>	3. model a Christian lifestyle, actively cultivating wisdom and virtue 4. collaborate with others, valuing difference and showing regard for the necessity of teamwork 5. submit to an honor authority				
Loves learning	<ol> <li>listen carefully and exhibit discernment, applying the rules of logic</li> <li>access and analyze information, critically asking and thoughtfully answering purposeful questions</li> <li>categorize, question, and analogize the world</li> <li>demonstrate a passion for learning and connect learning to wise and virtuous living</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>express ideas articulately in a winsome way - both through writing and speaking</li> <li>pursue challenging subjects and topics</li> <li>embrace creativity, play, and failure as a pathway to discovery and understanding</li> <li>identify problems, search for solutions, and implement strategies for change</li> </ol>				
Loves the Kingdom of God and creation	seek the transformation of culture, bringing cultural pursuits and products into alignment with the true, the beautiful, and the good	2. know the "Story of stories" and understand humanity's role in God's redemptive history 3. practice missional living 4. steward God's creation with care and foresight				



The Statement of Faith defines the essential beliefs that guide the ministry of Providence Christian School. The Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Providence Christian School's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Dothan, AL, is our final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application. These primary doctrines below, along with the Westminster Confession of Faith (WCF), are the key elements of Christianity that are taught in various ways throughout all grade levels. Secondary doctrine includes chapter 21 section 3, chapter 23 of the WCF, and other topics such as baptism, the gifts of the Spirit, and the end times, and will not be emphasized in the teaching of the school. PCS recognizes that secondary doctrine is important, but within the Christian community, there is liberty to interpret such matters differently. Since we encourage Christ honoring discussion and debate among PCS students, these subjects are likely to arise. The school's official position on secondary doctrinal issues is to have the students always go to the Scripture and then go to their family and church as they seek to define their own beliefs on these secondary doctrines.

The following Statement of Faith, drawn from the Westminster Confession of Faith, defines the essential beliefs that guide the Ministry of Providence Christian **School:** 

- 1. Sovereignty of God: God sovereignly controls all that occurs in His world and in His Church. His plans and purposes always prevail; nothing can thwart them.<sup>2</sup>
- 2. Inerrancy of Scripture: God's written Word, the Bible, is free from error and completely trustworthy. It is His Truth and the final authority in all matters.<sup>3</sup>
- 3. God's Creation of the World and Man: The Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, alone has existed from eternity past and in His wisdom decided to create the universe from nothing. God spoke and it came into existence. Humanity did not evolve from lower life forms, but was created by God.4 Mankind, male and female, was created with dignity in that they are made in God's image and created in humility in that their purpose is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. In creating mankind male and female, God created them with distinct biological genders. Gender is both sacred and established by God's design. It is impossible to glorify God and enjoy Him forever while rejecting one's biological sex.5
- 4. The Family: God created the natural family as the fundamental, sovereign unit of society. God created the natural family to be a conjugal union of one man and one woman through marriage for the purposes of sharing love and joy, propagating children, and providing their moral education. Marriage was also given as a representation of the union between Christ and his Church. Any union other than a one-man, one-woman union for life is a violation of God's design and is therefore not a biblical marriage.6

- 5. Fall of Mankind: All mankind participated in Adam's fall from his original sinless state and is thus lost in sin and totally depraved.7
- **6. Jesus, Savior of Sinners:** Jesus Christ is the unique Son of God and the only Savior of the world. He was born of a virgin and lived a sinless life. He purchased redemption by His substitutionary atonement on the cross. Jesus' body rose from the dead, ascended to the right hand of the Father and He will come again in power and glory.8
- 7. Justification by Faith Alone: Sinners are justified by faith alone. They don't deserve salvation and they can't earn or work for it. Justification is totally due to God's grace and is received by faith in Jesus Christ.9
- 8. Empowering Holy Spirit: Every true believer in Jesus Christ is indwelt and empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit enables believers to live a godly life and to perform good works.10
- 9. Final Judgment and Resurrection: At the Second Coming of Christ, the saved and the lost will be bodily resurrected and judged. The saved are resurrected to eternal life and the lost are resurrected to eternal condemnation.<sup>11</sup>
- 10. Body of Christ: All believers are spiritually united in the Lord Jesus Christ. Every believer is a member of the Body of Christ.12



# Grades Offered

PCS offers a unique educational experience in early childhood through senior graduation for families throughout the Wiregrass.

## Class Sizes

The Providence Board of Directors determined the maximum class size for first grade should be no more than 18 students per class. Once students advance to grades two - twelve, classes usually have 20 students, with some exceptions.

## Standardized Dress Purpose

Acknowledging that appearance affects the attitudes of students and the overall educational atmosphere of the campus, Providence Christian School maintains a standardized dress program which promotes a neat, modest, ready-to-learn appearance, and helps make students aware of their responsibility to honor God both in the way they present themselves and in their submission to the authorities He has placed over them at home and at school.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 2 Timothy 3:14-17, Galatians 1:8-9, 2 Peter 1:19-21, WCF Chapter 1.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Psalm 33:11, Ephesians 1:11, WCF Chapter 3.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Matthew 5:18, 2 Timothy 3:14-17, WCF Chapter 1.8-9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> John 1:2-3, Genesis 1, WCF Chapter 4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Genesis 1:27, Genesis 2:7, Genesis 2:22-23, WCF Chapter 4.2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Genesis 1:28, Genesis 2:24, Ephesians 5:22-33, WCF Chapter 24

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Genesis 3:6-8, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12, WCF Chapter 6.1-3

<sup>8</sup> Isaiah 42:1, John 3:16, 1 Peter 1:19-20, Hebrews 1:2, Hebrews 4:15, Luke 1:27-35, Romans 5:19, Philippians 2:8, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 1 Peter 3:22, Acts 1:11, Matthew 13:40-42, Matthew 24:36-44, WCF Chapter 8.1-4 and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Romans 3:10-13, 22-28, Romans 4:5-8, Romans 5:15-16, Ephesians 2:8-9, WCF Chapter 11.1-3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 2 Corinthians 3:18, John 15:4-6, Romans 8:4-14, Philippians 2:13, WCF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 1 Thessalonians 4:17, 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, John 5:22-29, Acts 24:15, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Matthew 25:31-46, WCF Chapter 32.2-3 and 33.1-2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 1 Corinthians 1:2, 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, WCF Chapter 25.1-2

#### Curriculum Overview

Classical Christian education is approach to learning that emphasizes biblical teachings as the foundation for the pursuit of wisdom, virtue, and excellence based on a teaching model known as the Trivium. This model consists of the three stages of grammar, logic, and rhetoric, and utilizes time-tested teaching methods complement the God-designed cognitive development of the students. This understanding of the learner allows the curriculum to present information in a manner that teaches students to think and reason for themselves, developing students who can articulate and defend their ideas and beliefs in a logical and confident manner. From the phonics-based reading program to the study of Latin and through the presentation of a senior thesis, classical Christian education creates the opportunity to build a strong academic foundation, but most importantly, an opportunity to train the mind, heart, and soul.

# Graduation Requirements

The following current credit requirements have been adopted by the PCS school board for graduation from Providence Christian School. In order to graduate, a student must earn a minimum of 28 credits, as listed below. One-half credit is earned per semester for each class. Students who transfer to Providence must have their transcript reviewed by the academic committee in order to determine which transfer credits may be transferable to meet the requirements for Providence Christian School graduation. Any waiver of credits allowed (as determined by the committee) must be approved at the time of admission.

Providence Christian School Grammar School Curriculum Overview						
	1st Grade	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Bible	DeepRoots Creation-Promised Land,Genesis Timesline	DeepRoots Gospels	DeepRoots Nation of Israel	DeepRoots Acts and the Early Church	DeepRoots Divided Kingdom	DeepRoots Learning from Jesus, the Epistles and Revelation
Reading/ Literature	PCS Literature Lists	PCS Literature Lists	PCS Literature Lists	PCS Literature Lists	PCS Literature Lists	PCS Literature Lists
Phonics/ Spelling	PCS Phonics and Spelling Program	PCS Phonics and Spelling Program	Purposeful Design	Purposeful Design		
Grammar/ Composition	Shurley English	Shurley English	Well-Ordered Language	Well-Ordered Language	Well-Ordered Language	Well-Ordered Language
Handwriting	Zaner- Bloser	Zaner- Bloser	Zaner- Bloser			
Math	Saxon Math	Saxon Math	Classical Math 3	Saxon Math	Saxon Math	Saxon Math
History	Creation, Genesis, Washington, Lincoln, Thanks- giving, AL History, Community	Veritas Timeline Old Testament- Ancient Egypt	Veritas Timeline New Testament- Greece & Rome	Veritas Timeline Middles Ages, Renaissance, Reformation	Veritas Timeline Explorers to 1815	Veritas Timeline 1815-Present Day A History of the US
Science	Purposeful Design	Purposeful Design	Purposeful Design	Purposeful Design	Purposeful Design	Purposeful Design
Latin					Latin for Children	Latin for Children

Providence Christian School Logic/Rhetoric School Curriculum Overview						
	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Math	Pre-Algebra	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus Algebra Pre-Calculus/Trig	Trigonometry or Calculus
History	Ancient History I	Medieval History I	Modern History I	Ancient History II	Medieval History II	Modern History II
Bible			Hermenuetics	Worldviews	Christian Doctrine	Apologetics
Literature	Ancient Literature I	Medieval Literature I	Modern Literature I	Ancient Literature II	Medieval Literature II	Modern Literature II
Science	Earth Science	Logic	Physical Science	Biology	Chemistry	Physics or Anatomy & Physiology
Language	Latin I	Latin II	Spanish I	Spanish II		
Rhetoric					Rhetoric I	Rhetoric II
Fine Arts	Art	Art	Art	Art	Art	Art
PE	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE
Music	Chorus Band	Chorus Band	Chorus Show Choir Band	Chorus Show Choir Band	Chorus Show Choir Band	Chorus Show Choir Band
Electives	Keyboarding	Personal Finance	Scholars Bowl Yearbook	Scholars Bowl Yearbook	Exordium Leadership Yearbook Scholars Bowl	Exordium Leadership Yearbook Scholars Bowl

#### Minimum Credits required for Graduation Subject area / Required Coursework / Credits

Bible:	4
English (Humanities):	4
History (Humanities):	4
Math: Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Cal with Algebra, Pre- Cal with Trigonometry, Trigonometry, Calculus:	4
Science: Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy & Physiology:	4
Foreign Language: Spanish I & Spanish II:	2
Rhetoric: Rhetoric I & II:	2
Electives:	4
Total credits required:	28

# College Acceptances

Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine **Auburn University Auburn University at Montgomery Baylor University Belhaven University** Birmingham - Southern College Coastal Community College **Covenant College Cumberland Law School Enterprise State Community College Faulkner University** Florida State University Florida State University at Panama City Freed-Hardeman University **Harding University High Point University Huntingdon College** Jacksonville State University LaGrange College Lee University LeTourneau University Liberty University Lipscomb University Louisiana State University Lurleen B. Wallace Community College Mercer University Middle Tennessee State University Mississippi College Mississippi State University

**New Saint Andrews College** Pensacola State College Samford University Savannah College of Architecture and Design **Shorter University** Southeastern University Southern Union Community College Southwestern Assembly of God University **Stetson University** Trevecca Nazarene University Tallahassee Community College **Troy University United States Air Force Academy** United States Military Academy at West Point **United States Naval Academy** University of Alabama University of Alabama at Birmingham University of Alabama at Huntsville University of Florida University of Georgia University of Mississippi University of Mobile University of Montevallo University of South Alabama University of Tennessee Wallace Community College Wallace State - Hanceville William Carey University

Trend of Average ACT Scores (2014-2020)						
Grad Year	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite	
	PCS ST N					
2014	<b>26.4 20.7</b> 20.3	<b>21.7</b> 19.5 20.9	<b>25.1 21.3</b> 21.3	<b>23.4 20.4</b> 20.8	<b>24.3 20.6</b> 21.0	
2015	<b>26.0</b> 18.8 20.4	<b>22.8 18.4 20.8</b>	<b>25.7</b> 19.7 21.4	23.5 19.1 20.9	<b>24.6 19.1</b> 21.0	
2016	<b>26.9 18.7 20.1</b>	23.6 18.3 20.6	<b>26.2 19.7 21.3</b>	<b>24.2 19.1</b> 20.8	<b>25.4 19.1 20.8</b>	
2017	<b>25.9</b> 18.9 20.3	<b>22.8</b> 18.4 20.7	<b>25.1</b> 19.7 21.4	23.5 19.4 21.0	<b>24.4 19.2</b> 21.0	
2018	<b>27.9 18.9</b> 20.2	<b>23.4</b> 18.3 20.5	<b>27.1 19.6</b> 21.3	<b>25.0 19.0</b> 20.3	<b>25.0 19.1 20.8</b>	
2019	<b>27.7 18.9</b> 20.2	<b>24.4</b> 18.3 20.5	<b>27.1 19.6</b> 21.3	<b>25.1 19.0</b> 20.7	<b>25.4</b> 18.9 20.8	
2020	<b>27.5</b> 18.7 20.3	<b>23.1</b> 18.1 20.5	28.0 19.5 21.3	<b>25.5 18.8 20.7</b>	<b>25.2</b> 18.9 20.8	



By definition, PCS exists as a ministry of First Presbyterian Church in partnership with families supporting the school's vision for education. The admission process will be a thorough one, because determining whether a "shared vision" exists cannot be done by merely signing an application. A student entering first grade must have reached the age of six by September 1 of the year in which he or she would enter Providence Christian School. A readiness screening will also be required.

Upon applying, a parent conference will be arranged with a school administrator.

- Parents must purchase and read (or listen on audio)
   "The Case for Classical Christian Education" by
   Douglas Wilson (available in the school office) prior to the parent conference.
- After all required information is collected, parent and/or student conferences are completed and student screening is completed, the application will be submitted to the admissions committee for consideration.
- The school will then notify parents with a decision regarding acceptance. If accepted for admission, the official Request for Records Form will be sent to the previous school attended. When a student is accepted for admission, the student's official records, the enrollment fee, and the tuition plan agreement are required to complete the admission process.
- Siblings of enrolled Providence students, children of active First Presbyterian Church members, and Providence Early Childhood K-5 students will be given strong admissions consideration; however, a philosophical and academic fit for classical

- and Christ-centered education is necessary to be considered for admission. These applicants, along with all other applicants, will be reviewed by the admissions committee.
- Families will be notified as to whether a student has been approved for admission, denied admission, or placed in the waiting pool for consideration when an opening becomes available.

Providence Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students of the school. Providence Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, financial policies, athletic policies and other school-administered programs. Providence Christian School does reserve the right to select students on the basis of academic performance, religious commitment, philosophical compatibility, and a willingness to cooperate with the Providence Christian School administration and abide by its policies.

Providence Christian School's biblical role is to work in conjunction with the home to mold students to be Christ-like. On occasion, the atmosphere or conduct within a particular home may be counter or in opposition to the biblical lifestyle the school teaches. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, sexual immorality, homosexual sexual orientation, or inability to support the moral principles of the school. In such cases, the school reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to refuse admission of an applicant or to discontinue enrollment of a student.

### Tuition/ Fees

Tuition is defined as the annual fee charged to families for a student to attend Providence Christian School for a complete school year. Tuition provides the primary source of operations revenue for the school. Due to the annual contractual arrangement Providence Christian School makes with its employees and the purchasing of materials each year based on enrollment figures, no fees will be refunded after June 1st except as noted on the tuition policy.

- Students in good standing are enrolled until graduation. The parent or guardian is responsible for the annual tuition payment each year on June 1. Discounts are given to families with more than one student. Several payment plans are available through FACTS Management Company.
- Families enrolling during the school year will pay prorated tuition based on the number of days in school.
- An annual Construction/Maintenance fee (designated for capital needs) is assessed per family.
- An annual tuition deposit is assessed for each returning student enrolled in Providence Christian School.
- \*Tuition includes textbooks; however, tuition does not include all costs which may be incurred by the family.

# Funding Priorities

The school board is committed to using the following guidelines in prioritizing the use of available resources:

- 1. Timely payment of all bills
- 2. Maintaining accessible tuition

- 3. Teachers' salaries
- 4. Ongoing teacher training
- 5. Instructional and enrichment resources and equipment
- 6. Long-term facilities
- 7. Facilities for co-curricular activities

Since our school is founded on the belief that the family has the primary responsibility for the education of children, we require that each of our school families be involved in contributing toward any of the school's capital needs through a yearly construction and maintenance fee. We are always grateful for any contributions and gifts toward our capital needs. Many of our program budgets are enhanced through contributions made to our Annual Fund. We recognize that each family's ability to participate varies, and we want to always encourage families to support their local church before they give to the school's capital needs.

#### Financial Aid

From its inception, Providence Christian School has been proactive in its desire to provide an opportunity for affordable classical Christian education to the families in our community. The primary means for providing that opportunity is through provision of a financial needsbased tuition assistance program.

The school contracts with an independent company to collect families' financial information in order to provide a "need index" to the school. The school uses that information to grant the available funds set aside each year for financial aid.



#### Location/Facilities

PCS operates on a piece of property that has affectionately been known as "Camp Meadow Wood" for over 40 years. A former Girl Scout camp, the front portion of the Meadow Wood property has been home to Providence Christian School since 1995.

The school campus is anchored by a large two-story structure facing Murphy Mill Road that is home to grammar grades, two libraries, and several administrative offices. The cottagestyle structures that were the original campus buildings make up the logic school, as well as providing space for some enrichment classes, including art and music.

PCS rhetoric students attend classes in the multi-purpose gym building located on the rear of the property. This building has eleven classrooms surrounding the 800 seat capacity gymnasium, as well as several offices.

Located on the east side of the campus, our enclosed lunch pavilion provides seating for up to 300, as well as kitchen/ concessions and restroom facilities that also serve the school's football/soccer stadium. Additional athletic facilities include a boy's baseball field, girl's softball field, multi-purpose play court, and state-of-the-art field house with locker rooms.



## Accreditation/Memberships

PCS is a fully accredited, charter member of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (ACCS) and a member of the Society for Classical Learning (SCL).

## The Classical Aesthetic-More Than Meets the Eye

As you enter Providence Christian School, our foyer speaks to what we value, love, and celebrate. As an accredited classical Christian school, we value Truth, beauty, and goodness in all of life. This means even our hallways and classrooms echo these principles. Children can be seen looking up at the timeline found in the Grammar School, gazing at art work on exhibit in the halls of the Rhetoric Building, seeing photographs of mission trips, or listening to the soft classical music playing throughout the hallways. We are training affections to love the beautiful.

#### What is beauty?

Beauty, therefore, is one of the most important ideas in existence. . . . a quality in an object that is most easily perceived when the object is whole, balanced, and radiant, and when the observer has "eyes to see." One final thought: the Greek word for beauty is Kalos, which can also be translated: the good, the noble, the fitting, etc. Andrew

As we train our students' affections, we seek to promote a peaceful, home-like environment in which the learner feels invited to participate in learning. We celebrate the five Solas featured in our foyer, Sola Gratia (through grace alone), Sola Fide (in faith alone), Solus Christus (through Christ alone), Sola Scriptura (through Scripture alone) and Soli Deo Gloria (for the glory of God alone). We are ordering a child's affections to something higher than themselves. In fact, we are seeking to promote an environment in which they see the beauty of our Creator first and foremost.

### Administration

PCS operates with a Head of School who offers leadership to two principals and a preschool director. Our preschool director serves grades K3 through kindergarten at Providence Early Childhood Ministries located on our First Presbyterian Church campus. Our grammar principal serves grades one through six, and our Logic/Rhetoric Principal serves grades seven through twelve. Additionally, PCS has several individuals who serve our families and our Lord through their leadership in areas of the school that include finance, maintenance, counseling, admissions, and curriculum.



CS faculty, coaches, and staff are gifted Professionals who possess a personal relationship with the Lord and a strong desire to teach from a biblical worldview, utilizing classical methodology to guide students in their pursuit of Truth and excellence. These individuals minister as a Christian role model, demonstrating a love for the Lord, a love for others, and a love for teaching. (Romans 10:9-10, 1 Timothy 4:12, Luke 6:40). PCS teachers possess a bachelor's degree or above, a commitment to classical Christian education, and a desire to guide students to develop into life-long learners.

Employment at Providence Christian School is open to qualified individuals who are Christians of good character, without regard or reference to race, sex (gender), national or ethnic origin, color, age, or disability. Providence Christian School is a religious educational ministry, permitted to discriminate on the basis of religion. All prospective and current employees must agree with Providence Christian School's mission statement, and they must be willing to conduct their lives in conformity with the school's Statement of Faith and the school's Declaration and Agreement

to Ethical and Moral Integrity. As a ministry of First Presbyterian Church, Providence Christian School reserves the right to discriminate according to its religious convictions, beliefs, and practices. The school reserves the right to refuse to hire employees, admit students/ families, or affiliate with individuals or corporations that do not share the school's religious beliefs and/or meet its religious qualifications.

Gaining an understanding of our vision for this classical Christian education model is an essential part of our hiring process. Therefore, we ask interested educators to read our "At a Glance" booklet and Douglas Wilson's book, "The Case for Classical Christian Education." The "At a Glance" booklets are available at the school, and the book is available at either the school office, First Presbyterian Church, or Amazon.com.

Criteria for employment at PCS include the following:

- Teachers possess a bachelor's degree or above.
- Teachers will upgrade their knowledge and skills through continued training in classical, Christian education.

- Teachers are certified or willing to work toward certification by ACCS (Associate of Classical Christian Schools).
- All prospective and current employees must be willing to conduct their lives in conformity with the PCS Statement of Faith and the Declaration and Agreement to Ethical and Moral Integrity, understanding that they will serve as a Christian role-model for students as well as for other adults.
- All employees will complete a background check.

Our prayer is that every student will be positively impacted by each of our teachers as we strive to build within each child a life-long love for learning within the context of teaching classically from a perspective of a Christian worldview. It is our belief that teachers serve as role models-both inside and outside the classroom-to their students, and therefore should integrate biblical truth into their teaching and personal example. (Romans 10:9-10, 1 Timothy 4:12, Luke 6:40).





## CLARITY IN THE CONTRAST:

#### Most Modern Educators

**Democratic:** Every student should attain the same level of achievement.

Multicultural: Critical of our Western cultural roots, strongly emphasizing imperialism, slavery, and historic Christianity as "what is wrong with America."

Naturalistic: Emphasizes math and science at the expense of art, literature, and history. **Secular:** Holds the "spiritual" as personal and separate from education. Avoids deeper philosophical issues.

Values-Neutral: All moral positions are relative and hence all positions must be equally treated.

Broken Into Many Subjects: By breaking knowledge into pieces, it can be more easily studied and thus understood.

**Teaches Facts and Functional Skills:** 

Students primarily learn about subjects, particularly ones that help them "get good jobs."

Progressive: Always experimenting with new techniques and methods.

**Entertainment Learning:** Entertain students to engage them in the learning process.

#### Classical Christian Educators

Excellence: Take each student to their highest possible potential.

Western: Recognize the great contribution of Western culture to America and the world, including its triumphs and failures, while also recognizing the beauty in other cultures.

Universal: Emphasize the humanities, arts, and sciences to bring a full perspective.

**Integrated:** Education is necessarily tied to philosophy and religion in order to train thoughtful students.

**Idealism:** Standards of right and wrong exist in all subject areas. Students are taught to make judgments accordingly.

Integrated Subjects: Subjects should be taught in an integrated way so that students understand the whole as well as the parts.

Teaches Critical Thinking: Students learn to think beyond subject-matter. Content is not the goal – wisdom is.

**Traditional:** Hold to educational standards that have a clear record of success.

Engage and Challenge: Students will meet a high standard and enjoy the sense of achievement.

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And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding.

Daniel 2:21

(KJV)

# Student/Parent-Teacher Communication (Matthew 18 Principle):

uestions and concerns inevitably arise even in a wellrun school. It is important that these be handled courteously and promptly. The following steps are an application of the Biblical injunction recorded in Matthew 18 for the resolution of a problem between believers:

a. All concerns about the classroom must first be presented to the teacher by the parents, or if the student is mature enough, by the student himself. If the student presents the concern, a respectful demeanor is required at all times. Request a conference with the teacher and meet privately to seek the resolution, with a spirit of reconciliation. Both want the good of the child and are not in adversarial positions.

b. If unresolved, the parents or student may bring the concern to the appropriate administrator. If the student brings the concern, he must have permission from his parents to do so.

The principle underlying this procedure is clear: Solve each complaint with the persons directly involved at the lowest level possible, moving the matter up the chain of authority to the level where it is finally resolved. This procedure is taken from "To Those Who Teach in Christian Schools" by Roy W. Lowrie, Jr.





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