

## **In Loco Parentis**

The well-known commitment of Classical Christian schools to the principle of in loco parentis reflects the Biblical primacy of the home in child-rearing. In loco parentis is defined as "in place of the parents." At all levels, the Paideia Christian Academy Board, administration, teachers, and staff acknowledge that the school does not function above parental authority, but rather with delegated authority (in loco parentis) from the parents.

Paideia Christian Academy believes that God has granted to parents the responsibility and authority for raising their children, including the responsibility of educating them. We seek to assist and support parents in this God-given responsibility. We seek to operate as an extension of the family. The implementation of our Statement of Faith, Mission Statement, and pursuit of any goals are never intended to supplant the responsibility and authority of parents to raise their children in the Lord. We intend to fulfill our foundational commitments and goals through partnering with and supporting parents who are already dedicated to such goals in their respective households by teaching their children about the Gospel of Jesus Christ daily through discipleship and discipline. The school will seek to fulfill the obligations we have with regard to this policy primarily through thorough admission procedures, faithfulness to our stated educational mission, and biblical discipline.

## **Mission Statement**

Paideia uses a classical method rooted in the Christian worldview. We nurture students' appreciation of truth, goodness, and beauty as they strive for excellence, while guiding them to live purposefully in the service of God and man.

## **Statement of Faith**

- We believe the Bible to be the only inerrant, authoritative Word of God (II Timothy 3:16).
- We believe there is one God eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:26, Acts 7:54-60, John 1:1);
- We believe God made the heavens, the earth, and man as related in the account of creation in the first two chapters of Genesis.
- We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through his shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful men, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely necessary (Titus 3:5).
- We believe salvation is by grace alone through faith alone (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 11:5-6).
- We believe faith without works is dead (Philippians 2:12; Ephesians 2:10, James 2:14-26).
- We believe the indwelling Holy Spirit enables the Christian to live a godly life (Romans 8:9; Galatians 5:22-25).
- We believe in the resurrection of the saved to eternal life and the lost to eternal damnation (Matthew 25:31-46).
- We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (John 17, I Corinthians 12 and 14).
- We believe this spiritual unity amongst believers is made manifest within the Catholic (Global) Church. Jesus Christ is the head of the Church and the members - the body of Christ (Ephesians 4). Christians are called to be baptized in the name of The Triune God, to participate in the holy sacrament of

communion, regularly attend church, and preach the gospel to the world (Matthew 28, Hebrews 10). We believe Paideia was created to serve and support the church in Christ.

- We believe God created the human race to be either male or female. These sexes were both created in the image of God (Genesis 1). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of God's design.
- We believe marriage was created by God and that marriage was and always will be a union between one man and one woman exclusively (Genesis 2). We believe God intended sexual intimacy to be reserved for this marriage only (1 Corinthians 6-7, Hebrews 13). All other forms of sexual intimacy is sin and disobedience to God's will (Matthew 15, 1 Corinthians 6).
- We believe God offers reconciliation and redemption to all who confess their sin and repent, putting their faith in Christ for forgiveness and salvation. We believe in extending grace, love, kindness, compassion, gentleness, and respect to all people. Paideia refuses to be associated with demeaning interactions and repudiates any such ill will towards anyone.

## Parent Expectations

As partners in educating their children, we believe parental volunteer service plays an important role in the childrens' education at Paideia. We not only welcome parental involvement, we expect it. Parents are required to donate 30 hours per family of volunteer service per year or pay an additional \*fee to offset costs. Grandparents are included. Special circumstances can be discussed.

Parents are strongly encouraged to be actively involved in their student's education at Paideia Academy. They are always welcome to participate in any activity of the school. Parents, as well as any other visitor, are asked to check in and register in the school office. Below are a few suggestions of the most common ways parents can be involved:

- Be an ambassador for our school; attend and invite others on Academy School Tours
- Visit the school/class (please contact the teacher at least one day prior to your visit)
- Help in the classroom
- Serve as a driver and/or chaperone on field trips (must have a completed necessary paperwork on file with the school office)
- Offer to share your vocation or a field trip to your place of business (pre-arrange with teacher)
- Offer to share any special talents or interests you have with a class or the school. Serve as a story-reader, song-leader or guest artist.
- Help host an in-class party
- Attend any announced parent meetings
- Most importantly, supervise your child's work by reviewing school work or materials sent home
- Ideas for parent participation are encouraged.

## Paideia/Parent communication

Teachers are the first line of communication with parents. It is of the utmost importance that parents and teachers have open lines of communication and operate on a united front. Because teachers are acting in the place of parents, it is very important that parents publicly support teachers, especially to their students. Undermining a teacher's authority or decisions is self-defeating. If a disagreement between a parent and teacher should arise, parents should publicly show support and privately address the teacher with the concern or issue. If a satisfactory resolution does not occur, parents should follow the normal grievance procedure.

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**Detailed Volunteer expectations**

1. All information concerning students is strictly confidential and should not be shared with others.
2. Please call the school and leave a message with the secretary if you will arrive late or be absent. Please do not contact the teacher on his/her personal cell.
3. Please leave preschoolers at home when volunteering. Younger siblings are often allowed to accompany the parent on school field trips. Please check with your child's teacher for each trip.
4. Attire should be neat, clean, professional and comfortable. Please do not wear work out attire while volunteering.
5. All bathrooms are used by staff, students, and volunteers.
6. Volunteers should stay in the vicinity of a teacher when working with students.
7. Please avoid interrupting teachers during times of instruction. Questions and concerns can be addressed following instructional time.
8. Volunteers may be asked for a background check or fingerprints.
9. Volunteers are asked to refrain from disciplining a student and involve a teacher or staff member instead.
10. Volunteers may never be alone in a room while the door is closed with a single student. This serves to protect both students and volunteers.
11. Volunteers are expected to conduct themselves in the same godly manner expected of students and staff. Gossip or other negative behaviors are strongly discouraged.
12. Volunteers will not be given access to student or staff files.