

Preparing Students for High School Success

# **FAMILY HANDBOOK**

This handbook has been prepared to help you get acquainted with the traditions and expectations at the "Mountain". Please read this handbook carefully and share the information with your parents. If you use the information that is provided as a guide and take part in all that the "Mountain" has to offer, you should have a very successful and rewarding middle school experience. Please do not hesitate to seek help from any teacher, counselor, or principal. Our reason for being here is to help you be successful!

Phone: 678-594-8252

2720 Pine Mountain Circle Kennesaw, Georgia 30152

1



# MISSION

One Team. One Goal. Student Success.

# VISION

Prepare Students for High School Success

# **CORE VALUES**

Empowering students to CLIMB: to be <u>C</u>ommitted, to <u>L</u>ead, to possess <u>I</u>ntegrity, to be <u>M</u>indful, and to be <u>B</u>alanced in all their endeavors.

# HISTORY

Pine Mountain Middle School was named for the Civil War battle northwest of the school on the nearby mountain slope. The mountain was believed to be called "pine" because of the stand of pine trees there. Pine Mountain, the highest point between Lost and Kennesaw Mountain, was fortified by the Confederates and was used as an outpost of the main Confederate line. General Joseph Johnston led the Confederate troops and hoped to slow the advance of General William Tecumseh Sherman as he neared Atlanta. The Battle of Pine Mountain took place between June 10 and June 14, 1864. General Leonidas Polk had joined General Johnston's troops. While observing the advance of the Union troops from the top of Pine Mountain, General Polk was killed by Union artillery fire on June 14, 1884.

Pine Mountain was one of the few areas used by both the Confederate and Union armies. The Confederate army used the mountain as a fortification. The Union army used the mountain as an observatory during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.

Pine Mountain Middle School opened its doors in 1979 to serve the growing population of northwest Cobb County. The school is located on the site of the Civil War Battle for Pine Mountain.

#### ACADEMIC/EXPLORATORY GRADING SCALE

- A 90 100
- B 80 89
- C 74-79
- $D \qquad 70-73$
- F 0 69

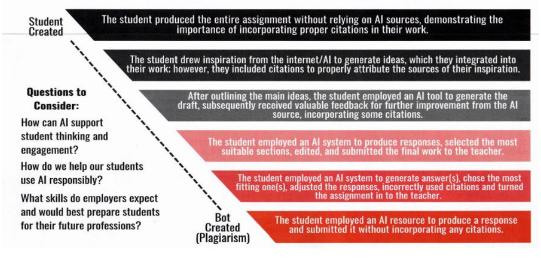
## ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students are expected to refrain from engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, fabrications, false statements, and plagiarism, in support of our school's core value of integrity.

In accordance with our school's core value of integrity, students must avoid academic dishonesty, which includes cheating, fabrication, false statements, and plagiarism.

Consequences	Occurrence			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Student conference with teacher	~			
Teacher contacts parent	~	~	~	~
Resubmit work for up to 74% credit	~			
Resubmit work for up to 60% credit		~		
Automatic Zero			$\checkmark$	~
Teacher writes referral and administrator contacts parent			~	$\checkmark$
Other as designed by teacher or School Administrator	~	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$

# Unlocking Originality: Navigating the Realm of Plagiarism



#### ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The CCSD standardized assessment program includes both norm-referenced and criterionreferenced tests, such as the Iowa Assessment (Iowa) and the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment. Seventh-grade students will take the Iowa and the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). All grades will take the GA Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment toward the end of the year.

Several assessment and screening programs are conducted throughout the school year. Primary screenings include vision, auditory, speech, and scoliosis screenings.

#### ATTENDANCE

Daily attendance of students is essential. When a student is absent, a written note or email that includes the student's first and last name, states the reason for the absence, and is signed by a parent, must be submitted to the front office. Attendance emails should be sent to pinemountainmssupport@cobbk12.org. Notes must be turned in within three days after the student returns from an absence. Students who miss five or more days will receive a letter from the principal, and those who miss seven or more days may be referred to the school social worker.

#### BASE CAMP

Our school store is named Base Camp. Students can buy items from Base Camp using a CLIMB Card. CLIMB Cards are priced at \$10.00 and can be obtained from the school bookkeeper, or families may order them online through MyPaymentsPlus. If a CLIMB Card is bought online, students can collect the physical CLIMB Card from the school bookkeeper.

#### **BEHAVIOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Pine Mountain recognizes and acknowledges students who meet our school-wide and classroom expectations. Students will be selected quarterly to demonstrate our school's five core values, represented by the acronym CLIMB: commitment, leadership, integrity, mindfulness, and balance. These students will be honored on the Mighty Mustang recognition wall.

Students' behavior on school buses is viewed as an extension of the classroom, and they are expected to adhere to all bus rules.

#### **BUS CHANGE**

Students cannot ride a bus that doesn't belong to them.

#### **BUS CONDUCT**

We aim to provide every eligible student with the safest and most adequate transportation to our school. We believe that students are citizens of Cobb County and have a right to a secure and comfortable journey to and from school.

Along with these rights come responsibilities. Safety rules and regulations have been established to ensure that all eligible students are aware of their rights when riding the bus. PMMS supports the CCSD – Safe Rider Program. Students are provided with a copy of the Safe Rider Rules. It is the student's responsibility to follow these rules. We encourage our parents to instill rules of conduct that foster respect and safety among one another. When laws are broken, the privilege of riding the bus may be revoked.

#### **BUYING AND SELLING**

Students are not allowed to buy or sell items to one another at school. This includes, but is not limited to, candy, gum, games, and fundraisers that are not supported by the school.

# **CELL PHONES/ELECTRONICS**

Cell phones and electronic devices must be stored in a student's locker. The school is not liable for any lost, stolen, or damaged devices.

## **CLIMB BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS**

Our CLIMB behavior system aligns with the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) framework and plays a crucial role in our educational program. Our school-wide expectations reflect our school's core values.

The following are general school-wide processes and procedures:

- Due to the keyless entry system, students may not enter the school building in the morning until 8:30 a.m. unless they are participating in a school-sponsored activity. Students arriving between 8:30 a.m. and 8:50 a.m. will attend a study hall in the cafeteria unless they have a pass from a teacher allowing them to be elsewhere in the building.
- 2. To ensure everyone's safety, students should walk on the right side of the hall in all instructional areas and hallways.
- 3. Good citizenship demands honesty in both written and verbal communication, as well as in school assignments.
- 4. Food should not be eaten outside the cafeteria or designated area unless instructed by a staff member.
- 5. Only water bottles will be allowed in class. All bottles must have spill-proof, non-squirt caps. Cups with lids are not permitted (e.g., Starbucks, Dunkin', Styrofoam, etc.).
- All Cobb County Board Administrative Rules and Student Code of Conduct will be upheld at Pine Mountain. This information can be found on the Cobb County website at the following link. <u>http://www.cobbk12.org/generalinfo/FamilyInformationGuide/FamilyInformationGuide2020 2</u> 021.pdf
- 7. Book bags should be stored in the designated student lockers unless a teacher specifically informs a student otherwise.

# COBB SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT (RTI)

The Cobb Systems of Support (CSS) consists of faculty members who assist students with academic and/or behavioral challenges. The purpose of CSS is to evaluate and consider all relevant information regarding the student. Furthermore, the CSS team recommends additional educational

strategies and plans to support the student. Parents are encouraged to be active participants in a problem-solving team for their child.

# COUNSELING

Middle school counselors support students, teachers, and parents with developmental challenges typical during the "tween" years.

Students can meet with a counselor during individual or group counseling sessions. Classroom guidance is usually provided to all students in career and life development, as well as in academic achievement.

Counselors may also assist during parent conferences, maintaining and interpreting permanent record information. The guidance office coordinates transition activities between elementary, middle, and high schools.

Parents who do not want their child to participate in counseling group activities should inform the counseling office in writing.

# CONDUCT GRADE SYSTEM

The student's behavior influences his or her conduct grade. The following standards for determining grades are applied school-wide. Each teacher integrates these standards into their behavior management plans, which are communicated to all students at the beginning of the school year. Students must maintain satisfactory conduct grades to be recognized on the Honor Roll. A new conduct grade is assigned every nine weeks.

<u>Satisfactory</u>: Conduct that follows classroom and school rules and does not interfere with the learning of others.

<u>Needs Improvement</u>: Conduct that frequently causes class disruptions and/or does not always conform to classroom and school rules.

<u>Unsatisfactory</u>: Conduct that consistently causes a class disruption that interferes with the learning of others, and which often does not conform to classroom and school rules.

#### CONFERENCES

Parents are encouraged to actively participate in their school. One of the best ways to stay informed about your child's progress is through a parent-teacher conference. Conferences will provide you with insights about your child's development and help keep all lines of communication open. Adults who wish to schedule additional conferences during the year should contact their child's school counselor at 678-594-8252 to arrange a meeting.

#### **CURRICULUM**

The curriculum is differentiated across Advanced Content, Special Education, English Language Learners, and General Education courses.

6th Grade Overview - Language Arts, Mathematics, Earth Science, Social Studies, Reading

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Overview – Language Arts, Mathematics, Life Science, Social Studies, Reading

<u>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Overview</u> – Language Arts, Mathematics, Physical Science, High School Physical Science, High School Algebra I, Georgia Studies, Reading

Through Connections, students may take specific technology courses for each grade level, as well as Spanish, High School Spanish 1\*, Art, High School Art\*, Physical Education, Year Physical Education\*, Health, Band\*, Orchestra\*, and Chorus\*.

\*Yearlong courses

#### DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

For safety, car riders should be picked up directly in front of the school and should not be expected to walk through the parking lot or be picked up on the sidewalk. Unlike elementary schools, the staff does not monitor car riders or walkers. The last checkout of the day is promptly at 3:45 pm. Families must make transportation changes by 3:45 pm.

## DRESS CODE

The Cobb County School District acknowledges that students' dress and grooming, both individually and collectively, are important factors in the effective operation of our educational program. One of the school's responsibilities is to help students recognize that maintaining appropriate appearance and hygiene contributes to their well-being and that of others.

Each student is expected to maintain a standard of dress and grooming that aligns with the level of formality of the school environment. We seek the assistance of parents in monitoring their child(ren)'s clothing to ensure that it is suitable for the classroom.

Clothing that is distracting, disruptive, or creates an unsafe situation is not permitted at school. If a child is not dressed appropriately, a parent may be contacted. The dress code applies to all school activities and events. These minimum standards should help clarify what is considered appropriate school dress:

- Clothing must be modest and not revealing or provocative. Tank tops and halters are not permitted, but they may be worn under a jacket or sweater. Cleavage must not show.
- Clothing must be worn as intended (overalls secured over both shoulders, pants with both legs down, etc.)
- Clothing must not reveal underwear. Clothing must not be see-through or expose the midriff or buttocks.
- No sagging pants: all pants will be worn at the waist.
- No pajama pants or house slippers.
- Bike shorts (like spandex-type shorts) can be worn if the buttocks are covered.
- No hats, stocking caps, do-rags, bandanas, sweat headbands, forehead bands, hoods, etc., can be worn inside the building.

- Students may not wear clothing that displays or advertises obscene slogans or signs, profanity, gang symbols, gang-related materials, or any substance illegal for minors, such as beer, tobacco, etc.
- Clothing or ornamentation advocating, promoting, or suggesting illegal activity is prohibited.
- *Rule of thumb*: Look in the mirror just before leaving your home. If you're unsure about what you're wearing, consider trying something else. *Don't forget*: Clothing must be modest and not revealing or provocative.

*The preceding dress code list is not inclusive*. We reserve the right to determine whether clothing is appropriate for school. The principal or his/her designee shall be the final judge on the appropriateness, neatness, and cleanliness of the apparel and whether it is disruptive or violates the dress code.

#### Enforcement Guidelines Dress Code Violations:

- First Offense –Administrative Conference and parents contacted to bring appropriate clothing. Students violating the school dress code will be separated from others while they await the provision of proper attire for the day.
- Subsequent Offenses Administrative Referral and parents contacted to bring appropriate clothing. Students violating the school dress code will be separated from other students while awaiting appropriate clothing to change into for the day.

Parents may be contacted to bring appropriate clothing. If a student cannot correct the offensive/inappropriate dress, he/she will be assigned to ISS for the remainder of the school day. Shirts with inappropriate language or graphics will be turned inside out, and the dress code violation will be administered as stated.

*It is not acceptable for students to argue with teachers or administrators.* Students will be referred for defiance or insubordination if they discuss or behave in a manner that is otherwise disruptive when the dress code is enforced.

# **DRIVER'S PERMITS**

State Law stresses the importance of <u>school attendance</u> and <u>behavior</u>. The school system is required by law to report non-compliant students to the Department of Education. The Department of Education will notify the Department of Driver Services (DDS).

A parent 's/ guardian's permission for the student to withdraw from school will no longer be an acceptable reason to rescind the suspension of the permit or license.

Detailed Information may be found in Georgia Code Section 40-5-22, the Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA).

#### EARLY CHECKOUT

Your student will be called to the front office upon your arrival. Parents/guardians will sign out their students at the front office. If someone other than the enrolling guardian is to check the student out, this person must be listed by the enrolling adult on enrollment forms. The enrolling adult may update the names of individuals allowed to check out students using the ParentVUE system. Anyone checking out a student must provide a picture ID. Students must remain in school until 12:45 to be counted present for the day. No students will be allowed to check out after 3:45 pm.

#### FIELD TRIPS

Virtual and/or physical field trips will be planned throughout the school year to enrich our curriculum. Families will be informed of the event, the cost per student, and the scheduled trip date. All checks are to be made payable to Pine Mountain Middle School.

The full participation of students in all classroom activities is ensured, and no student is ever denied these opportunities due to their parents' or guardians' inability to support those activities financially. Our field trips are funded through parent and guardian donations, which are requested and collected to enable every student to participate. All school rules apply on field trips; students are expected to behave in an appropriate manner. Payments made for field trips are not refundable unless the planned trip is canceled.

## FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES

Our school café offers a variety of choices within each food group to provide a balanced meal option. Our menu features four entrée choices, four fruit/vegetable side dishes, bread, and dessert, along with milk or a calcium-fortified fruit drink. Our menus are developed by our Food and Nutrition Services staff, comprising Registered Dietitians, to meet both Federal School Lunch Program requirements and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

In addition to the traditional lunch, we offer bottled water, non-carbonated fruit drinks, and chips for purchase in the café. Students are encouraged to prepay lunches for the week, month, quarter, or year. Payments can be made at the time students pick up their lunch. Students are required to use their 6-digit Cobb County Student Identification number for all purchases made in the café. Your child can ask the cashier how much they have on their account.

"Myschoolbucks" (previously Mypaymentsplus managed) provides easy access to the child's account balance and payment history. You can even be notified by email when the account balance is low. Parents do not have to make prepayments to utilize these features; they must register with Mypaymentsplus.com

Free and reduced lunches will be provided for those families who qualify and complete the proper Federal application form. The applications are given to each student at the beginning of the school year. All applications are confidential. Additional applications may be obtained either through the café manager or our front office.

We strive to provide our students with the best possible lunch at a reasonable cost. School lunches are a bargain compared to a home-packed lunch of equal nutritional value. For information on our weekly menu and the current lunch prices, please refer to the County Food and Nutrition Services website: <u>http://www.cobbk12.org/centraloffice/foodservices/</u>. Meal prices can be found on the CCSD website.

A nourishing lunch significantly affects a child's readiness to learn. We appreciate your support of our school café. <u>Food delivery services such as Uber Eats are not permitted on our campus.</u> <u>Additionally, students are not allowed to have guests during lunch.</u>

#### **GRADE REPORTING SYSTEM**

PMMS breaks the school year into four, nine-week grading periods. Report cards are issued electronically at the end of each quarter. Progress reports are available between report cards. ParentVUE enables parents, guardians, and students to access grades and attendance 24/7. Weekly

updated grades will be available each Thursday. As a result, progress reports and report cards are not printed and distributed to families. A hard copy of the final report card will be available for pick up by the enrolling parent at the end of the school year.

# HEALTH

Health Education in Cobb County is designed to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to make informed decisions, become advocates for healthy living, and adopt healthy behaviors for life. Human Growth and Development is part of the health curriculum, and an alternate unit will also be offered if parental consent is not given for this unit.

#### HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR ADVANCED MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

High School Courses Taken in Middle School: (1) Upon completion of high school courses taken at the middle school level, the final grade will be recorded on the high school transcript. (2) High school credit earned in middle school will count toward graduation but grades for these courses will not be calculated into the student's high school Grade Point Average (GPA).

#### **HOMEWORK POLICY**

Homework may be given to reinforce class work or as an extension of class assignments. It may also be appropriate for enabling absentees to catch up, assisting those who have fallen behind, preparing the next day's assignment, preparing tests, or enrichment purposes.

Homework policies may vary between departments. For specific homework policies, refer to the syllabus provided by your child's teacher.

#### HONOR ROLLS

The Principal's Honor Roll comprises students who earn all A's in class work. The Honor Roll comprises students who earn all A's and B's. Don't forget, everything counts. Connections grades are included in Honor Roll eligibility, along with satisfactory conduct in all classes. Grades are determined by the grading scale set by the CCSD.

The Wall of Honor recognizes eighth-grade students who have completed their entire Middle School careers with all A's on every report card.

#### **INTERNET USE**

We intend to provide a safe and appropriate internet environment; however, students must presume personal responsibility for the acceptable use of this resource. All Cobb County School District Network/Internet service users must maintain strict compliance with all applicable ethical and legal rules and regulations. Cobb County Board of Education Policy IJNDB will be strictly enforced.

#### **INTERRUPTION OF CLASS**

Out of respect for classroom instruction time, students are called out of class only for emergencies as deemed by the school administration. Please remember that students will not be called out of class in advance for checkout or to receive deliveries and messages. Cell phones and electronic devices will also be prohibited in classes to minimize distractions caused by sending and receiving texts, alert notifications, and calls.

#### INTRAMURALS

The Intramural Program is an extension of the Physical Education program. It provides additional time for not only competitive games and sports, but also for individual practice and instruction. Intramural activities are varied to provide as many experiences as possible. Because intramurals are an extension of the Physical Education program, students must exhibit good behavior to participate. Intramurals begin at 8:15 a.m. and are held Monday through Thursday. Intramurals do not start on the first day of school; students will be informed of the program's start date.

## **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)**

ISS is where a student attends school but is isolated from other students. Work is assigned to the student, and credit is awarded for all work completed during the isolation period. Refusal to attend an assigned In-School Suspension or removal from In-School Suspension will result in an Out-of-School Suspension. A student cannot participate in a CCSD event or PMMS-related function on the day of an assigned ISS.

#### LOCKERS

Students will be able to use lockers. Specific locker access times will be provided. Students must use school-issued combination locks. Lockers are school property. Students should not share a locker or the combination to their locker. Cell phones and electronic devices should be kept in a student's assigned locker, along with backpacks, lunch boxes, and other personal items.

# LOSS OF PRIVILEGE SYSTEM

Students can participate in many events and activities throughout the year. We will refer to these as "privileges," which means that when students receive a minor discipline infraction, one of the consequences we will implement is "LOP" (loss of privilege). The LOP consequence will serve as an alternative to suspension for the first offense of a minor infraction. Repeat offenses will eventually result in suspensions. With any consequence we give, our goal is to change student behavior, and we hope that students will want to participate in these privileges. Therefore, they will make the right choices and decisions that will allow them to participate. Examples of events that qualify as LOP include, but are not limited to, 8th-grade dances, CLIMB Behavior celebrations, school dances, school Olympics, and other school-related events.

#### LOST/DAMAGED TEXTBOOKS

Teachers will communicate online textbook access at the beginning of the school year. Textbooks are available for students to use in the classroom and can also be accessed online. Should a textbook be lost or damaged, fines will be assessed.

#### LOST AND FOUND

A lost and found area is maintained at the school. All items unclaimed by the end of each nine weeks are donated to charity.

#### **MAKE-UP WORK**

If a student is absent, they should check CTLS for missing assignments and email their teachers if

they have any questions.

Assignments should be made up within the same number of days as the student was absent, unless exceptional circumstances exist. It is the student's responsibility to complete and turn in work missed. Please refer to the syllabus your child's teachers provided for specific make-up work policies.

#### MEDIA CENTER

The mission of the Pine Mountain Media Center is to provide a quality media program that supports the needs of the academic program at Pine Mountain Middle School. The Media Center serves as the hub for information and technology services for students and staff at Pine Mountain. We provide a variety of resources, including books, magazines, networked computers, and audiovisual materials, for our patrons. Additionally, Cobb County students have access to various Internet resources available both at school and at home.

The Media Center is open daily from 8:55 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Students are welcome to visit the Media Center at any time during regular operating hours, provided they have a signed pass from their classroom teacher. Students may check out books for three weeks, with the option to renew them once. No fines are charged if a book is not returned on time; however, we require overdue materials to be returned before allowing additional checkouts. If a book is lost or damaged, we must charge the cost of replacing a "library-bound" copy.

We are dedicated to providing an open and positive source of enrichment and pleasure during your education here. Please feel free to come and talk to us if you need any assistance on projects or assignments.

# MEDICATION

An adult must bring all prescription and non-prescription medication in the original container. All medication taken at school requires a medical form signed by a parent or guardian. Medical forms may be obtained from the school office or www.cobbk12.org. <u>Under no circumstances will</u> <u>medication be furnished by school personnel</u>. For questions regarding medication, please don't hesitate to contact the school nurse at 678-594-8252, ext. 1602.

# ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Student clubs and organizations are recognized as excellent learning opportunities. All activities shall be limited to those of clubs and organizations sponsored and recognized by the school. Club and organization information will be available on the Pine Mountain website.

#### **OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS)**

OSS is where a student cannot be on school property or attend any school-sponsored function. A parent conference may be requested before the student's readmission to school.

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Physical Education program addresses students' physical, mental, and emotional needs through activities designed to develop physical skills and coordination, increase fitness levels, and build knowledge of various team and individual sports.

A parent may request that his/her child be excused from participation on a particular day due to an illness or injury. A doctor's notice is required if the student must be dismissed for over five days.

# **PROMOTION POLICY**

For students in grades 6-8, Cobb County School District's promotion and retention policy indicates that to earn promotion to the next grade level, the student must meet all the following criteria: (1) Pass math, English/language arts, and one additional core subject for the year or demonstrate minimum proficiency on the appropriate state-adopted assessment in math, English/language arts, and one additional core subject.

(2) Earn a combined overall passing average for all scheduled courses for the year; and

(3) Demonstrate an appropriate level of reading comprehension as measured by Lexile score.

#### PTSA

Our school's activities and programs could not exist without the PTSA volunteers. Being a member of this organization provides you with a way to stay informed about school events, offers a variety of programs designed for parents and students, and provides parental support through sharing ideas, concerns, and experiences with other parents and educators in the community. Plan to join and volunteer for this valuable organization as soon as possible.

#### SCHOOL CLOSINGS

If you have doubts about whether the school is open due to inclement weather, please listen to your local television or radio station or check the district's website.

#### STUDENT RECOGNITION

Recognizing the great work of our students is essential to us. With input from our students, staff, and PTSA, our school has created the following student recognition opportunities.

#### Student of the Week

Each week, the staff will select two students per grade as the Student of the Week based on their demonstration of our school's core values: commitment, leadership, integrity, mindfulness, and balance.

#### **CLIMB** Points

All faculty and staff members are encouraged to give CLIMB points to students whom they witness demonstrating our CLIMB core expectations.

#### Mighty Mustangs

The "Mighty Mustang" wall signing event occurs every nine weeks. By focusing on the five core values of our school (commitment, leadership, integrity, mindfulness, and balance), teachers are allowed to recognize students for one of the five core values. Parents are invited, and students are given refreshments, a certificate, and the opportunity to sign their name on a "Mighty Mustang."

#### **CLIMB** Postcards

Each month, every teacher will select two students to send a notecard. The school will mail these cards to the students' home addresses. Grade-level leads will be responsible for ensuring cards are collected and mailed.

#### Honor Roll Students

PMMS recognizes students with all A's and B's for each quarter. The school sends communication via CTLS and student names are posted on the "Honor Roll" celebration wall.

#### Principal's Honor Roll Student

PMMS recognizes students with all A's for each quarter. The school sends communication via CTLS and student names are posted on the "Honor Roll" celebration wall.

#### Wall of Honor Ceremony

8th-grade students earning all A's for each quarter during their entire 3-year middle school career will be recognized by having the opportunity to leave their handprint on the Wall of Honor. Regardless of where a student attended school during their middle school years (6,7,8), as long as all A's have been earned, they will be honored for making all A's on our Wall of Honor.

#### End-of-the-Year Award Ceremonies

At the end of the year, we will host an awards ceremony for each grade level. A list of the awards can be found on the school website.

#### **Eighth Grade** CLIMB Awards

The CLIMB Awards are awarded to 8th-grade students based on votes by the 8th-grade student body at the end of the year. These are the following categories:

- **Fresh Off the Shelf-** This award is for a rising freshman who shows great promise to be a rising leader at their respective high school.
- **UpGRADed-** This award goes to a PMMS eighth grader who mentors and guides peers as they actively work to better our school.
- **The "C-Mix Award"-** This award goes to an artist whose creativity knows no bounds! They actively strive to create groundbreaking innovations in their craft.
- **Classic Young Lady-** This award goes to a young lady who carries herself with class and is involved inside and out of school. She excels academically and actively strives to create a positive student environment.
- Classic Young Man- This award goes to a young man who carries himself with class and is involved inside and out of school. He excels academically and actively strives to create a positive student environment.
- **Hidden Gem-** This award goes to a student or staff member who has worked behind the scenes and has not received the recognition they deserve.
- **Faculty/Staff Award** This award goes to a teacher or staff member in our building who fully supports PMMS students! The recipient of this award will serve on the Principal's Advisory Council.
- Ultimate C.L.I.M.B. Award- This award goes to a student who consistently displays our 5 Core Values of Commitment, Leadership, Integrity, Mindfulness, and Balance.

## TARDINESS

Students are expected to be in class on time. All students tardy to first period must report to the main office for a tardy pass. The teacher will record the names of all students who are tardy to class.

#### Tardy Policy for Each Nine-Week Grading Period for Each Class

 $2^{nd}$  Tardy – Teacher communicates tardy with family, student informed of consequence for  $3^{rd}$  Tardy

3<sup>rd</sup> Tardy - Loss of Privilege for Fresh Air Friday, Teacher communicates tardy with family, Student Informed of consequence, 4<sup>th</sup> Tardy

4<sup>th</sup> Tardy –Office Referral, Teacher communicates tardy with family, and an administrative conference

5<sup>th</sup> Tardy – Office Referral, Teacher communicates tardy with family, ISS

## **TELEPHONE CALLS**

Students will be allowed to use the telephone in the front office for emergency purposes only. Students are prohibited from using their devices to accept or make texts, calls, or notifications while inside the school building. This is important to prevent disrupting classroom instructional time and ensure students' safety. If a parent needs to contact a student (in an emergency only), they can call and leave a message, and the front office will relay it to the student.

#### VISITING

Students are not permitted to have visitors during school hours.

High school students will not be permitted to visit former teachers on campus during the school day or at any other time as determined by the principal.