

Mt. PLEASANT



CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

2026

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2027

Revised

PARENT

STUDENT

HANDBOOK

Mt. Pleasant Christian School
4111 Susan Moore Road
Blountsville, AL 35031
School Number: 205-466-7997
Church Number: 205-466-7983

Please Note: The information in this document is subject to change; the school reserves the right to change the contents, without notice, as it deems expedient or necessary. This document is not intended as a legal contract or legal advice, and does not obligate the school or any party.

Letter from the Administrator.

Dear Family, Faculty and Staff,

As we approach the new school year, we are thankful for all the Lord has done for us and looking forward to new challenges and ever-expanding opportunities for the upcoming years. We desire, above all to be pleasing to the Lord and to have a strong, Biblical foundation and philosophy of education. This includes maintaining a truly Christian, Biblical worldview, and training students in this worldview with an emphasis on the Biblical standards of truth, love, learning, spirituality, morality, and discipline.

A Biblical philosophy of education includes honoring God as our Creator and Supreme Authority; it recognizes the authority of Scripture, and the dignity and worthy of every individual as created by God, in the image of God. In following this, we intend to love and value every student, to train them up spiritually and physically, to include rigorous academic instruction and maintain high expectations for every student.

Please feel free to contact us if we can be of any assistance to you.

We believe that what we do makes a difference - for eternity.

Sincerely,

Sybil M. Smith, BA, MA, Ed.S
Administrator



Nondiscriminatory Policy

Mt. Pleasant Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin. It admits students of any race, color, nationality and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. In addition it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in its administrative policies.

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Affiliation

Mt. Pleasant Christian School is an integral ministry of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church. We are governed by the church's leadership, constitution and by-laws, its statement of faith, the deacon board, and the school board.

Statement of Faith

MPCS adheres to the entire Statement of Faith of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Susan Moore, Alabama. The following is a brief summary of the statement:

1. We believe in the plenary and verbal inspiration and authority of the Scripture.
2. We believe that the Bible reveals God, the fall of man, the way of salvation, and God's plan and purpose in the ages.
3. We believe in the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
4. We believe in the deity, virgin birth, and bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ.
5. We believe that salvation is by grace plus nothing and minus nothing. The conditions to salvation are repentance and faith in the atoning work of Christ.
6. We believe that men are justified by faith alone and are counted righteous before God only through the merit of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
7. We believe in the visible, personal, pre-millennial return of Jesus Christ.
8. We believe in the ministry of the local church as God's established instrument of carrying out the Great Commission and Believer's baptism as directed by Jesus in Matthew 28:18 – 20, and practiced by the early church Acts 8:37.
9. We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one biologically born man and one biologically born woman in legal matrimony.
10. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of marriage. We believe that any form of sexual immorality; including (but not limited to) homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, transgenderism, changing of one's biological gender, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions

of God's gift or marital relationships. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:18-25; Romans 1:18-31; I Timothy 1:8-11; Matthew 15:18-21; I Corinthians 6:9-10.

Vision Statement

It is our vision that Mt. Pleasant have a strong Biblical foundation and philosophy of education, maintaining a truly Christian, Biblical worldview, recognizing the sovereignty of God and the authority of Scripture, emphasizing the dignity of every individual as created in God's image, and including a rigorous academic program with high expectations for every student.

Mission Statement

It is the primary mission of Mt. Pleasant Christian School to introduce every student to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, to instill in every student a love for and knowledge of the Word of God, and to train them to live successfully, to excel academically and to become productive citizens in their communities, their state, and their nation.

Philosophy

Mt. Pleasant Christian School provides education from a Christian perspective. Two outstanding elements contribute to the school's philosophy of education: first, our college-preparatory curriculum is based on a Biblical Worldview and is Christ-centered. Second, our staff is made up of dedicated Christian teachers who are concerned about each student's physical, personal and eternal welfare. Therefore, we are committed to preserving Scripturally-based teaching and methods and a safe environment campus-wide. Standards of discipline and conduct are Bible-based to develop Christian character and sound values. MPCS strives to

maintain a truly Christian philosophy of education, high academic standards, and emphasis upon Biblical morals, discipline, and social development. It is our desire that the home, church, and school work together to train up children in the way they should go (Proverbs 22:6).

General Goals

- It is the primary goal of Mt. Pleasant Christian School to prepare students spiritually by introducing them to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and instilling in them a love and reverence for God's Word, God the Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, and to understand, embrace and articulate a Biblical worldview.
- It is our goal to offer a rigorous and authentic instructional program that meets the academic needs of each student and prepares him or her for the next level of education and place in society, whatever it may be.
- It is our goal to develop a sense of responsibility in each student, as a citizen and as a Christian, to stand for right in the world, and to take spiritual leadership roles in school home, church, community, state, nation, and the world.
- It is our goal to offer opportunities to participate in wholesome forms of recreation and physical activity for the development of the whole person, physically, spiritually, emotionally, and socially.
- It is our goal to provide students with opportunities for service to God and their fellow man.

Our Objectives in Educating Your Child

1. To prepare children to successfully live balanced Christian lives in an ever-changing world.
2. To encourage them to think clearly, logically, and independently.
3. To develop an understanding of the world in which they live and the ability to appreciate and thrive within their environment.
4. To achieve mastery in the skills of learning and communications.
5. To develop a Scriptural, moral, ethical, and spiritual sense which will aid them in the appreciation of their own personal worth and that of others.
6. To provide them with opportunities to develop the necessary skills for lifelong employment.
7. To offer opportunities to participate in wholesome forms of recreation.
8. To encourage and prepare each child for an outstanding and productive position in life, to prepare for spiritual leadership in school, home, church, community, state, nations and the world.

Enrollment Process for New Students

K5-12th Grades

2025-2026 School Year

Before submitting the application for admission, please follow these steps:

- 1) Read the school handbook
- 2) Complete the application for admission
- 3) Gather the required documentation.
 - Report Card or transcript from the previous school year
 - Current immunization form
 - Birth certificate
- 4) Apply for Choose Act Funds.
 - The Choose Act is an education tax credit paid directly to the school for qualifying families from the Alabama Department of Revenue that can be applied to tuition, curriculum, and fees. Parents must apply online beginning January 2, 2025. Go to the ALDOR website at <https://www.revenue.alabama.gov/>

- 5) Submit the application for admission and required documentation to the school office.
- 6) Attend interview – the school will schedule an interview time for the parents and students to meet with school administration.
- 7) Take placement test.
 - Admission will be determined based on information submitted and test scores.
- 8) If the student is accepted to MPCS, parents will attend a final meeting with the office manager to discuss payment options, and any available financial aid.

** An enrollment packet can be obtained in the school office during school hours or it can be printed from our website.

**Questions regarding the application process can be directed to the school office at 205-466-7997 or email Lisa Smith at lsmith68.mpcs@gmail.com.

Registration Process for New Preschool Students K2 – K4 Classes 2025-2026 School Year

- 1) Registration for preschool will open beginning February 3, 2025.
- 2) Registration for preschool classes can be completed online at https://app.praxischool.com/site_login.php?s=7997
- 3) The registration fee will be required online when the registration form is completed.
- 4) The school office will be notified when the registration form has been completed and the fee has been paid. This will hold the student’s class placement for the upcoming school year.

Transfer Student Policy

Students who transfer to Mt. Pleasant Christian School from other schools are accepted on a probationary or temporary basis. Students will receive placement testing as a part of the enrollment process. After satisfactorily completing a 9-week period of work, permanent status may be earned. Credits from a non-accredited school will be accepted on a case-by-case basis and only after permanent status has been achieved. Unacceptable work may result in the

student being placed on a grade level best suited for his or her achievement or the student being asked to withdraw or transfer to a different method of schooling.

Tuition and Fees

***Please see separate pricing and schedule for current tuition and fees.**

- Registration and Book Fees are non-refundable
- Tuition pricing is based on a total yearly amount and is not reduced for months with holidays or at times when unforeseen events require that campus learning be shifted to remote learning.
- All accounts must be paid in full before a family will be allowed to register or reenroll for the next school year.
- No student who is not registered or enrolled will be allowed to attend the school.
- If a tuition payment fails to clear the bank, a family must make other arrangements for immediate payment.
- If a family's account goes more than 3 months past due, a child may not be allowed to return to school until the account is brought current.
- Should a student withdraw before the end of the year, all accounts must be paid in full before report cards or transcripts will be released.

Mt. Pleasant Christian School Attendance, Absentee and Tardy Policy

- According to Alabama law, “Every child between the ages of 7 and 16 is required to attend a public school, private school, **church school**, or be instructed by a private tutor certified by the state of Alabama, for the entire school term in every scholastic subject under the compulsory attendance law. *Code of Alabama 1975*16-28-3*
- **Students who enroll at MPCS will be registered with the appropriate county board of education.**
- **Students who withdraw from MPCS will be reported to the appropriate county or state board of education as withdrawn or dropped from the roll.**
- **In general, Mt. Pleasant Christian School follows the Blount County Board of Education Attendance Policies. An extended version of this document is available upon request.**
- **Summarized version appears below:**

Consistent attendance is essential to successful class work. Any student who has been absent **must** bring a dated excuse signed by a parent the day he or she returns to school. Excuses will **not** be accepted more than 2 days after a student’s return, and no passing grade will be given for any missed work for unexcused absences; however, students will be required to make up any missed work at a maximum grade of 50%. We will accept 5 parent notes per semester. (A semester consists of 2 nine-week grading periods.) A parent excuse must be a paper document written by the parent and submitted to the homeroom teacher, or to the teacher whose class was missed (**Emails, text messages, phone calls, etc. are not acceptable as excuses**). **After the 5th note**, students will be required to bring a valid doctor’s excuse when returning to school.

The total number of excused absences per semester is limited to 8 excused absences. For students who require an extension of allowable absences, a doctor's written explanation of why this student requires more than 8 absences per semester must be on school file. Students who have more than 8 absences per semester, or 16 absences per school year, may lose course points, incur lower course grades, may lose course credit, or may be required to repeat the course or be retained the next school year. Students who have more than 4 unexcused absences may not receive a passing grade for that 9-week period.

Excused Absences:

- Verified illness of the student
- Bereavements
- Verified medical, dental, optical, therapy, or other medical appointments
- **Pre-approved** personal reasons

Absences for personal reasons must be pre-approved by the administration prior to the absence, or the absence will not be excused. Parents must inform the administration of the upcoming absence(s) and date(s) the family plans to be away from school. This information will be documented on the Preapproved Personal Absence Form, which must then be signed by each of the child's teachers and returned to the school office to be kept on file. When students are absent and a test is scheduled to have been taken during the absence, the student will be required to take the test on the day he or she returns to school. No passing grade will be given for any missed work for unexcused absences. **A maximum grade of 50% will be given on work made up for an unexcused absence.**

All teachers will submit a daily report to the school office of students' school day tardies, absences, class tardies, or absences.

The school office will notify a parent when a child has 2 unexcused absences or tardies.

Tardies: The school day begins at 7:55am. All students must be in their homeroom by 7:55. At 7:55 am the doors will be locked. If a student arrives on campus after 7:55 a.m., that student is tardy and must report to school's main business office to receive a tardy slip before being admitted to class. Class tardies occur when a student is 5 minutes or more late to class.

More than 2 unexcused school tardies within one 9-week period will result in a student being required to serve after-school detention. Detention will be set up by the teacher and the school's office manager or the school administrator to be served the day after the third and each successive unexcused tardy is accrued. In addition, any further tardies may result in a required parent conference and disciplinary measures, including a student being subject to tardies being added to equal unexcused absences, lowering of class points, loss of privileges, such as driving, participation in sports, loss of leadership roles and participation in extracurricular activities. Finally, excessive tardies may result in a student not being considered eligible to enroll for the next school year.

Parents, please do not drop your child off at school and drive away. Make certain that your child has been admitted to the building before leaving.

End of School Day: The school day ends at 2:30. We ask that students be off campus by 2:45. Students left on campus after 2:45 who are not involved in school-related activities **will be**

placed in our after-school care program and charged \$5.00 per hour. Parents will be charged a fee for after-school care for the time spent there. Families enrolled in the aftercare program must pick up their children by 5:30 each day. Any child left after 5:30 p.m. will be charged \$1.00 per minute.

Chapel

Chapel will be held at least one day of each week throughout the school year. Chapel services include Biblical preaching and Christian music. All students are required to attend chapel services.

Bible Curriculum

At MPCS, Bible study is recognized as a fundamental requirement for all students. Because of this standard, all students are taught a planned program of Bible study each day and attend chapel programs to hear preaching from the Word of God. High school students are required to have four credits of Bible classes before they will be allowed to graduate. Bible study and Bible memory work are required of each student who attends Mt. Pleasant.

Music Curriculum

Music is taught in all lower grade levels. This includes group singing, rhythm skills, and an introduction to the family of instruments. Students in grades 5-6 are invited to join beginner or intermediate band. Students in grades 7 – 12 may join a choir as well as band.

Patriotism

Mt. Pleasant Christian School students regularly participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and are taught to love and honor their country.

Grading

The purpose of our reporting system is to provide parents and students with an accurate overview of the student's academic progress. The school will assist parents in setting up their Praxis account and parent portal through which the family will have access to view students' assignment grades and course averages. The academic grade is based upon the actual work completed and turned in on homework, quizzes, projects, and tests (etc.). Report cards are issued approximately one week after the nine-week grading period ends for grades K5 – 12. Report Cards are sent electronically. **It is the parents' responsibility to monitor student grades and progress throughout the school year.**

Grading Scale

A.....90 – 100
B.....80 – 89
C.....70 – 79
D.....60 – 69
F.....59 and below...Failing

Report Card Schedule

***To be announced**

Promotion

It is not the practice of MPCS to hinder the academic career of students by promoting them if they have not obtained sufficient mastery of subject matter. If an elementary student fails reading, math, or phonics, the administration will recommend that the student be retained in the present grade level. Students in grades 9 – 12 must pass each semester of a class in order to receive high school credit for that subject.

Requirements for Graduation

Mt. Pleasant Christian School, in general, prescribes a college preparatory or advanced course of study for all high school students. Mt. Pleasant adheres to the current Alabama High School Graduation Requirements in addition the extra courses in Bible and other classes that Mt. Pleasant Christian School requires. Before credit is given for a class, a student must complete all required coursework and receive a passing grade for that class. Students are required to complete all college preparatory classes and earn a minimum composite score of 18 on the ACT in order to receive an Advanced or College Preparatory High School Graduation Diploma. Under certain circumstances, students who complete all College Preparatory classes and who score a 16 composite score on the ACT may be granted a General Diploma. Under certain conditions, students who are participants in the Career/Technical program and complete all required classes for graduation for a General Diploma, plus work the prescribed number hours of each week in technical training, may score a 15 composite score on the ACT and be granted the Career/Technical Diploma.

Credits are issued per semester when a passing grade has been earned. Credits begin in the 9th grade.

Mt. Pleasant Christian School High School required classes for graduation are aligned with Alabama High School Graduation Requirements as follows: [These classes will generally be taken in the following order and grades. Individual schedules may vary.]

Sample High School Class Schedule:

9th Grade:	10th Grade:	11th Grade:	12th Grade:
9 th Bible	10 th Bible	11 th Bible	12 th Bible
9 th English	10 th English	11 th English	12 th English
Alg I or Geometry	Geometry or Alg II	Alg II or Pre-Calculus	Advanced Math
Biology	Physical Science	Chemistry	Anatomy
World History	US History I	US History II	Civics
Career Prep/Tech	Information Technology	Spanish I & II	Economics
PE/Kinesiology	Health/Elective	Fine Arts Elective	Elective

Dual enrollment high school and college classes are available to 11th and 12th grade students.

Extracurricular Activities

Athletics

Mt. Pleasant Christian School offers extracurricular activities, including athletics. The school has Basketball Teams, Cross Country Teams, and Volleyball Teams. Mt. Pleasant athletics is governed by the Alabama Christian Education Association (ACEA) and the Alabama Christian Athletic Association (AACCS). In addition, Mt. Pleasant offers opportunities for homeschoolers to join combination teams in Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, and Football. Interested families should contact the school office for more information.

Music

Mt. Pleasant Christian students, as well as homeschool students are invited to participate in concert band. Grades 5-6 are invited to join beginner or intermediate band. Students in grades 7 – 12 may join a choir as well as concert band.

American Christian Honor Society

Students in 10th-12th grade who have a grade average of 90 in their classes are invited to be inducted into the American Christian Honor Society. The American Christian Honor Society was founded by the American Association of Christian Schools in 1979. ACHS seeks to: Advance Christian Scholarship; Challenge Christian Leadership; Honor Christian Character, and Stimulate Christian Service. The induction ceremony is held each year after the end of the first semester. Students must continue to maintain a 90 average in their classes and be of good character in order to retain membership in the Honor Society.

Standards and Conduct

Technology Use and Conduct

Because we are a Christian school with a decidedly Biblical worldview, we will teach our students morality and standards of lifestyle based on the teaching of Scripture. For example, please see **Ephesians 4:20-32 and 5:1-21** for our standard of model conduct, morality, and behavior. Mt. Pleasant Christian School expects that both students and parents will support the school in this distinct mission and its Biblical beliefs.

Morality Policy

Mt. Pleasant Christian School believes that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and sets forth absolute truth by which Christians are to live. We further believe that God created the human race male and female, and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as either male or female at the time of conception, and that all conduct with the intent

to adopt a gender other than the biological gender of one's birth is immoral and therefore sinful. We further believe that the rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person. Because of this belief, we will refer to all students and faculty with the pronouns associated with their biological gender. We will also require that all that all students and faculty abide by the dress code established for their biological gender (**Genesis 1:26-27; Deuteronomy 22:5**).

In relying on the teachings of Scripture, MPCs believes that the Bible prohibits sexual immortality of any type, including, but not limited to, practicing or promoting pornography, homosexuality, bisexuality, lesbianism, transgenderism, adultery, fornication, living together without marriage, practicing or participating in alternate gender identity, uncleanness, or any other sexual activity that the Bible condemns as sin. Further, Mt. Pleasant Christian School honors Biblical marriage, as it is recognized by God, to be the joining of one biologically born male and one biologically born female in legal matrimony (**Genesis 1:27-28; 2:20-24; Malachi 2:13-16; Proverbs 18:22; Matthew 19:2-9; Romans 1:18-31; I Corinthians 7:1-40; 13:4-7; Ephesians 5: 22-33; I Timothy 1:8-11; Hebrews 13:4**).

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (**Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10; I Corinthians 6:9-11**).

We believe that every person should be afforded compassion, love kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward and individual are to be

repudiate and are not in accord with Scripture or the philosophy of Mt. Pleasant Christian School (**I Corinthians 13:1-8; John 13:34-35**).

On those occasions in which a particular applicant, employee, home, or student is acting counter to or in opposition to the Biblical beliefs and lifestyle that the Bible teaches, (such as participation in sinful practices, witchcraft, the occult, etc.) the school reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to refuse employment to any prospective employee, to terminate employment of a current employee, to refuse admission to an applicant student, or to discontinue enrollment of a current student. This includes, but is not limited to condoning, or supporting any form of sexual immorality. It also includes any one person or family displaying the inability to support the Scripture and moral principles of the school as stated throughout this handbook.

Tobacco Policy

Mt. Pleasant Christian School believes that all students, employees, parents, and visitors have the right to be in a school environment that promotes, enhances, strives to become, and maintains a drug-free campus. Because of the high degree of evidence available, we view smoking and other uses of tobacco and tobacco products as being detrimental to health and a significant contributor to lung, heart, mouth, and other associated diseases. In addition, it is against Federal Law and the Law of the State of Alabama to sale tobacco products to anyone under the age of 21; and is against the law for anyone under the age of 21 to be in possession of or passing these products to other students. Therefore, all persons are prohibited from using tobacco products of any kind on all school properties at any time and at any school sponsored event. This policy applies to everyone: students, employees, volunteers, parents, spectators, and visitors. Searches are conducted randomly and may include the student's person,

backpack, lockers, and vehicles. All students are subject to searches at the school's discretion. Students who are found in possession form of drugs, tobacco or vaping devices are subject immediate expulsion from Mt. Pleasant Christian School.

A student may be refused admission, dismissed, or expelled from the school or asked not to return the following year if he or she is out of harmony with the Statement of Faith, the spirit, or the policies of the school, whether **on or off school property** as determined at the sole discretion of the administration. Readmission considerations following dismissal will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

General Conduct

In everything, students must maintain high standard of courtesy, kindness, morality, and honesty with teachers, staff members, administration, and other students. Students must always address and reply to those in authority with the utmost respect. Students will be taught and expected to behave as ladies and gentlemen.

- **Bullying:** No bullying is allowed. Bullying is defined as the repeated or ongoing aggressive behavior, whether physical or psychological, that is purposefully directed toward another individual with the intent to intimidate, belittle, make sport of, harm, or injure that person. Bullying usually involves an imbalance of power: some issue or factor that gives one person power over another. Please visit Stopbullying.gov or Focus on the Family website for further information.
- **Physical contact:** Physical contact between students is strictly forbidden. No horse play is allowed. We do not permit displays of affection such as hand holding, walking arm-in-

arm, hugging, or any other act of intentional physical contact. Students who abuse this rule will be separated while at school, for a definite time. This policy applies at all times on school property and at all school functions. Any student who persists in breaking this rule will be disciplined under the requirements of discipline for major offenses.

- **Weapons:** Students are prohibited from having weapons on school campus or at school functions. Possession of weapons is a major offense which may require expulsion.
- **Cellphones and devices:** No student will be allowed to keep his or her cell phone, smart watch or device while at school. All students must turn in their cell phone, smart watch or device upon arrival. Any student found in possession of or using a cell phone, smart watch, or device without prior permission will be disciplined. Penalties for infractions of cell phone, smart watch, and device rules include, but are not limited to, confiscation of the phone or device, receiving a failing grade on course work, required payment of a fine before cell phone or device is released to parents, loss of privilege to bring a phone or device to school, suspension or expulsion.
- **Technology:** While we encourage the use of computers and the internet, we strongly recommend that parents monitor the personal online presence of their children. Any student who operates a personal online website, contributes to a blog, or participates with online social media is accountable for maintaining a Christian testimony in regards to the content of the site. Websites and social media presence will be monitored for content on a regular basis. Any student found to be transferring material that is deemed illegal, inappropriate, or contrary to the purpose and to the mission of MPCS

will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from school.

Unauthorized or unacceptable use of the internet on school campus is forbidden.

- **Personal, public, and private property:** Student should not bring unnecessary or forbidden items to school. The school is not liable for lost items. In order to ensure the safety of our students, the school reserves the right to search student lockers, purses, book bags, backpacks, and all vehicles which are on school property. Any student who steals, defaces or damages public or private property on or off school campus will be disciplined up to and including expulsion.
- **Student drivers:** Operation of a personal vehicle at school is a privilege and guidelines must be observed by student drivers or these privileges may be lost. All students must have permission to drive a car to and from school. Only students with a valid driver's license and proof of insurance on file in the school office will be permitted to operate a vehicle on school property. Students are only allowed to drive their own vehicle. Students will not be allowed to go to their car during the school day. There is to be no loitering in, on, or around cars before, during, or after school. Loud or questionable music will not be tolerated on school grounds. Reckless or negligent driving may cause a student to forfeit his or her driving privileges. Students are not permitted to leave school grounds in another student's car without prior parental permission. Students must park in the designated parking areas.

Parents and Visitors

- **Visitor's policy:** During the school day, visitors to the campus are strictly limited. All visitors to the school campus must report to the school office to receive a temporary badge in order to remain on school grounds. Special visits must be pre-approved.

VISITOR POLICY AND GUIDELINES

Mt. Pleasant Christian School offers several opportunities during the school year for parents and guardians to visit the campus to participate in activities with their children. These opportunities include:

Christmas Parties

Field Day

Year-End Parties

Parent Service Days

Birthdays* (See details below)

Band Concerts

Student plays

Open House

Approved Lunch Visits ^ (up to 3 per semester)

Sporting Events

Weekly Chapel Services

Lunch visits: All visits must be pre-approved at least one day ahead through the office. Each visitor must sign in and wear a visitor's badge issued by the office to verify that their visit has been pre-approved.

***Birthday Lunch Visits** – Each child has the opportunity for their parent or guardian to visit them and have lunch with them on their birthday. Please follow these guidelines for birthday visits:

- Call the school office to arrange the day for your birthday visit.
- Let the office know if you plan to bring cake or cupcakes for your child's class.

- Ask the office to inform your child’s teacher so that they may obtain parental permission for each child to eat cupcakes or birthday cake. (This is a health safety procedure due to allergies.)
- Parent or guardian may sit with their child to eat lunch. We will provide a space for you eat with your child, at the end of the class table, or another convenient location.
- All lunch visits must remain quiet, orderly, adhere to lunch procedure, and stay within the child’s lunch time-frame (approximately 30 minutes).
- Any Non-food items must be pre-approved before being brought in.

^Approved Lunch Visits – Up to 3 per semester. Each family has the option to visit to eat lunch with their child or children. Family is defined as parents, guardians, or grandparents.

- Call the office to arrange the day for your lunch visit.
- Any visits must be pre-approved through the office, at least one day in advance.
- Food brought in must be for the family’s child only. No food may be shared with other students.
- Parents or family members may sit only with their child or children to eat.
- We will provide a space for you eat with your child, at the end of the class table, or another convenient location.
- All lunch visits must remain orderly, adhere to lunch procedure and teachers’ instructions and stay within the child’s lunch time-frame (approximately 30 minutes).

Parent/Teacher Conferences

- **Contacting teachers:** Parents, please do not call or text your child’s teacher during school hours unless it is absolutely necessary. Should a need arise to speak to the school, parents may call the school office at: 205-466-7997.

- **Arranging parent/teacher conferences:** If parents have any questions or if any problems arise concerning school work or classroom procedure, parents should contact the child's teacher before they proceed to the next level of authority. This may be done after school hours. Please do not attempt to have an unplanned parent conference before school in the mornings. Please remember that teachers have specific morning duties, and cannot leave their responsibilities. Conferences may be arranged for after-school hours, and your child's teacher will be happy to meet or speak with you concerning any issues or questions you may have after school.
- Questions concerning school policy or administration should be addressed directly to school administration.

Behavior at Athletic Events

- **Parent dress code:** We ask all parents and families to observe Mt. Pleasant Handbook policies of dress and behavior when they are on school campus or at any school event.
- **Behavior at athletic events:** For all students, their parents and visitors, behavior at athletic events is under the governance of the standards of this handbook and the rules and policies of Mt. Pleasant Christian School. Although the excitement of athletic competition often lends itself to high emotions, we cannot condone unsportsmanlike behavior from the faculty, coaches, players, cheerleaders, or spectators. Respect is to be shown at all times to game officials, opponents, and persons from schools with whom we compete. All complaints or disagreements are to be shared with either the MPCS athletic director or administration privately. Unsportsmanlike behavior at athletic events may result in not being able to attend or being removed from any athletic event.

Daily Dismissal

- **Dismissal:** Always be prompt in picking up your child after school. We dismiss at 2:30. Please do not get out of your car in the car line. Teachers will supervise students toward their parent's vehicle. If you need to get out of your vehicle for any reason, please park in the parking lot. **Please send a written permission note if your child will be riding home with someone other than the normal pickup person. The school CANNOT allow a student to ride with someone other than the designated persons listed on their enrollment forms without written permission.**
- **Extended care:** Please contact the school office if you are interested in taking advantage of extended care after school hours. The school number is 205-466-7997.
- **Unscheduled school closings:** You will be notified about delays and cancellations through an automated "all call". **NEVER LEAVE YOUR CHILD AT SCHOOL UNTIL YOU KNOW THAT WE WILL HAVE SCHOOL THAT DAY.**

Discipline

It is the goal of Mt. Pleasant Christian School to maintain a positive school culture and atmosphere. This can only be accomplished through a concerted and cooperative effort of all MPCS administration, faculty, staff, students and families. At Mt. Pleasant, we believe that discipline should always include instruction, training, correction, and restoration. We work to accomplish this. In order for proper classroom instruction to occur, teachers must maintain order. If correction of a student becomes necessary, the teacher will observe the following procedures:

Minor Offenses K5 – 12th:

- **Teacher to student** – The teacher will verbally correct the student. This correction may be in the classroom, after class or at the discretion of the teacher. In some cases, the teacher may require the student to have silent break, silent lunch, loss of privileges, or other measures appropriate to the offense.
- **Teacher to parent** – The teacher will contact the parent either through note, phone call, text, email, etc. to discuss the problem and enlist parents' aid in correcting behavior.
- **Student to Administration:** If the above measures have not corrected the behavior, the student will be referred to administration. At this point, administration may choose to assign in-school detention where the student will be allowed to work on school work or other assignments. Students whose behavior is not corrected through in-school detention may be assigned in-school suspension. When a student is placed in in-school suspension, he is counted as absent, unexcused. He or she will not be allowed to make up missed work for a passing grade. He or she will be required to make up all missed work for a maximum of 50% of the grade. Administration will contact the parents and a parent conference or other measures may be necessary to correct behavior.
- **Corporal Correction:** When it becomes necessary, administration, or teacher, with the approval, recommendation and presence of the administration, may administer a paddling, using proper procedure, in the presence of appropriate witnesses.

Major Offense K5 – 12th:

Major offenses include, but are not limited to, disrespect, lying, stealing, defiance, willful disobedience, intentionally breaking school rules, etc.

- Major offenses may be met with immediate corporal correction, In-school suspension, mandatory withdrawal or expulsion.

If repeated efforts are ineffective in correcting a child's behavior, the student who continues to be disobedient, disruptive, disrespectful, defiant, or exhibiting any other repeated behaviors which are inconsistent with instruction and school policy, may be asked to withdraw from the school.

Dress Code

Students at MPCS are required to wear uniforms. (Dress code subject to amendment before the 2026 – 2027 School year.)

Shirts and Jackets

On Mondays through Thursdays, (4 days a week) all students, grades K5 – 12 must wear a solid-colored (no neon) officially monogrammed Mt. Pleasant polo to school. These may be long or short-sleeved.

Students are allowed to wear a solid-colored (no neon) uniform cardigan sweater or full-zip jacket as part of the official school uniform. On cold weather days, students may wear a solid-colored (no neon) **uniform** cardigan sweater, solid colored (no neon) quarter-zip jacket or full-zip jacket, or solid-colored, black, navy, or gray, **uniform** crewneck sweaters (such as those sold

by the Children's Place, Land's End, Old Navy, Wal-Mart, or other school uniform distributors) over their MPCs **monogramed** polos as part of the approved school uniform.

At certain times, students may wear an **official** (ordered through the school) **MPCS** sweatshirt or hoodie **over their monogramed polos** as a jacket. Any student found violating this dress code policy may lose the privilege of wearing sweatshirts or hoodies.

On spirit days only, students may wear any **MPCS T-shirt, MPCS sweatshirt, or MPCS hoodie** without a polo underneath.

On **NO** days may students wear any shirts, plaid shirts or jackets, or camouflaged shirts or camouflaged jackets over their uniforms. All jackets, cardigans, and crew neck sweaters worn indoors with a uniform must be **solid colored** – no neon.

Pants and Skirts

All students must wear uniform pants or uniform shorts or skirts. Shorts and skirts may be no shorter than 3 inches above the top of the knee cap. These must be solid colors.

Skirts: Girls may wear solid, knee-length uniform skirts or jumpers. Leggings may be worn under skirts or dresses **only** (No leggings may be worn with just a shirt). Girls may also wear knee socks or tights with their uniform skirts and jumpers. All items worn with uniforms must be solid colored khaki, black or navy.

Pants: Uniform **pants** such as chinos are acceptable, (see school for acceptable uniform manufacturers) and must be solid-color, khaki, black, or with no fading, shredding, fringe, tears or holes. **NO** jeans, jeggings, legging, or joggers are acceptable.

On spirit days only, students may wear jeans with NO holes, rips, tears, shreds, fringe, etc., along with an MPCS t-shirt or MPCS sweatshirt or hoodie.

Hair/Jewelry

Students may only wear hair color that is natural to humans. Boys' hair length must be no longer than the middle of the ear, and must be neatly trimmed off the collar and eyes.

Piercings- Boys may wear no piercings of any kind. Girls may wear only ear piercings with conservative earrings.

PE and Practice Clothes

If a student dresses out for PE or practice during the school day, he or she must abide by the uniform dress code of wearing properly-fitting shorts no shorter than a 7" inseam, no shorter than 2 ½ inches below the finger tips, and a Mt. Pleasant T-shirt such as a spirit day shirt. If a student travels to games or school events as a spectator or participant, he or she will be required to abide by the same dress code. Girls will be allowed to wear black yoga or athletic pants for PE or as athletic spectators as long as they are worn with an over-sized type t-shirt than extends onto the thighs and fully covers the bottom.

Special Occasions or Dress-Up Events: For special occasions, or dressier wear, students must adhere to the Mt. Pleasant dress code for that event. This includes picture days, dress for game days, travel and special occasion events. Girls must wear no shorter than knee-length dresses, no low-cut or revealing tops or dresses, no sheer fabric that allows immodest exposure. By these same guide-lines, boys must always dress in adherence with the school dress code.

Note: Please be aware that if a student comes to school out of dress code, he or she will be asked to correct this, change into proper uniform immediately, or sent home. A student who is sent home because of uniform violations will be unexcused in any classes missed and may not be allowed to make up any missed work for a passing grade (50% Max Grade).

This uniform policy is not all-inclusive and is subject to change, at the sole discretion of the school administration, as the need arises and dress code is updated. Please contact the school office for any uniform questions.

Student Health

All students who take medication, which includes over the counter or prescription, must turn in their medications to the office or school nurse. Medicine must be properly labeled and in its original container. NO student can receive medication of any kind unless a Medication Request Form is signed and on file for the current school year. If a child requires medication during school hours, and there is not signed authorization on file, it will be necessary for the parent to give permission to dispense it. Teachers cannot be held responsible for carrying out these duties.

If a student's temperature is 99.9 - 100 degrees or above, the parents will be called to pick up the student. Parents are expected to come to the school immediately if called. Students with communicable illnesses must be kept home until the possibility of contagious infection is passed. This means that the child is without symptoms or is fever free for 24 hours without having taken fever-reducing medications. A note from the doctor may be required for the child to be allowed to return to school.

Hear Lice: Head lice, though not a disease, is contagious, and any student diagnosed as having head lice will not be permitted to return to school until they are completely free of lice and nits.

Immunizations: All students (except those with religious exemptions) are required to have up-to-date immunizations and the record of these must be kept in the student's file.

Field Trips

Classes take school-arranged field trips at various times during the school year to places of educational interest. Students are required to maintain the same level of self-discipline on these school-sponsored activities as is required at school. These trips will be chaperoned by teachers and parents or guardians. Parents are required to follow the same standards of dress and conduct as the students. Field trips are intended for a specified group of students:

Therefore, only specified students may attend. Siblings of students who are not included in the specified group usually may not attend.