



Frequently Asked Questions NEW Students and Parents

www.classicalhighschool.org

Who are the Administrators at Classical High School?

- Mr. Scott D. Barr, Principal
- Mr. Brian Baldizar, Assistant Principal
- Mrs. Beth Ann Battey, Assistant Principal
- Mr. Michael Marino, Assistant Principal
- Main Office phone number is 456-9145

Who are the Guidance Counselors?

- Mr. Louis Toro, Director of Guidance
- Ms. Ann Cedegren
- Mr. Scott Harding
- Ms. Julie Simeone
- Mr. Peter Verrecchia
- The Guidance Department phone number is 456-9147

Is there any summer reading?

- Yes, each student will receive a list via his or her middle school. The reading list will be posted on our website.
- Each subject area teacher assesses students in September via tests, essays or other types of evaluation.

What should my child bring on the first day of school?

- Their schedule
- A notebook
- A pencil
- It is suggested that students wait to purchase materials after meeting their teachers for the first time. This will allow for a more accurate list of supplies needed.

How can parent(s)/guardian(s) monitor student academic progress?

- Students and parents can access grades, attendance, discipline and missing assignments via the Skyward portal or the smart phone app. See www.classicalhighschool.org for the link.

What is the tardy policy for students?

- At Classical, we adhere to the Providence Public School Department Code of Conduct.
- Additionally, any student who is late to homeroom will receive detention.
- If a student arrives after the end of homeroom, they must sign in at the main office to receive a late slip. Additional detention time will be assigned.
- If a student brings food with them from the outside, ie. Burger King, Dunkin Donuts, they will be asked to either leave it or throw it away.

What do I do if my child is absent?

- Please call Classical (456-9145) the morning of the absence to report your child's absence.
- On the day of your child's return, please send in a note verifying their absence. Your child should bring the note to the attendance office for recording and officially excusing the absence in the school's records.
- If your child is absent more than 3 days, a doctor's note is necessary and must be handed into the attendance clerk.

What is the Providence School Department's attendance policy?

- According to the Providence School Board, any student who has more than then (10) unexcused absences during a semester or twenty (20) during the entire school year shall be *denied course or grade level credit* unless she is able to demonstrate course or grade level proficiency consistent with the Providence Schools core curriculum as determined by the class teacher.

Types of Absences

- **Excused:** any absence verified by written note due to illness; medical, counseling or court appointment; family emergency or death; religious holidays; school sponsored conferences and events; and school issued suspensions. All notes must be turned into the attendance clerk upon return to school.
- **Unexcused:** any absence due to family vacation, employment, poor planning or cutting class,
 - **5 unexcused late arrivals** equal 1 unexcused absence

Parent/Guardian Notification of Tardies/Absences

- When a student is absent, for any reason, parents will receive notice(s) (phone calls, texts, emails) from automated messaging software.

How do students make up work when returning to school?

- It is the responsibility of each student on returning to school following an excused absence to check with each academic teacher to see that every written assignment is completed in its entirety and handed in, and that all tests are made up with a reasonable length of time, i.e. before the end of the marking period. All tests, quizzes, or work covered during an unexcused absence cannot be made up.

How do students get dismissed early?

- Students **must** have a letter from home with a phone number so that the dismissal can be verified
- A letter should be brought to the main office before the end of the daily advisory period where a pass will be issued to the student.
- Students will be instructed to report to the main office at the designated time.
- Parents must sign out students. If someone other than the parent is signing the student out, permission must be given in writing. All persons signing out a student **MUST** be on the student's emergency form and have identification.
- If no note is brought in, parents will have to wait until the end of the period. This policy is in place to create a safe/orderly learning environment. We are reluctant to interrupt classes/instruction when it can be avoided.

How does Classical communicate with parents?

In order to prepare for life beyond high school, it is our belief that students need to continue to take responsibility of their own learning and help facilitate communication. However, we support and enhance communication between the school and home in the following ways;

- Same-day notice that your student was tardy or absent via an automated call, text message, or email.
- Academic progress and grades are posted on Skyward.
- Please check our website www.classicalhighschool.org regularly for:
 - Calendar notifications of holidays, snow-days, and other days with no school
 - Miscellaneous notifications of public forums, parent volunteer training, etc.
- Students listen to daily, morning announcements to learn about activities happening in school, such as sporting events, clubs and tutoring.
- Parents can contact teachers by leaving a message with the office staff or sending an email (all addresses are first.lastname@ppsd.org)
- There are several events where parents can learn more: Orientation for first-year students in August, Open House in the fall, and a parent-teacher conference in one or both semesters. Monthly meetings of our Community Association, known as CHSCA (more information below). In addition, a Principals' RoundTable will meet several times throughout the year to discuss school goals, events and provide feedback – more information will be available soon.

How do students get free or reduce lunch?

- Classical High School participates in the State Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program.

- Regardless of income, all students must submit a completed application to the appropriate Assistant Principal.
- At the beginning of the year, each homeroom teacher passes out the application forms and eligibility requirements to each student.
- Any questions, please call the appropriate Assistant Principal.
- Any student without a lunch form on file will be required to pay for their lunch.

Do students get lockers?

- Each student will be issued a locker in September and keep the same one for their four years at Classical.

What is Classical’s policy on cell phones and electronic devices?

In order to respect the educational environment:

- Cell phones **must be turned off and put away** during the school day. Students may **not use** cell phones during the school day. All emergency calls must be directed to and from the school office.
- At times, teachers will ask students to use their smart phones for instructional purposes. This is permitted under teacher supervision.
- Earbuds and headphones are not permitted to be used or seen during the entire school day
- Any student found using a cell phone or music device will have the device confiscated and will only retrieve the device after serving detention. For repeat offenders, they will serve additional detention time and parents/guardians will be called. If these interventions still result in the use of musical device, the behavior may lead to a suspension.

What extra-curricular activities are available for students?

CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES*

The number of active clubs varies with the availability of sponsors from the faculty and interest among the students.

Academic Decathlon	Gay & Straight Alliance	Ping Pong Club
Band	Helping Hands	SADD
Book Club	Italian Club	Science Olympiad
Brotherhood	Japanese Club	Spanish Club
Chess	Jewish Student Union	Step Team (S.P.E.A.K.)
Classical Dance Team	Knitting Club	Student / Faculty Senate
Cru Club	Laurete	TCG (Trading Card Game) Club
Debate	Manga / Anime Club	Theatre Company
French Club	Math Team	Varsity Art Club
Gamers Club	Meditation Club	Yearbook
Garden Club	Mock Trial	Yoga

What sports teams do students participate on at Classical?

Fall sports:

- Football
- Cheerleading
- Cross Country (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Soccer (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Girls’ Volleyball
- Girls’ Field Hockey
- Girls’ Tennis
- E Sports

Winter sports:

- Basketball (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Indoor Track & Field (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Swim (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Cheerleading
- Gymnastics (on individual basis)
- Wrestling (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Chess

Spring sports:

- Baseball
- Lacrosse (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Boys’ Tennis
- Track & Field (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Boys’ Volleyball
- Softball
- Golf (Boys’ & Girls’)
- Sailing
- E Sports
- Ultimate Frisbee (Club)

How can I find the schedules for various sporting events and/or directions to away games?

- The best way to find up-to-date information is to use the Rhode Island Interscholastic League website at www.RIIL.org and www.classicalathletics.org

What is the policy for participation in sports / extracurricular activities?

- Prior to participation in a sport, students must have a current physical before tryouts and/or practice.
- A Classical student who wishes to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities must present previous quarterly grades with a least a 68.0 average.
- Additionally, if a coach, advisor, or the Athletic Director believes that participation will impact negatively on the student's academic progress, the advisor, coach, or Athletic Director may declare the student academically ineligible.

Will students have homework?

- Homework is a vital part of education here at Classical. Through homework assignments, the student puts into practice those concepts learned in class; homework is an extension of the class period. It is expected that each student do an average of 45 minutes of preparation per subject per day.

What is the before school and after school procedure?

- Officially, there is no morning or after-school supervision; however, the cafeteria is open before school for students to have breakfast, do homework or talk quietly with their friends.
- Officially, the school building closes at 3:00 p.m. Students should have transportation arranged at that time. Students are not able to remain within the school building without supervision.
 - The library is open at 7:30 a.m., for students to do homework
 - The College Room is open after school; students are welcome to remain as long as there is someone in the main office area.
 - Clubs/Activities are supervised by teachers; students should arrange transportation at the end of the scheduled meeting.

How does a student get extra help?

- During the school year, successful students are called upon to help other students who are having academic difficulties. You may be requested to participate in this voluntary tutoring program by your subject teachers, your guidance counselor, and your fellow students or by the student coordinator.
 - Obtain the necessary informational forms from your counselor.
 - Daily: 7:25-7:55 a.m. and 2:45-3:45p.m.
 - Place: Library
- Classical offers tutoring after school 3-4 days a week. Certified staff members offer support in all subject areas.
- The Providence Public Library offers online homework help at www.thelibraryonline.org. Live tutors are available everyday from 3:00 to 9:00 PM.

What is the student dress code?

Students must come to school in appropriate attire:

- Pants, shirts and blouses must not be revealing/see-through
- Exposed undergarments or midriffs (belly shirts) are not acceptable.
- Spandex clothing is permitted in P.E. classes only.
- Hanging pocket chains, sunglasses, hats, dude-rags, handkerchiefs, bandanas, gang paraphernalia and clothing that displays profanity, encourages violence or the use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, or has sexual connotations are not permitted.
- Words or images on clothing may not be vulgar, or advertise alcohol, drugs or gang affiliation
- Hats, hoods or other head wear are not permitted. However, scarves and/or hats for religious or medical purposes are accepted and respected.

What are the school-wide social events during the year?

- In the fall Classical celebrates Spirit / Homecoming Week with themes for each day. The week culminates in the Homecoming football game and a Homecoming Dance. The Homecoming Dance is a semi-formal event open to Classical High School students only.
- The Winter Ball, a semi-formal event, is sponsored by the Senior class and takes place in February (or early March). Young ladies are expected to wear appropriate dress or pantsuit. Young men are required to wear ties, jackets and shirts with collars. No sneakers are permitted.

- Classical celebrates the school's diversity by hosting an International Night showcasing the talent of students and food samples from multiple countries.
- In the spring, the Junior/Senior Prom is held. This is a formal event requiring appropriate attire. Young ladies are required to wear formal dresses or appropriate pantsuit. Young men are required to wear suits or tuxedos. No sneakers are allowed.

How can a parent/guardian become involved – What is CHSCA?

- CHSCA (Classical High School Community Association) is the alliance of parents and guardians of students at the school. CHSCA has two goals. The first is to support the school in a variety of ways, such as with running supporting the new student orientation, the annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and International Night in the spring. The second is to represent the broad questions and concerns of parents and guardians to the school's administration, and report back what we learn. We try to fill in any communications gaps on issues or events that parents care about.
- If you have questions or comments about the association, or about anything involving being a parent at Classical, write to ClassicalParents@gmail.com. To be added to the mailing list, send a message to the above email so that your address can be captured and added.
- CHSCA holds monthly meetings of parents as well as an annual get-together in the fall. They raise money by selling concessions at Gillette Stadium games as well as selling apparel at some school events.
- We are separate from the Classical High School Alumni Association, which is an active group that collects donations and supports the school in various important ways.
- CHSCA meets every month during the school year, usually the first Wednesday and usually in the school library. All are welcome! We try to have a speaker at most of the meetings, usually from the Classical administration. In the past we've heard from Principal Barr, lead guidance counselor Louis Toro, and mental health counselor Nikki Best, among others. We try to send out an agenda a few days before the meeting, and we post the minutes on the Parents' Page on the school website: <https://www.providenceschools.org/domain/894>
- CHSCA has four leadership positions: a chair, a vice-chair, a treasurer, and a secretary. (Right now we're looking for a vice-chair and a treasurer.)
- If you are looking for another opportunity to become more involved, also consider joining Classical's School Improvement Team (SIT). Each school in the school district has a SIT team, which is a group of teachers, staff, parents and students that meets monthly to help guide improvement efforts and is chaired by the school's principal. Contact Principal Scott Barr if you're interested or would like more information.

CHSCA Leadership Team

- Chair: Marybel Martinez
- Vice-chair: Vacant
- Treasurer: Gloria Hartman, Acting
- Secretary: John Landry