



Athletic Department Parent Code of Conduct

Our Speech:

Colossians 4:6 "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt..."

1. Questionable language or "slang" words will not be tolerated. Anything that can be misconstrued as negative or insulting must be avoided.
2. Be positive and encouraging. Uplift your student and others. Let them know the importance and accomplishment of being a part of the team. Let them know they are important.
3. Never criticize the officials or coaches. These people represent the authority figure, "boss", parent, teacher and "Law". If you are "bad mouthing" your child's coaches or officials you cannot expect him or her to play for or respect these people. Obedience to authority is not optional and is not predicated on whether or not you agree with it. All authority is God-given and disobedience to authority is disobedience to God.
4. Insist that your students address the coach and the officials with respect. They should call their coaches "Coach" or "Mr., Miss, or Mrs." They should address the officials as "Sir" or "Ma'am". You should use these titles as well in the presence of your students or when referring to the coach or officials.
5. Never be involved in negative cheering. Booing the officials or opponents or getting into negative chants against the opposing crowd sets a bad example for your children and is counter to everything we say we believe. *Example: In basketball, chanting "air-ball" or screaming while the opponent is on the free-throw line shows poor sportsmanship. In baseball, making noise while an opponent is at bat shows poor sportsmanship.*
6. Never speak negatively around the students or other parents about:
 - a. The school: A negative atmosphere can be contagious. Instead, create an atmosphere of gratitude.
 - b. The church: Without Prestonwood Baptist Church there is no Prestonwood Christian Academy. Such speech demonstrates ignorance, arrogance and an ungrateful heart.
 - c. Other students or parents: Speak to parents only about your and their students. Speak to other students only in an encouraging manner. The only time another student or parent's name should be mentioned is in a genuine complimentary fashion.
7. Never criticize your child's teammates. This does not teach your student team attitude and will allow them to make excuses for their own performance. Never offer excuses for your children if they are not playing. Encourage them to do their best and to keep striving for worthwhile goals.
8. Always resolve differences with your coaches out of sight and earshot of students and other parents. Speak with the coach privately. Call to set an appointment. Pray about what you will say and what is motivating your discussion. 9. Smile, meet and greet. Often you may be the first impression someone has of Prestonwood and of our Lord and Savior. Ask yourself this question, "Is my speech setting up an opportunity to share Jesus Christ or a need to apologize?"

Our Relationships:

John 15:12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

1. Develop relationships and a good rapport with your students and their teammates. God has placed you in this situation for a purpose. Use this opportunity to minister and be an encouragement to others. You never know who is hurting and needs your show of God's love in their life. If sports becomes all about you and your student, you need not participate.
2. Develop relationships and a good rapport with other parents. You will need their prayers and support as much as they will need yours.
3. Develop relationships and a good rapport with parents from other schools. Never miss an opportunity to share Jesus Christ with others. Promote your school and your students. The relationships you develop are a reflection on our entire ministry.
4. Develop relationships with the coaches. Get to know the coaches. Pray for them. Communicate with them with an open heart and mind. Be open, honest, and use gentle words. Set appointments to meet with the coach rather than ambush them before or after a game.

Our Unity:

I Corinthians 12:12-13 "For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body..."

1. Develop unity within our school family. God has called each one of us to this school. Each of us have different abilities and, therefore, different roles. Never be jealous or envious of someone else's role. Be busy fulfilling your role. Your example of being a unified school body is a valuable lesson for your students to learn.
2. Develop unity with our Church. PCA is a ministry of Prestonwood Baptist Church working together for a common purpose. Be supportive in action and in spirit. Without Prestonwood Baptist Church there would be no Prestonwood Christian Academy.



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3. Develop unity within the Kingdom. We must establish our philosophy with other schools in order for our ultimate purpose to be met – to further the Kingdom of God. It will take other Christian schools being successful. Pray for them as you pray for PCA.

Our Motives:

I Corinthians 10:31 *"...do all to the Glory of God."*

1. Be motivated by the love of God. Living for Him because He died for us.
2. Strive for victory as a tool to teach your students. Teach them that athletics is just a means to an end and not an end unto itself.
3. Teach your students to abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit. Tactics that promote unfair "gamesmanship" will not be tolerated.
4. Teach your students about athletics in light of your family mission, philosophy and goals. What you are teaching your student through athletics should match with what you are teaching them at home.
5. Use your child's experience as a chance to be involved his or her life. Your relationship with your child as an adult will last longer than your relationship with them while they are in your home. If you want a relationship with them as adults you need to begin building that relationship *now*. Athletics affords you that opportunity.

Our Behavior:

I John 2:6 *"He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."*

1. Maintain class and character. You are setting the example for your children. Realize that your every action reflects upon you, your family, PCA, PBC and ultimately your Lord. People will remember your actions long after they have forgotten your words.
2. Always insist that your children follow instructions. Coaches must depend on a player's ability to follow orders immediately and without question. Questions should be raised at the appropriate time, such as at practice or after a game, when there is time for explanation. This builds respect for authority and a bond of trust between your children and their coaches.
3. Always dress appropriately. Modest attire that does not attract attention to you and away from your child should be worn. Even in warm weather events a Christ-like appearance must be maintained.
4. Be an example and a guard. Set the standard high for behavior and appearance and do not be afraid to speak to those who are indifferent to our ultimate purpose.
5. Working *with* the officials ...not *working* the officials. Badgering an official to persuade a call our way comes with too high a price – our testimony and our ability to influence those others for Jesus Christ. There is never a time at any contest where a parent is afforded an opportunity to say anything to an official other than "Thank You". Without these men and women and their willingness to officiate, no one is playing ball.
6. Remain in the stands. Never attempt to approach the field, court, bench area, press box, score table or the officials before, during or after a ballgame. Socially visiting with the coach briefly after a game is encouraged. Game officials are off-limits.
7. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat. Coaches, students, parents and spectators will need to be strong in this area. Shake hands with our visitors before *and* after a game.
8. Recognize the success of your opponent. Compliment the good play of students from the other school. Congratulate their coaches on a well coached game.
9. Teach your children that they have a special purpose from God. It is their responsibility to accept God's purpose for them. Do not compare or contrast them to others. This limits their ability to fulfill their own unique potential and purpose.
10. Have fun, touch lives and be yourself. You have the opportunity to be a positive influence, like no one else may be able to, in the lives your children and their peers. Enjoy this time in their lives and help them to enjoy it as well. Games, plays and officials will be forgotten, but your behavior and attitude will stay with your child forever.

Note: *Please print out the Code of Conduct Signature page, fill in, sign and return with all other Athletic Forms. You do not need to print out the Code of Conduct.*