



Portland Village School

Statement of Understanding

Please keep for your records

The Portland Village School is a unique learning environment that differs significantly from a traditional public school. We ask that you affirm your understanding and support of the following policies and concepts.

A Spirit of Parent Involvement

I understand PVS is a young school that needs the enthusiasm and support of its parent body. I will volunteer as I am able. This includes opportunities to help with projects such as landscaping, fundraising, and chaperoning field trips.

A Holistic Approach to Academics

I understand that the school's educational model involves a holistic approach to children by engaging them intellectually, emotionally and physically. This means my child will receive a rich tapestry of art, music, and movement instruction. In kindergarten and the early grades academics will be introduced through song and story; there will be minimal, if any, worksheets, drills, or homework. Oftentimes, home study will include household responsibilities, family-based activities, and reading or story-telling. While the school has bridged the Oregon standards with Waldorf pedagogy, not all state standards are taught at the state's prescribed schedule.

A Dress Code Focused on Simplicity

We expect that children will come to school in plain clothes free of logos, cartoons, violence or other distracting visual images. Students' clothing and shoes should be warm, simple, and appropriate for daily indoor and outdoor active play. Children will be outdoors in *all* types of weather, so please make sure they have appropriate clothing. As well, we ask that students in kindergarten through third grade keep a spare set of appropriate clothing at school.

Media Free Kindergarten and Early Grades

At Portland Village School we have chosen to avoid the use of technological tools of instruction (overhead projector, VCR, television, computers, videos, computer games). Our objective is to foster children's direct experience of the world. Please support this commitment by limiting your child's screen time (television, computers, etc.) to non-school days.

Nutrition

At the Portland Village School, we emphasize balanced, healthy life-long eating habits. Students may bring a healthy morning snack and lunch from home (please no candy, soda or excessive sweets) or sign up for the school's hot lunch program. The hot lunch program at Portland Village School complies with the federally sponsored Free and Reduced program guidelines.