



2025-2026

PETRA HANDBOOK

In essentials, unity, in nonessentials, liberty, in all things, charity.
- St. Augustine

This handbook contains the guidelines to help our community thrive. It will answer the most common questions and be a helpful resource throughout the year. Keep it handy and refer to it often!

MISSION

To create a Christian learning community seeking to nurture wisdom and virtue in our members, through a Classical education, for God's glory.

Communication

Our primary method of communication is through Band, which can be accessed via an app on your phone or on a desktop at band.us. Family directory, digital files of the calendar, handbook, etc., as well as community updates can all be found on the main Petra Scholé Classical Community band, which can only be accessed via a direct link invitation to keep our Band private. The Director will send the invitations once your registration has been accepted. Join Band posts and adjust settings for notifications so you can be in the loop!



Petra is a one day/week supplemental homeschool program designed to provide community, support, friendship, Biblical values, wisdom, virtue, academic study, and group opportunities to our member families. Our mentors and leadership support you, the teacher at home, with accountability and community. Parents are responsible for teaching and reinforcing concepts at home, grading, completing transcripts, and complying with Colorado Homeschool Law.

What is a Scholé Community?

Scholé Communities are homeschooling co-ops that employ the content of a classical curriculum and pursue restfulness (scholé) in learning. The Scholé Communities Network, partnering with Classical U, offers each Scholé group a wealth of resources and benefits, as well the best training available for classical educators.

Scholé Communities Benefits

Scholé membership includes discounts at ClassicalAcademicPress.com.
Discount codes are posted on the Curriculum and Supply List doc.

There are many benefits to being a Scholé Communities member! Each family at Petra will have their own ClassicalU account, where they can access training, courses, and resources that will equip them to grow in their knowledge of classical education. Utilizing these resources is an investment for your family with huge benefits!

Scholé means undistracted time to study the things most worthwhile, usually with friends, often in a beautiful place, and possibly with food and drink. Let's bring scholé back to school!

Four Essential Qualities of Scholé Communities:

1. Classical: Scholé Communities are committed to a classical course of studies, a path that has been tried and proven since ancient times. The long tradition of classical Christian education has emphasized the seeking of truth, goodness, and beauty and the study of the liberal arts and of the Great Books. Scholé Communities follow a core sequence of studies which include Latin, Logic, Writing, and Rhetoric, as well as the Great Books, and Science.

2. Restful: Scholé Communities are united by their pursuit of restfulness in learning, or scholé. The word scholé (pronounced skoh-LAY) comes from a Greek word that means "restful learning," with the connotation of "contemplation," "conversation," and "reflection." Scholé Communities seek deep engagement that results in enjoyable, permanent learning that is free from anxiety; that is, they seek to put the scholé back into (home) school.

3. Communal: Scholé Communities are vibrant communities of adult and student learners, united by a passion for truth, goodness, and beauty. Each Scholé Community is comprised of families who gather regularly to pursue studies together. While student learning is at the core of Scholé Communities, parent-teacher education is also of great value to the community.

4. Flexible: Scholé Communities have the flexibility to customize their practices to their unique settings.

Code of Conduct

1. LOVE: We strive to honor God in our actions and interactions. We are patient and kind to one another. We love and honor and respect one another, adults and children alike. We give encouragement to each other. We do not point out the shortcomings of others to build ourselves up. We do not spread rumors or gossip. We avoid cliques, clubs, or games that exclude others. When others offend us, we forgive them. When others are sad, we comfort them. We look for opportunities to serve others and love like Jesus.

2. INTEGRITY & RESPONSIBILITY: We tell the truth. We bring our work to class on time and complete our work with our best effort. We will not make excuses for our actions, but instead admit when we are wrong. If we make a mess, we clean it up. If we make a mistake, we make it right. We maintain a positive attitude and an open mind for learning. We do not use AI programs to change our words.

3. AUTHORITY & RESPECT: We cheerfully and promptly obey the authority under which we are placed. We arrive for class on time and are prepared to teach/learn. When we have work to do, we do it without complaining. We may appeal respectfully and courteously; we do not argue or negotiate. We do not disrespect our peers or the teacher by interrupting. We abstain from all verbal or written profanity, which includes taking the Lord's name in vain.

Membership & Fees

Admission into the Petra Scholé Classical Community is a three-step process (application, interview, registration). The purpose of the application and interview process is simply to ensure that families align with our mission and that a solid partnership is fostered. We are organized as a religious educational non-profit. Members must agree to uphold the Statement of Faith to participate. Registration fees (registration, facility, insurance, and supply fees) are due with registration. All balances due must be paid prior to registering for the next school year.

Invoices are sent out each semester after the drop date and tuition is due upon receipt. Please discuss a payment plan or benevolence options with the Director, if needed. Parents may mentor to help offset tuition expenses.

When families register with Petra, moms commit to joining Mother Culture from 8AM - 8:50AM for a time of discussion, continuing education/equipping, community support, and prayer. It is expected that all moms are present and engaged for Mother Culture, which is a life-giving, joyful and encouraging time together, sharing wisdom, empathy, resources, grace, and love with one another and growing together in community! Mother Culture is the favorite hour of the day for moms!

Community Policies

Illness

If anyone experiences fever, diarrhea, rash, cough or other contagious symptoms within 24 hours of community day, please stay home. Joining virtually for classes is an option. Please err on the side of caution as we all love to be with our community, but everyone would appreciate the efforts to avoid spreading illness. Please see the Illness Policy for more guidance.

Weather

Generally, we follow the SVVSD cancellation schedule for inclement weather. In the event of bad weather, all cancellations and late-starts will be communicated on the main Community Band. If a family feels the need to stay home, in the event of inclement weather, please communicate that with the Director and Mentor(s).

First Aid

Should the need arise, a First-Aid kit is available on the tables by the entrance.

Visitors

We welcome the participation of extended family on campus days. **Please let the director know if anyone other than the registered student(s) and parent(s) will be on campus.** Only students that are registered for their age-appropriate program may be on campus. Please submit exception requests in writing so that the Director may touch base with the mentors before bringing non-registered children on campus.

Attendance

Out of respect for your time, we make every effort to keep to our published calendar. To preserve the quality of our program, please arrive with enough time to be present in the program for which you are participating. All classes will begin promptly at 8:00 am. Please respect the other students and the Mentor by arriving with enough time to allow class to begin on time without the distraction of late arrivals. On the rare occasion that you may be late or miss that day, please let the director know via text.

Lost & Found

We have a community Lost & Found bin that is located by the entrance door during community day. Please put all Petra lost & found items in this bin and check weekly to collect any belongings that may be yours. If you need to collect items during the week, please contact the director to make arrangements. Items left in the bin at the end of the year will be donated.

Student Registrations

Registered students who are in a classroom should be enrolled in that class, regardless of whether the parent is a mentor or not.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Please uphold the Matthew 18:16 principle for resolving all conflict.

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his faults, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.”

Please see the conflict guidelines for more about conflict resolution.

ETIQUETTE

- ✓ ARRIVE on-time, every time!
- ✓ SUPERVISE your children AT ALL TIMES
- ✓ RESERVE cell phone use for emergencies only
- ✓ PARTICIPATE in community and class activities
- ✓ HELP with clean-up
- ✓ LEND a hand to your mentor
- ✓ HONOR God in words and deeds
- ✓ RESPECT the church grounds and property

“Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.”

Colossians 3::23

Chores/Clean up

Each family in our community shares the responsibilities associated with gathering as a group. It is a privilege that we have this facility available for us to use and we must treat it with the utmost respect and reverence. Each family is expected to clean up fully after themselves before leaving for class after lunch and at the end of the day. To avoid having the burden of cleaning up at the end of the day falling on just a few, ALL families will pitch in to help at the end of the day, from 3:15pm until the job is finished. Students are expected to contribute to the set up and clean up tasks as well.

Lunch

Fellowshipping together strengthens our community and is an integral part of our time together each week. Lunchtime is a wonderful time of fellowship for parents and kids alike. Please pack a lunch for your family and participate in using this time to build relationships with our community. Classes will dismiss for lunch at noon. If inside, due to inclement weather we will eat together in Room 9. If outside, we will eat together in the west parking lot. Please do not gather into small groups in the classrooms. This does not facilitate fellowship for the group at large and prevents the classrooms from being readied for afternoon classes.

Dress Code

We expect everyone on campus to dress in a manner that supports the mission and vision of Petra Scholé, which ultimately is to glorify God. Everyone who comes to community day should dress in a way that honors our Father in Heaven and makes others feel comfortable around us. Our clothing choices should be modest, drawing others to Christ, not drawing attention to ourselves. Parents need to check their children’s clothing to make sure it fits our dress code prior to arriving on campus. Please don’t put others in the position of having to hold accountability to the dress code.

Dress Code Guidelines

- Midriff, upper thigh, cleavage and undergarments should be covered at all times, including with movement and activity. Distressed/torn articles of clothing should not expose areas that should be covered, as listed previously.
- Word/Images on clothing should be positive and encouraging, not inappropriate or with suggestive language or images.
- Hats and jewelry should not be a distraction to self or others.
- Strong odors (body odor, perfume/cologne, etc.) should be avoided, even if they are naturally occurring. Deodorant and showers are your friends.
- Test: "Raise & Praise." Does my belly show when hands are up high? (No crop tops.) Bend over and touch your toes. Does underwear or cleavage show? Sit criss-cross-applesauce. Is it appropriate, both from front and back views?

As parents, we are modeling for our students what appropriate and modest dress is when we meet together as a community. Since parents are to be engaged during class, please also do the quick test to make sure that activities like bending over (to help with maps, for example) sets a good example of modesty. Families may have a different dress code for their own family, but please honor our dress code for the times that we meet together as a group.



If a student is disruptive:

1. Student is asked to stop the behavior by the parent helper or mentor (warning 1)
2. Student is reseated next to parent helper and is reminded to keep the peace (warning 2)
3. Student is sent by the mentor with the parent helper to sit with their parent. After class, the Mentor, Director, parent and student will discuss options to correct the behavior.
4. If misbehavior continues, student may be asked to leave the program.

Best Left at Home

- Cell phones, tablets, and other electronic devices
- Wheels, to include wheelie shoes, scooters, hoverboards, skates, etc.
- Weapons, to include knives, pocket knives, guns, ninja stars, etc.
- Animals/Pets
- Drugs, including tobacco, marijuana, vape, alcohol, etc.
- Pride, Ego and Bad Attitudes

Facility

White Fields Community church has graciously allowed us to meet at their facility. Please show respect and appreciation by leaving the building better than we found it. If you see a facility issue that needs to be addressed (clogged toilet, damage to property, safety issue, etc.), let the director know ASAP. Please do not contact church staff unless there is an emergency.

The Church has requested specifically that we do not allow hands, feet, or balls to come in contact with the walls and ceiling of the church. Balls are to be played with OUTSIDE only. No roughhousing or wrestling on campus.

Active games, recess, and lunch are in the SW parking lot. No one should go through the fences and enter the adjacent properties/buildings, as that is the property of other tenants. Please do not park in the SW lot so as to keep this space open for active games, recess, and lunch. Students should not eat, hang out, or play by the main entrance of the church, or the south parking lot, or beyond without adult supervision.

See community map for classroom locations as well as specifics on where we can and cannot be within the church. Keep in mind that we do not have unrestricted access or free rein of the church on our community days. Let's work together to honor the church, the staff and their space, while also keeping our kids safe.

Under no circumstances is anyone allowed in the sanctuary, the staff offices, or bookstore. These spaces are not available for us to use. If you are unsure of an area that we can use, please ask the director. There should be no running, roughhousing, ball throwing, etc. in the church. We do not have permission to use the recreation tables or gaga ball pit in the youth room. We can use the basketball court on the west side of the property. *Our conduct should reflect the respect that being in the Lord's house commands.*

Kitchen

Please plan on bringing a lunch on community days. There will be NO use of church supplies for personal use. That includes cups, utensils, etc., disposable or not. There will be a small supply of such in the cabinets in the kitchen (labeled "Petra") by the laundry machines, available as needed. We want to promote fellowship time, so please minimize time in the kitchen and join the community for lunch. We can use the refrigerator (please label your items), microwaves, and oven/stove in the main kitchen in room 10.

Study Hall

Students are expected to use the SH time to accomplish school work; it is not a time for socializing, which is a distraction to others. Parents of students in SH may be asked to supervise on a rotational, assigned basis. Study hall students should not be in a classroom in which a class is being held.

Parents on Campus

Parents of upper and lower grammar students must remain on campus at all times (up to and including 8th grade.) A note assigning responsibility for your child(ren) to another parent will be needed in order for you to leave campus briefly, in case of emergency only.

Please honor that our mentors work hard to equip parents, and parents are expected to be an example to their students. **Petra is not a drop off program.** High school parents are encouraged to participate on campus.

Parents in the Classroom

Mentors must have a minimum of one parent helper with them at all times. This is for the protection of our mentors and students. **Please follow the parent helper schedule that is updated on a weekly basis.**

We all love to connect with our community, but please honor and respect the mentor and the students and save conversation and fellowship for times when class is not in session.

Electronic Devices

Use of cell phones and other electronic devices should be limited to emergency use only on campus. If there is an emergency, please step out of the classroom to avoid being a distraction to those in class. Students should not have phones on campus for the entirety of the community day (to include lunch, before, and after school). *Parents need to set the example and abstain from cell phone/device use on campus (with the exception of taking pictures for the yearbook.)* Mentors have been advised to collect phones if seen during class. **It is best if phones are not brought on campus at all.**

Supervision of Students

At Petra, **parents are responsible for their children.** Please monitor your child's whereabouts, behavior, and participation at all times. Parent helpers will monitor the students in the class where they are assigned during restroom breaks and recess. It takes a village and all parents are needed (and wanted!) to hold students accountable and ensure their safety throughout the day.

Special Needs Students

We welcome students of all needs, and we will try our very best to make reasonable accommodations whenever possible. We ask that parents of special needs students understand that the mentors of their child(ren)'s classes are:

- *Not intervention specialists or Special Ed teachers; we are homeschool parents.
- *Not specially trained to help special needs students, but will always try our very best.
- *Expecting you to let us know what we can do to help your student.
- *Expecting you to give us grace.
- *Expecting open lines of communication.
- *Unable to follow IEP or ETR plans if your student has one.

Parent Helpers

The director will post the parent helper assignments each weekend prior to community day on the main community band. All absences and class requests need to be communicated by Saturday evening to the director so she can take that into account. **Once posted, any changes desired to the parent helper assignments is the responsibility of the parent to arrange.** Please do not expect the director to rework the assignments. Parents are welcome to trade classes with another parent, but please communicate changes to the director. Parent helpers are there to assist the mentor with classroom management, class projects, supply management, room cleanliness, recess and bathroom supervision, etc. This is an active role that is critical to the functioning of our classrooms! If in doubt, ask! The mentor will be happy to provide guidance on their needs.

Parents are PALS

Participate in class

Assist the Mentor

Learn alongside students & take notes

Supervise & Discipline

Things to look forward to at Petra:

Community

-

Support

-

Kickoff Event

-

Field Trips

-

Student Dances

-

Yearbook

-

Senior Graduation

-

End-of-Year Celebration

-

Service Opportunities

-

& more!

Community Day Schedule

Time	Activity
7:30 AM	Doors open, community works together to prepare campus
7:45 AM	Everyone has arrived to prepare for class that begins promptly at 8.
8:00- 8:50 AM	First Class for students, Mother Culture for Moms
8:55 - 9:15 AM	Morning Assembly & HS devo
9:20 - 12:00 PM	Core Classes & Childcare
12:00 - 12:45 PM	Community Lunch
12:50 - 3:15 PM	Afternoon Electives- 45 minutes each
3:15 until finished	All Hands Contribute To Clean Up

Leadership Team

Board Members:

Molly Kitsmiller, Verna Wallberg,
Alicea Sarris, Andrea Drake, Brittany Miller

Financial/Bookkeeping:

Molly Kitsmiller & Brittany Miller

Director:

Hannah Larson 303.525.1470 (text preferred)

**Location: White Fields Community Church
2950 Colorful Ave Longmont, CO 80504**

**The Lord is my rock and my fortress
and my deliverer; My God, my strength,
in whom I will trust.**

Psalm 18:2

Petra Scholé Illness Policy

Every family acknowledges and accepts the inherent risks of gathering as a community. Each family accepts responsibility for assessing their family members' symptoms and will choose to act in good faith to decide whether it is in the best interests of both your family and the community for your family members to attend Petra. Please do not contact the Director or the Board to help you assess symptoms within your family. You are the parent and you know your family best. Petra trusts that you, the parent, will make the wise choice for all.

For specific illnesses, these guidelines were agreed upon as a community in 2022. To be considerate, parents should check for symptoms frequently before community day. Individuals that have recovered and are symptom free for 36 hours are welcome on campus. Please have family members with the following symptoms stay home:

Cold: New symptom onset within 36 hours - head/sinus congestion, fatigue, sneezing.

Cough: New cough onset within 36 hours. (Post viral cough by itself is not a reason to stay home.)

Fever: A fever is considered 100.4 or above. Please be fever free for at least 36 hours with no suppressant.

Flu (fever, body aches): Please be 36 hours symptom free, without the aid of medication.

Allergies: New or ongoing symptoms? Allergies are not a reason to stay home.

Sore Throat: Active symptoms with an onset of 36 hours, please consider staying home.

Vomiting: In addition to not feeling well, wait 36 hours, as with multiple spews, giving time for food to settle normally.

Covid: We do not ask families to test for Covid or antibodies. If they get tested and it comes back positive, the whole family should stay home. If there is a known exposure in close proximity for a significant length of time, families may consider taking extra precaution.

Please have an awareness of contagious symptoms, if you see something spread throughout your family. It is preferred that sick individuals stay home. If there are symptoms that appear to affect multiple family members or are serious in nature, please have the entire family stay home.

Some members are immunocompromised and would appreciate communication so that they can make the best decision for their family with certain symptoms that may present an issue for them. If there is an individual that is sick enough to stay home or if symptoms pop up right after community day, please give the community a heads up on the main Community Band weekly update post in a comment.

Golden Rule: Respect others as you wish to be respected.

Community Conflict Guidelines

As a community of believers, we believe that we are all individually accountable to God for our actions (2 Cor .5:10), but we are also aware that our actions in community necessarily affect those around us. (Eph. 4:15-16) We are free in Christ, yet choose to be slaves of Christ. We daily surrender our right to be offended, our desire to be validated, and our impulse to find justice on our own behalf. Rather, we consider others before ourselves, seeking forgiveness and peace, in faith trusting God to meet our needs. Our Code of Conduct states in part, "We strive to honor God in our actions and interactions. We love, honor and respect one another. When others offend us, we forgive them as the Lord has forgiven us." (Colossians 3:13) As such, we use these guidelines as a process to help members of our community resolve conflict when it arises.

We believe that we must first and foremost approach one another with 1) trust: giving the other party the benefit of the doubt and thinking the best of their intentions rather than the worst, 2) humility: a willingness to listen to the other side and consider my part in the conflict, and 3) forgiveness: a DESIRE to reconcile and continue in community with one another.

If you have been hurt or offended by another individual:

1. Do not share your feelings with anyone else and please do not gossip to anyone else in the community (Proverbs 26:20, 21:23), but be ready to go directly to the person who has offended you. If you need to talk about it with a friend, as often we do in order to gain perspective, please choose a friend from OUTSIDE the community. Do not post anything on Band.
2. Before talking to them about it, ask yourself: Am I being easily offended? (Proverbs 19:11) Have I considered the plank in my own eye or is there something I have done that needs to be forgiven or that contributed to this situation? (Matthew 7:1-5)
3. Wait 24 hours before saying anything. Sometimes all that is needed to get over a perceived offense is time and perspective. Consider reading the scriptures in this document and praying.
4. If you still need to talk to that person, please reflect on the order of events and why you are offended. Try to give the benefit of the doubt and assume that the person did not offend you on purpose, but if approached with the knowledge of their offense, that they will be repentant. (Gal 6:1)
5. Talk to the person directly, face to face is best or over the phone but please do not text them or use Band. (Matthew 18:15)
6. If the conflict exists between a mentor and a parent, the parent should not be in the mentor's class until the conflict is resolved. (Romans 12:14-21)

Hopefully you will be able to resolve the conflict using these steps and come to a resolution through conversation with the person involved. If this does not work, and the conflict continues, the Bible says to then involve one or two people and go to your brother or sister who has offended you and try again. Take someone who you trust, who speaks truth, and who will help you reconcile any fault of your own, if any. (Matthew 18:15-16) If, however, you are unable to resolve the problem, please come to the Director or a Board member with all the information of what has happened and request Board intervention.

If someone comes to you with an offense you have committed toward them:

1. Listen and do not defend yourself immediately. Try to take time to respond. (Phil 2:5)
2. Consider asking the person for time to respond so you can think through your response.
3. Examine your heart honestly and ask, 'Am I troubled because I realize I have hurt or sinned against this person?' Listen to and consider their claim against you, regardless of whether you intentionally or unintentionally caused harm or sinned against them. Try to put yourself in their shoes and view the offense from their perspective. (Proverbs 27:6; Ephesians 4:32)
4. Confess any realized sin both to God and to the offended person. (James 5:16)
5. Personally relate your commitment and willingness to prevent future altercations of this nature. Hopefully, the humility required to ask forgiveness will show the offended party your sincerity of heart and the process of restoration will begin. (1 Peter 4:8)

This process does take a little time, so remember that conflict does not have a quick fix. Take the time necessary to promote reconciliation in order to foster stronger and healthier relationships. (Psalm 133:1) If your approach is impulsive, lacking in deliberation, you will likely lose friends and possibly community.

Questions to consider:

In this situation, who angers, confuses, hurts, saddens, or disappoints you and why?

In this situation, what do you want him/her to do?

In this situation, what is your request?

Is it true? (Ex. She lied to me.)

Can you absolutely know that it's true? (Are there any assumptions or past hurts that could be affecting how his/her action or words landed with you? Is it possible I am making assumptions of intention?)

Roles & Responsibilities

A **Mentor** is primarily a living embodiment of the wisdom and virtue which we are trying to nurture in our students. As such, a mentor will:

- ♦ Model love of the subject and unrushed learning with meaningful, deep engagement with books so that learning is memorable, enjoyable, and permanent.
- ♦ Be prepared in class to lead the spirit of inquiry, pursue truth with humility, but not to have or give the “right” answers.
- ♦ Approach their class in a spirit of humility and mutual respect where relationships can be cultivated and contribution from each person is valued.
- ♦ Provide meaningful assessments and feedback to help students and parents gauge academic progress and to help ensure they are on the path to mastery.
- ♦ Prepare a syllabus for the year or semester that outlines clear expectations, deadlines, and assignments.
- ♦ Lead a liturgical pattern of learning to promote a focus on our faith, a predictable rhythm of learning, and to find scholé (restfulness) in what we do in class.
- ♦ Communicate regularly with parents regarding student progress and expectations. Specifically, text, email or call parent weekly if student comes unprepared for class and/or has uncorrected behavior failings in class.
- ♦ Commit to continued training at quarterly mentor meetings, annual mentor retreat, and self-education in order to grow in their abilities as a mentor.

Parents are primarily in charge of their own homeschool and in guiding and assisting their student(s). As such, a parent will:

- ♦ Give the final grade to their student(s) for each class. Parents may receive feedback from assessments in order to assist them in their decision.
- ♦ Communicate clearly to the mentor, prior to class starting, if they have different expectations of their student than what is laid out in the syllabus. A mentor will assume a student is expected to complete all work in the syllabus unless they hear from the parent of a different plan.
- ♦ Correct their students’ behavior or preparedness when given feedback from mentor that their student is struggling with behavior or completing their work.
- ♦ Parents of elementary and middle school students will actively participate in their student’s class either as a mentor, an assistant or as a model of engaged learning and supporting the authority of the mentor. Parents of High School students will actively participate in their student’s education by being present in class (encouraged but not required), overseeing homework, communicating with the mentor of special needs, or concerns.
- ♦ Support the mentor in the classroom by working to encourage respectful and appropriate behavior in the classroom.
- ♦ Give assistance to their student at home as required, remembering that the parent, and not the mentor, is ultimately responsible for the student’s understanding.
- ♦ Commit to a willingness to learn new things alongside their student so they can engage their student in meaningful conversations.

Students are the active participants in their own education. A classical education is a gift from not only their parents and mentors, but from the generations of Christian educators that have participated in the “Great Conversation” through the ages. As such, a student will:

- ♦ Come to class ready to learn with humility and respect to their mentor, their fellow students, and their books.
- ♦ Prepare themselves for class by completing assigned work at home to the best of their ability and bringing all required materials to class each week. Elementary and Middle school students will be expected to participate fully in class, with outside assignments at the discretion of the parent. High School students will be expected to complete assignments as outlined in the syllabus unless a parent has discussed a different path with the mentor.
- ♦ Ask questions of their mentor and their parents when they do not understand or are struggling with their work. It is ultimately the student’s responsibility to acknowledge when they are struggling and ask for the help they need.
- ♦ Participate fully in class discussion, projects and assignments, knowing that their own contribution is part of what will make the whole class successful.
- ♦ Conduct themselves with Christian standards of behavior in class as well as respect for the building, grounds and staff of our host church.
- ♦ Students will refrain from cell-phone or device use while on campus for community days, or at other times the community is together for learning (study day, field trips, etc.)

Petra Scholé Statement of Faith: Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, (Exodus 20:2-3, Mark 12:29)

The Father Almighty, (Ephesians 4:6, Malachi 2:10, Gen 17:1)

Maker of Heaven and Earth, (Gen 1:1, Isa 40:28, Rev 10:6)

And of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16, Rev 4:11)

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all ages, (John 3:16, Hebrews 1:6, Rev 1:8)

God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, (John 1:1, 1 John 1:5, Psalm 2:7, Heb. 1:5)

Being of one substance with the Father; (John 10:30, Isaiah 44:6, Col 2:9)

By whom all things were made. (John 1:1-3, 1 Cor 8:6)

Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from Heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man. (Mat 1:20-23, Luke 19:10, John 1:14)

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, (Acts 2:36, Mat 27:2,26, Mark 15:15)

He suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again, according to the scriptures. (Mat 16:21, 1 Cor 15:3-4, Mark 15:46)

And ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father, (Acts 1:9, 1Pet 3:22, Mark 16:19)

And He shall come again, in glory, to judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom shall have no end. (Acts 1:10-11, Rev 1:7, John 5:22, Acts 10:42)

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, (John 14:16, Titus 3:5-6)

Who proceeds from the Father, (John 15:26, Luke 11:13)

Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, (Is 6:3, Rev 5:13, Matt 28:19)

Who spake by the Prophets. (Num 11:29, Micah 3:8, Acts 2:17, 18)

And we believe in one holy catholic (universal) and apostolic church. (Eph 5:25-27, 1 Cor 1:2, 1 Tim 3:15)

We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins (Acts 22:16, 1Pet 3:21, Rom 6:3-4, Mat 28:19)

And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. (Rev 21:1-5, 1 Cor 15:12, 21-22, John 3:16, Rom 11:6)

In addition to the Nicene Creed, we believe that:

Marriage constitutes the union between one biological man and one biological woman. (Gen. 2:22-24, Matt. 19:4-6, Mk 10:6-9, Mal. 2:15)

We believe that God created the human race male and female and that all conduct with the intent to adopt a gender other than one's birth gender is immoral and therefore sin. (Gen 1:26-27, Deut. 22:5, Mk. 10:6)

We believe a follower of Christ's body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and is not their own (1 Cor. 6:18-20). Sexual immorality, which includes all forms of sexual sin, be it homosexual or heterosexual, including fornication and adultery, is a unique sin in that it is a sin against the individual's body, the temple of the Holy Spirit. (Col 3:5, Rom. 1:26, 27, Lev. 20:13, 1 Cor. 6:9, Heb. 13:4, 1 Cor. 6:13, Ex. 20:14, Gal. 5:19).

***While we do not require Petra Scholé community families to sign the Statement of Faith, we do require that all families be willing to respect and honor the essentials of our Christian faith.

Age/Grade Guidelines

At Petra Scholé, we are more than just a homeschool enrichment program. We are a homeschool community purposely designed to partner with parents in their child’s academics. Our Core classes and elective classes build upon one another as the students continue to grow not only in academics, but also in social and emotional maturity and in wisdom and virtue. Keeping in mind very specific goals for each grade/age level, we have set forth the following guidelines to help determine the appropriate class(es) for our students in the community.

Following Colorado’s state law for entrance into kindergarten, the child must be 5 on or before October 1st. Though some children appear to be ready for kindergarten sooner than age 5, we at Petra know that there are many determining factors that help decide whether a child is truly ready for formal schooling or not. Academics play a major role, but we want to look at the whole child created by God and wisely place them where they will flourish in all areas (mind, body, soul).

We acknowledge that all children have strengths and weaknesses. They may be off the charts in reading but struggle to make friends. Celebrating their strengths and building up their weaknesses with love and grace is why we seek to place them where they can grow in all areas. We know this growth happens through age-appropriate classroom conversations and discussions with their peers, learning new skills at all levels, enjoying developmentally appropriate activities, managing homework expectations, and enjoying community with similar-aged children.

If after looking at Petra’s full academic scope and sequence, the maturity of your child (both socially and emotionally), and any other factors that are important to you as the parent, you still feel that your student should be in a different class either above or below what the following chart shows, please submit in writing a letter to the Board outlining your thoughts and request to have your child placed in a different class. The Board will review your letter and connect with you to determine together the best place for your student. Please send your letter to the Director, and she will pass it on to the Board.

*Note: Our writing classes are based on level, not grade. Please refer to the class descriptions to see what writing level is best for your student(s). If you need further help in determining the appropriate level, please contact the Director or Mentor of the class. Writing classes in high school are optional electives, not a part of the Core class.

If, on 10/1, your child is:	then they will be in:	Notes
Under age 4	Childcare	
4 or 5 years old	Pre-K/Kinder	
6 years old	1st grade	
7 years old	2nd grade	
8 years old	3rd grade	Language Arts Level 1
9 years old	4th grade	Language Arts Level 1 or 2, depending on knowledge
10 years old	5th grade	Language Arts Level 1, 2 or 3, depending on knowledge
11 years old	6th grade	LA Level 1, 2, 3, or 4, depending on knowledge. MS electives
12 years old	7th grade	MS electives
13 years old	8th grade	MS electives
14 years old	9th grade	HS electives
15 years old	10th grade	HS electives
16 years old	11th grade	HS electives
17 years old	12th grade	HS electives

Petra Communications

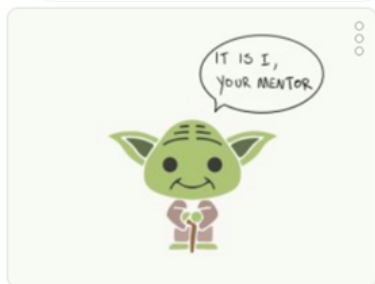


Our primary method of community communication is via Band, which can be accessed via an app on your phone or internet at band.us. Bands are available by invitation only, so if you are not on any of the following Bands, please let the Director know. In addition to these Bands, there are class Bands for all classes, that parents and students both may join. Class bands are a great place to ask class-specific questions, find relevant info or clarification, catch updates on assignments, etc. Please set your notifications to receive alerts. The parameters for the main Bands are as follows:



Main Community Band- Parents Only (Registered at Petra)

- Community day update/information
- Info for all Petra families
- Important docs in files
- Supplies needed for community day
- Petra only group orders



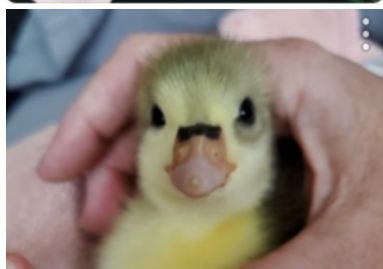
Petra Scholé Mentors- Mentors Only

- Mentor meeting info
- Info specifically for Mentors



Mother Culture- Moms Only

- Resources for Mother Culture discussion and support
- Prayer Requests



All Things Not School Related- Parents only, open to other homeschoolers

- Items for sale, co-op/group orders
- ISO Resources/referrals
- Funny Memes/stories
- Articles/Videos/Podcasts
- ISO/Offers for Curriculum



Social & Service Activities- Parents and Students, open to other homeschoolers

- Field Trips
- Social Activities
- Service opportunities
- (Specify if it's for Petra only.)

Safety Policies & Procedures

All parents of students in 8th grade or below must remain on campus with their children. If a parent will be absent, they may send a family member in their place (Dad, Grandparent, etc.) Please communicate all changes outside the norm to the director via text so that no one is surprised by an unfamiliar face on campus. If there is not a family member available, another parent may be asked to be the "guardian of the day." Please communicate such with the director so that everyone knows who is responsible for the kids while on campus.

All parents on campus are required to complete a background check. Those that have completed a background check from another place in the last 12 months may submit that to the director. Otherwise, all adults will be asked to sign a waiver, giving permission for Petra to run a background check prior to the first day on campus. Refusal is grounds for dismissal from the community.

Out of an abundance of caution, we will **keep the church doors locked for the duration of community day**. There will also be a note posted on the doors stating that the church is closed, to deter anyone outside of the Petra community from attempting to enter the building. If you need assistance, please knock and the assigned door monitor will assist you. **Please do not prop doors open.**

From 7:30-8am, families may use the south door to bring in their items/supplies for the day. At 8am, this door will be shut and locked for the remainder of the day. After 8am, families will need to use the west doors to enter and exit the building. The door monitor will be stationed at the west doors and will not allow entrance through the south door.

There are no weapons allowed on campus. If your child brings a weapon, they will be asked to store it in your vehicle for the duration of the day. The exception to this is if an adult has their conceal carry license, of which the director will need a copy prior to c/c on church grounds.

In the event of a fire or gas leak, an adult will announce such to each classroom and call emergency services. All mentors will then immediately, in an orderly fashion, evacuate their students to the grassy area that is just past the south parking lot. Upon arrival, mentors will affirm headcount of all students in their class.

In the event of an earthquake, mentors will direct students to drop and take cover under the tables and wait until the shaking has stopped. After all movement has stopped, mentors will conduct a headcount and evacuate to the grassy area that is just past the south parking lot while the facility is inspected for safety.

In the event of a tornado, mentors will safely evacuate their classes to room 10 (morning assembly), where everyone can lay down under the chairs. Upon arrival in Room 10, mentors will conduct another headcount to make sure all are accounted for.

In the case of a hostile intruder, witness will call emergency services.

Of course, we pray for an emergency-free school year, but in the case of an emergency, please be familiar with these safety protocols so that all can take quick action if the need arises.

Family Intro & Morning Assembly

We love getting to know the families in our community better! One way we do this is with the Family Intro. Every week during morning assembly, we will have 1-2 families do a short (5 minutes or less) family presentation. The purpose of this is two-fold; it's an opportunity for families to share about their family and interests as well as gives families an opportunity to practice their presentation and public speaking skills. The schedule for family intros is posted on the main community band as well as in the weekly update post. If families need to change the week they are scheduled due to illness or absence, they are welcome to reach out to other families and trade. Please let the Director know of any changes so she can document it on the schedule.

There is no wrong way to do a family intro! It can truly encompass anything your family would like, but in case you need some ideas, here are a few to consider.

What is something you have learned as a family recently?

Tell us about a time that God provided for your family.

What is your family mission statement?

What is your favorite family/Bible verse and why?

Tell us about a family tradition that you have.

What does your family like to do together for leisure or hobbies?

Where do you like to vacation or what has been the most memorable trip your family has taken?

What does your family like to do together to serve others?

Skit, 2 Truths and a Lie, a reading, show and tell, etc.

Keep it simple- don't stress, but do prepare! It is an opportunity for the family to do a group project and presentation together. Please do a run through prior to morning assembly to make sure it is no more than 5 minutes long.

In morning assembly, we typically follow this schedule:

Hymn

Announcements

Pledges and Family Intro

Memory Verses

Prayer

Doxology

The schedule is simplified and adjusted when we have guest speakers, roughly twice each semester. We will not have family intros on the weeks we have a guest speaker. The family intro schedule, which is posted on the main community band, is subject to change. A reminder for who is scheduled to present that week will be announced on the weekly update.