



# PIONEERS Co-Op

P.O. Box 6425, JACKSON MI 49201

VOICEMAIL: (517) 888-4959 EMAIL: OFFICEADMIN@PIONEERSHSS.ORG

WEBSITE://PIONEERSHSS.ORG

## Membership Policy Agreement

PIONEERS is a distinct small group with specific goals and standards. While we don't wish to be "judgmental", as Christians, we are called to be discerning. As an organization, it is not our mission to be a "reform" school. Prospective students (and parents) must meet our behavioral/dress expectations before joining PIONEERS.

### Dress Code Policy

(Amended 04-26-23)

Please take a few moments to review the following dress code policy with your student(s). While fashion changes, the reasons for being modest and appropriate in a Christian school-type setting do not. Our dress code, which is in-line with the dress codes of most area public and Christian schools, seeks to promote an atmosphere of Godly values and attitudes. We have no desire to allow our students' dress to either create a "teen culture" or be a distraction to other students.

Those who participate in any PIONEERS activities are expected to comply with the standards below. Additionally, these policies apply to all students (including Young PIONEERS students), teachers, staff, and volunteers.

- All students are expected to dress appropriately and in a manner that reflects moral purity, modesty, and dignity. **Dress** should not be extreme in nature.
- Female students are asked to refrain from wearing clothing that is too tight, too revealing, and/or too short. Dresses/skirts/shorts must not be more than four inches above mid-knee when sitting and standing. Tank tops, strapless and/or backless dresses/shirts, halter-tops, and/or crop tops are NOT dress code appropriate. Cleavage is not to be exposed at any time and any top that is cut more than 2 inches below the collar bone is subject to correction.
- **Leggings**, tights, yoga pants, and any other tight-fitting pants **must be covered by a shirt, shorts, or skirt that extends no shorter than 4" above mid-knee** when shoulders are in a relaxed position. (\*Please note, YP students may wear leggings).
- Hats and sunglasses **must be removed** while in the building.
- All clothing should be neat with **NO fraying, holes, or rips**. **UPDATE – Beginning in the fall of 23/24, PIONEERS will no longer allow any holes or rips in jeans/pants regardless of location even if leggings are worn underneath. Students who choose to wear jeans/pants with holes or rips will be in violation of the dress code policy and subject to correction.**
- Unnatural hair colors (including but not limited to blue, green, pink, purple, bright orange/red etc..) are prohibited.
- Makeup should be simple and tasteful. **Extreme make-up**, including thick/excessive eye makeup, that draws undue attention to oneself or depicts worldly values is prohibited.
- Piercings – please remove/avoid wearing jewelry or studs in tongue, nose, or eyebrow while attending PIONEERS. NO ear plugs.
- Tattoos – Due to the controversy amongst our families, visible tattoos must be covered with clothing or some other covering.
- All students are expected to dress in a manner appropriate to their (biological) gender.



# PIONEERS Co-Op

P.O. Box 6425, JACKSON MI 49201

VOICEMAIL: (517) 888-4959 EMAIL: OFFICEADMIN@PIONEERSHSS.ORG

WEBSITE://PIONEERSHSS.ORG

Please refer to the Dress Code Policy located in the PIONEERS Membership Handbook on the website for additional dress code details (please note that the Membership Handbook is currently under construction for the 2023-2024 co-op year). If you have questions about whether you should wear an outfit or an item of clothing, please ask yourself the following questions:

- Does my clothing expose too much?
- Does my clothing or makeup advertise something that is obscene, profane, drug-related, gang-related, inflammatory, or illegal? (This would include heavy metal/rock groups that sing songs demeaning family, moral purity, or patriotism to our country).
- What is my intention in wearing this outfit? Is my intent to draw attention to myself or be noticed?
- Would I interview for a job in this outfit?

Additionally, we are asking parents to monitor how your student(s) look when they leave your home. If, for some reason, you or your students(s) are uncertain about an “outfit”, please feel free to contact a steering member prior to Co-op day. If there are questions as to whether a garment meets dress code requirements, perhaps it is best not worn to PIONEERS.

The above standards will be strictly enforced. PIONEERS reserves the right to disallow anything that it deems offensive, inappropriate, or extreme in nature, even though it may not specifically be described in the dress code. Students found to be immodestly or inappropriately dressed will be given the following choices:

1. Borrow appropriate attire from a fellow student/friend.
2. Wear a lab coat for the remainder of the day.
3. Contact a parent for pick-up.

Continued violation of the dress code will result in suspension/expulsion.

\_\_\_\_\_ **I have read and agree to follow the Dress Code Policy.** (Initial)

## Behavior Standards

Those who participate in PIONEERS/PIONEERS related activities are expected to adhere to the following behavioral standards and expectations. Please refer to the PIONEERS Membership Handbook for details on expected behavioral standards while at PIONEERS.

**- Bad Language/Inappropriate Conversations:** We ask members to speak carefully, honoring the name and character of God by avoiding profane and vulgar speech, sexual innuendo, and any conversations related to gender ambiguity/identity confusion. If a student is uncertain as to the appropriateness of a word/term, do not use it.

There is a no tolerance policy for foul language. Students will be reprimanded, and continuous use of foul language will result in termination from the program. Appropriate language is important in and outside of the co-op. You are a reflection of PIONEERS, a Christian ministry, even when you are not at the co-op! Lewd or inappropriate conversation in your social media postings is a reflection on the PIONEERS ministry. Misconduct of this nature, brought to the attention of the PIONEERS leadership, will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the leadership.

**- Public Display of Affection (P.D.A.)** – Inappropriate P.D.A will not be tolerated while at PIONEERS. Examples of inappropriate P.D.A include but are not limited to holding hands, lingering embraces, kissing etc. Students found to be in violation of the P.D.A guidelines will be subject to disciplinary action.

**-Classroom Expectations:** All students must be in a classroom or study room under teacher/monitor supervision at all times. No loitering or gathering in the hallways and narthex will be allowed during class time. Students are expected to show up to their classes on time. Tardiness is disrespectful to the teacher and a distraction to their fellow students.



# PIONEERS Co-Op

P.O. Box 6425, JACKSON MI 49201

VOICEMAIL: (517) 888-4959 EMAIL: OFFICEADMIN@PIONEERSHSS.ORG

WEBSITE://PIONEERSHSS.ORG

Trips to the bathroom are made only with the teacher's permission, and students are expected to return to class promptly. Only students enrolled for a particular study/fellowship hall are allowed to be in that classroom. Respect and courtesy for others is paramount to a positive classroom environment. Students should NOT be carrying on private conversations while the teacher is teaching.

- **Discipline procedure:** We have a "chain of authority" — teacher/staff > PIONEERS Steering member > PIONEERS Steering Committee > Executive Board that we follow when dealing with disciplinary issues. All members of PIONEERS, including adults, must be willing to submit to this authority structure. The PIONEERS Steering Committee retains the right to ask a student/parent to leave if appearance or behavior is out of line.

\_\_\_\_\_ **I have read and agree to follow the Behavior Standards.** (Initial)

## Academic Standards (6th through 12th grade program)

Students must be able to function on their own (particularly reading and writing) in class unless prior arrangements have been made. Workloads can be altered by a teacher at teacher/parent discretion. If the child cannot carry his workload, at the discretion of the teacher, the student may be moved to another class or removed from the PIONEERS' class in question. If the Steering Committee and/or teacher feels a student will not be able to handle the class, it is their responsibility to inform the parent of this at the time application is made. Unless there is a factor which impedes the progress of the class as a whole, the final decision of enrollment rests with the parents, as they will lose financially upon withdrawal / removal from the class.

- **Homework** is expected to be completed before the student walks into the classroom. (Please contact the teacher prior to class time if an emergency arises.)

- **Parental Responsibilities:** PIONEERS is not an umbrella program or a school. Parents must be committed to overseeing and making themselves available to further the process of their children's education and support at PIONEERS.

Parents are responsible to see that their children's homework is completed each week, prior to class, and are expected to do this by asking to see their students' completed work prior to Co-op day. Remember, it is the parent's responsibility to home school their child(ren), not the Co-op's responsibility. Parents need to regularly review returned homework and contact tutors immediately if they feel their child is struggling and not achieving their desired goals for any given Co-op class in which he/she may be participating. Parents are encouraged to contact tutors if they feel their student's homework is not returned in a timely manner.

Parents need to understand that tutors make themselves available by email/phone for extra assistance for their children who are enrolled in PIONEERS classes. It is, thus, the parent's responsibility to see that contact is made prior to Co-op day if extra help is needed.

Record keeping is the responsibility of the parent. Semester Evaluations, indicating a grade, will be given for all classes at the 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level. PIONEERS "grades" are only the tutor's evaluation of work completed at PIONEERS. Parents are responsible to issue final grades and credits in each subject area and provide formal transcripts for their children. PIONEERS will issue semester and final evaluations/grades each year. The Co-op will maintain the final copy of all evaluations/grades issued by the Co-op for the past four years. At the end of that time period, these grades are destroyed, and no further record will be available through PIONEERS. Please note that there will be a \$10.00 fee assessed for additional mailing of annual grades that have been previously provided.

\_\_\_\_\_ **I have read and agree to follow the Academic Standards.** (Initial)



# PIONEERS Co-Op

P.O. Box 6425, JACKSON MI 49201

VOICEMAIL: (517) 888-4959 EMAIL: OFFICEADMIN@PIONEERSHSS.ORG

WEBSITE://PIONEERSHSS.ORG

**By signing below, I and my children have read, understand, and agree to follow the policies and standards listed above.**

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_