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## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Information sources:** Information, updates, and announcements are available at PATH on the announcement board, sent by e-mail alerts, and listed on the website at [www.pathco-op.org](http://www.pathco-op.org)

**Website:** [www.pathco-op.org](http://www.pathco-op.org)

**PATH's physical address:**  
Prairie Creek Baptist Church  
3201 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Plano, TX 75075

## NOTIFICATION OF ADDRESS AND INFORMATION CHANGES

It is important to notify PATH of changes in your address, phone numbers, or e-mail addresses as soon as possible. Any information changes (name, address, e-mail, phone number) should be e-mailed to the **Director**. You must also update your family information page on the registration website at [mycoopdb.com/path](http://mycoopdb.com/path).

## CORE OBJECTIVES

*"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves."  
Romans 12:10*

**Please read this carefully (\*denotes sections of the handbook which should be read by students).**

This document represents PATH's core objectives. Both parents and students are responsible for knowing and abiding by these guidelines, which may be summed up as follows: show thoughtfulness and respect toward teachers, parents, other students, as well as our host church facility and staff. It is important that we protect the facility we have so graciously been allowed to rent. At all times our actions and attitudes should honor our Lord Jesus Christ.

## SUPERVISION\*

**Parent or On-campus Responsible Adult:** Students **MUST** have a parent or on-campus responsible adult present at all times. PATH is not a Mother's Day Out or babysitting service. (**Note:** An on-campus responsible adult is a person over 18 who has agreed to be responsible for a student's needs during the absence of a parent from campus.) Prearrange with a classmate's parent or another adult present on campus to be your student's on-campus responsible adult for the times you are out sick or if you must leave for any reason.

**Sign-Out Sheets:** If a situation comes up where you, the parent, need to leave the facility, you must sign-out on the sign-out sheet at the front desk. It is on this sheet that you will record your designated on-campus responsible adult in charge of your child/children.

**Visitors:** Immediate family members are welcome anytime. Please notify either the Director or Assistant Director in advance. Prospective new members to PATH are also invited to visit. Please contact either the Director or Assistant Director in advance to schedule a visit.

**End of the Day:** Classes end at 3:00 p.m. At the end of our PATH day, all students need to leave the church property, begin their cleaning crew duties, or be in cleaning crew childcare **promptly**. It is VERY difficult for our cleaning crew to do its job with students running around in the building.

## COMMUNICATION

Each family at PATH has a folder in the hanging file at the family table in the gym. Please check your family folder prior to leaving each PATH day to ensure that you have received all current notices and vital information. (Please do this near the end of the day.)

Please check e-mail at least once a day as this is our main mode of communication. As a reminder, e-mail should not be used for any sensitive communication.

A calendar is available on PATH's website. Please check this calendar carefully and often as changes may occur. There is also a directory available under reports on the registration site. Please remember that the information is not to be sold or given to anyone outside of PATH.

## PARENTS

In accordance with Proverbs 6:16-19, “sowing discord” among PATH members and students will not be tolerated. Doing so is grounds for immediate expulsion. Please help us make PATH a safe, enjoyable place for all of the students by being responsible for correcting misbehavior that you see. A Board of eight members cannot monitor everything alone. It takes everyone working together.

Remember that unless the rules are student specific, they apply to parents as well.

**Credits:** Registration for classes is not complete without signing up for a way to earn your family's two credits. In order for PATH to remain a place of excellence, we must bring attitudes of cooperation, helpfulness, and servanthood with us each Monday. Look for ways you and your family can serve PATH!

**Grades:** Parents should address individual concerns or questions regarding evaluations/grades with each teacher personally. Also, parents are responsible for recording and keeping their student's transcript.

## ENROLLMENT

PATH enrollment requires that the oldest child enrolling must be kindergarten age (age 5 by Sept. 1) or older. To maintain consistency and to prevent wide grade level spans in classrooms, each student is placed in a grade level according to his/her birthdate.

We prefer that families attend PATH for a full day. Occasionally, a family may need to attend for fewer than five class hours. If you wish to attend PATH for three or four hours, you must apply and receive Board approval. We have a limited number of slots for such exceptions.

## ATTENDANCE/TARDINESS\*

Consistent attendance is vital for PATH to run effectively. Please make it a priority to attend each Monday. Each family is allowed **two** absences per semester. Upon the third absence, you may be dismissed from PATH.

If you are going to be absent, you must notify the Director or Assistant Director as soon as possible. You may do so via email, but please call if you don't receive an email reply. (Your message may be in someone's spam folder.) Teachers should also contact the appropriate Grade Level Coordinator and their assistants to ensure that their classes are covered. It is the **teacher's responsibility** to have all materials at PATH for the substitute. If you are on the setup or cleaning crew, you should also contact the Building Coordinator.

We monitor tardiness through tardy notices that are located in each classroom packet. Five minutes after class begins, a tardy notice will be issued by the teacher or assistant for each child or adult that is not in the classroom. We understand that everyone will occasionally have a problem; however, we encourage promptness.

Upon a family's first and second late arrival to PATH, the family will receive a warning notice. After three late arrivals, your family may lose the privilege of taking first hour classes the next semester. After the fifth late arrival, we reserve the right to move your family to our waiting list.

With this policy, we wish to encourage proper stewardship habits and a respect for our teachers and our student body. One late arrival to a classroom can waste precious time and can disrupt the flow of the teacher's lecture or class activity. **Please be considerate of others and arrive on time to class.** Students or assistants arriving after 9:10 a.m. should wait in the foyer until the bell rings for first hour dismissal.

## **DISCIPLINE POLICY\***

*"Moreover, if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother."  
Matthew 18:15*

**Step 1: Communicate with the student.** If an adult tells a student of a problem and he/she responds respectfully and corrects the problem, no further action will be taken.

**Step 2: Behavior Notification/Parental Notification.** If a student is told of a problem by an adult and he/she responds disrespectfully, fails to correct the problem, or if the offense is considered serious by the observant adult, a behavior notification form will be completed and filed in the family's folder and with the appropriate GLC. The GLC will also inform the parent or on-campus responsible adult of the situation and expect this adult to discipline the student accordingly.

**Step 3: Behavior Notification/Parental Supervision.** If a student requires further discipline, the student may be required to have a parent or on-campus responsible adult with him/her at all times. This will include having a parent walk the student to each class, assist in the student's classes, sit beside the student during lunch, etc. The student and adult are both expected to accept this discipline measure with positive, cooperative attitudes.

**Step 4: Dismissal.** Failure to comply with the above can result in dismissal.

Additionally, at the discretion of the Board, a student or family can be dismissed from PATH for any single violation that the Board's members determine to be extreme or immoral. Such violations include, but are not limited to, possession of unlicensed firearms or drugs, violence, lewd/obscene behavior, extreme bullying, etc. Dismissal for behavioral problems does not release the family from fee obligations. Families who fail to fulfill their contract with PATH will not receive a positive reference.

## **FACILITY INFORMATION\***

*"He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much."  
Luke 16:10*

*"It is by his deeds that a lad distinguishes himself, if his conduct is pure and right."  
Proverbs 20:11*

## FACILITY USE AND MAINTENANCE

PATH members are not allowed to use the church phone. If the need arises, please go to the front desk and borrow a phone.

All co-op members must enter/exit using the east side doors.

Keep halls clear during class times. All students must be in a class.

**Please** throw away your trash.

Red drinks are not permitted in the church building (including the gym).

Please bring a plastic tablecloth to spread out during lunch. Extra tablecloths are available if you forget to bring one.

Students are not permitted to eat or play on the stage.

Do not chew gum in the church building.

Do not bring pets on the premises.

Church instruments and equipment are not to be touched.

Please immediately notify a Board member of any damage to the building or grounds.

Any purposeful acts of vandalism can result in immediate expulsion.

## SAFETY ISSUES

Two adults must be with children in a class at all times.

Please **walk** only. Do not run in the building.

No rollerblades, roller shoes, skateboards, bicycles, tricycles, unicycles (anything with wheels other than cars), water guns, knives, laser pointers, lighters, or any other dangerous or distracting items are allowed on church property.

**Drive slowly and carefully** through the parking areas.

There should be no tailgate lunches in the parking areas.

No climbing in the trees, etc.

No tobacco products or illegal substances are allowed on campus.

All sports equipment (basketballs, soccer balls, bows) may only be used during class time.

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

If the building needs to be evacuated, go to the nearest exit and gather on the east side of the building.

Please stay with your class both as you leave the building and as you return, allowing younger classes to re-enter first. Stay outside until an "all clear" is given.

If emergency shelter needs to be taken inside the building, everyone should assemble in the small auditorium.

Please notify the Board if you have nurse/paramedic training.

Teachers should become familiar with your classroom's evacuation route, as there will be one fire drill per semester.

## LUNCH AND ASSEMBLY ETIQUETTE\*

Lunchtime will be forty-five minutes in duration. A warning bell will sound at the last five minutes to signal it is time to clean up and prepare for assembly. **Assembly is mandatory if you are on the PATH campus.** This time is set aside for worship, saying the pledge, and prayer.

During the lunch hour, the **parent** is responsible for the child. This responsibility includes making sure they are not taking any food/snacks from the kitchen without paying.

Children should not be roaming the halls (either downstairs or upstairs) during lunch. After eating, the students are welcome to play in the greenbelt area to the east of the building, but a parent **MUST** be with them. This includes teenagers. (As stated earlier, anyone who is on campus should return to the gym during assembly.)

## **CO-OP MANNERS\***

*"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer."  
Psalm 19:14*

**Show respectful obedience** to all church staff, parents, and teachers. Adults should be referred to as Mr. or Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_.

Be respectful of teachers and classmates by arriving to class on time.

**Turn off cell phones in class and study hall.** (parents and students)

Glorify the Lord through your speech. Inappropriate language, conversations, and attitudes are not acceptable and will be subject to discipline. No name calling, profanity, gossip, or other abusive language is permitted.

No public display of affection will be allowed among students at PATH. This includes any form of physical touching that seems inappropriate to any adult.

## **ACADEMIC CONDUCT**

*"Therefore...he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work."  
2 Timothy 2:21*

*"And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way, bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God..."  
Colossians 1:10*

PATH does not allow students to “audit” classes. In more rigorous academic classes, parents should monitor their student's daily progress. If a student falls behind, it is the parent’s responsibility to bring the student up to speed. Parents may also need to secure outside help and resources with any areas of individual difficulty.

Cheating is grounds for immediate dismissal from the class and from PATH. This issue will be handled on a case-by-case basis. A meeting between the parent, student, teacher, GLC and either Director or Assistant Director will be scheduled to address the issue. A final decision will be rendered following this meeting.

Homework is an important part of many classes at PATH. Class descriptions on the registration site list whether or not a class has required homework. When a student signs up for a class, he/she is committing

to the homework. Homework assignments are expected to be turned in on time. Four homework notices show a failure to commit to the class. The teacher and Board may choose to have the student dismissed from the class upon reaching this point.

Our teachers invest a lot of time into planning and preparing for each class. Please consider the homework load BEFORE you register your child for a class. Make sure that the class is a priority in your student's coursework.

Please keep in mind that teachers and the Board reserve the option to dismiss a failing student from class after parental notification of the student's declining academic performance.

## **DRESS AND GROOMING POLICIES\***

*"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."  
1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

*"Abstain from all appearance of evil."  
1 Thessalonians 5:22*

**DRESS:** Everyone on campus must dress modestly. The length of shorts, dresses, or skirts should be near the knee. Shirts and blouses must have sleeves and a modest neckline. Tops that reveal midriffs and see-through or skintight clothing are not allowed. Also, clothing should not exhibit inappropriate pictures or slogans nor be excessively ripped or large. Undergarments may not show. Shoes must be worn at all times. Hats and caps should be removed before entering the building. Students with unsuitable clothing will be asked to return home to change or will be given a t-shirt or scrubs to wear over such clothing.

**GROOMING:** Students' hair should be neatly styled. By "neatly styled", we mean that their hair should not be in their eyes.

PATH members may not wear unusually colored or unusually styled hair, chains, or exhibit any form of body piercing (with the obvious exception of girls' pierced ears). In addition, boys may not wear earrings.

In order for PATH to remain the special place to which we all are accustomed, each family must cooperate with these policies. **Any member's continual failure to do so will result in he/she wearing a "uniform" for the remainder of the semester (a polo or button-up shirt with blue jeans or khaki colored pants) or will result in his/her dismissal from PATH.**

*The Board reserves the right to make ongoing decisions concerning dress and grooming issues.*

## **REGISTRATION/FEE POLICY**

**Class and teacher fees are due by the dates posted on the website each semester and detailed in email messages sent to PATH members at registration time.** The Board reserves the right to assess late fees and/or "unregister" families who are delinquent in paying class fees. In this way, we can make room for new families who are committed to full participation in PATH.

Registration dates and information are published on-line at [www.PATHco-op.org](http://www.PATHco-op.org).

## WITHDRAWAL/DISMISSAL POLICY

Once you have committed to PATH, we will be **counting on you**. Should you change your mind about participation after you have agreed to teach a class on the published schedule or after your children are registered for classes, you will forfeit your membership dues (no refunds), and your family be barred from reapplying for two semesters. Exceptions resulting from extraordinary circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Withdrawal from PATH, whether due to voluntary reasons or due to a disciplinary dismissal, **does not** relieve you of the responsibility to pay the fees for the classes. (**Exceptions:** There are narrowly defined situations when the drop fees may be waived. These may include health problems, a family crisis, a change in job status, or moving out of the area. Please submit a written request to waive fees explaining your circumstances to the Board. The Board will consider these situations on an individual basis.) Families who fail to fulfill their contract with PATH will not receive a positive reference.

## DUTIES

*“Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus...”  
Colossians 3:23*

### ASSISTANT DUTIES

The primary responsibility of all assistants is to support the teacher. Please look for ways to do this. The teacher may assign specific duties to you. Beyond that, consider other ways to help such as quieting students, taking role, passing out papers, etc. Class time is not the occasion for doing other tasks, visiting with friends, talking on the phone, etc. We all have an assignment during each hour at PATH and must work to the best of our abilities. Assistants who serve diligently and wholeheartedly each week truly allow PATH to function at its best!

All assistants have the authority to correct any student’s behavior. Should a student **fail to respond appropriately**, please refer to the Discipline Policy detailed in this handbook.

Parents of students in our fifteen week classes will assist in those classes so that we can have two adults in each classroom during our “extra weeks”. The 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade GLC will make and distribute the assistant’s schedule for those weeks.

### FLOATER DUTIES

The primary responsibility of a floater is to fill in the gap. Each week we have families absent for various reasons. The floater provides support in those classrooms. Report to the front desk (at or before the hour you are assigned) to receive your classroom assignment. There are times that a classroom support is not needed. During these times you may be asked to help a teacher with an activity such as cutting, pasting, grading, etc. If this is not available, you will be invited to go and observe one of your child’s classes.

## TEACHER DUTIES

**Planning:** All teachers must submit accurate class descriptions, including homework requirements. Teachers are also responsible for turning in **completed lesson plans on time**. You will find samples on the PATH website, and the GLC is available for any questions. The due dates for lesson plans are as follows:

- 15-week classes are due two weeks before the first day the class meets.
- 10-week classes are due three weeks before the first day the class meets.

We understand that for the spring semester, this does not give the teacher a lot of time. Please keep your holiday schedule in mind before you commit to teaching a class during the spring semester.

All teachers are expected to be in their assigned classrooms **on time**.

**Grades:** Teachers of non-core classes determine the kind of evaluations they will use. Core classes are required to have numerical grades. Written progress reports must be sent out to the student's parents at least twice a semester. A mid-semester average is required by week eight of the 15-week classes and week six of the 10-week classes. If you choose to maintain an online grade book so that the parents of each student will always have access to a clear, current picture of the student's performance, then a mid-semester report will not be required of you.

If homework is turned in for a grade, it must be returned to the student **within two weeks**. It is very hard for students to study and take tests when they have not received feedback on previous homework or tests.

A final grade is to be communicated to the student and parent within two weeks of the final class meeting.

## CLEANING CREW\*

The cleaning crew should expect to stay until 5:00 p.m. The job will most likely be finished earlier, but could take the whole time. Therefore, please do not schedule appointments or events that would conflict with your commitment to the cleaning crew.

Every cleaner is required to stay at PATH until the entire building has been cleaned. Anyone leaving early will be given a warning that will go in their family file for ten weeks from the date of the offense (this could extend into the following semester). If there is a second occurrence within the ten weeks, that member will be expelled from PATH for the remainder of the semester and the following two semesters.

Childcare will be provided for the cleaning crew's children up to third grade. All children fourth through twelfth grade must stay with their parent(s) the entire time and assist in the clean-up.

## SETUP CREW\*

Each member of the setup crew needs to arrive no later than 7:30 a.m. each Monday. Promptness is vital. Crew members must keep their children with them during setup.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

*“How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity.”  
Psalm 133:1*

If you have any suggestions for improvement, please feel free to make those suggestions to the appropriate party (the GLC for that age group or the director for that particular area).

### **Suggestions on dealing with conflicts/problems:**

Remember that we are all in this together. None of us are “paid” professionals. Discuss your concern with the person involved, and offer a solution. Go to the teacher or coordinator who could best deal with the concern in order to implement a change. Do not discuss the problem with anyone **not directly involved**, for rumors and rumblings can be extremely detrimental. Be sensitive to the fact that we have several different personalities involved and that we are not all going to think and respond in the same way.

**Teacher Evaluations/PATH Evaluations:** Parents have the opportunity each November and April to help the teachers and PATH know of possible improvements by filling out and returning both teacher and PATH evaluations.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Name tags** (which PATH will provide) are required to be worn on the front of your shirt or blouse by all students and parents in order to enable the teachers to learn the students' names.

**Lost and Found:** The lost and found collection is kept in PATH's closet in room 105. Unclaimed items are given to Goodwill both in December and May.

**Illness policy:** Please do not bring children to PATH who have had fever, diarrhea, vomiting, or other contagious conditions in the last 24 hours. If your child requires any medication, please keep it with you and administer it yourself.

**Inclement weather:** PATH will follow the Plano Independent School District's closure schedule. Should there be snow, ice, or other inclement weather on a Monday during normal co-op operation, **please** watch local news channels or listen to local radio stations that morning for the PISD announcement of school closure. In the event of PISD late start, PATH will begin at the same time (typically at ten o'clock).

**Children with special needs:** PATH does not want to discriminate against children with learning

differences or serious disabilities. However, we are not equipped to meet the needs of certain disabilities or special needs. Out of consideration to our teachers and other students, we ask that parents inform their teachers in advance of any learning differences or special needs your child may have.

In certain cases, the Board may meet with the parents and teachers to determine what would be in the best interest of PATH and the student in question. PATH reserves the right to deny enrollment upon such consideration. A parent of any special needs student must be on campus at all times.

**Children with food allergies:** Some teachers do use food as part of the classroom instruction. Use of food in the classroom should be included in the syllabus. It is the parents' responsibility to inform the teacher of any food allergies their child may have.

## **CODE OF ORGANIZATION**

Although the structure and organization of the PATH Co-op is well defined in its By-Laws, it is helpful if members clearly understand this code of organization.

All leaders in PATH must read, agree with, and sign the PATH Statement of Faith. This is an attempt to ensure that the leaders of PATH are those who believe in the Bible and follow Jesus Christ. It is also expected that such leaders will make decisions and plan activities that will be pleasing to God and in accordance with His Word, the Bible.

Membership in PATH and participation in its associated activities is a privilege, not a right. The PATH Board, based on continuing, unacceptable conduct by a member(s) can revoke this privilege and terminate their membership in the PATH Co-op.

PATH exists to bring together homeschooling families for common support and encouragement. PATH is not an organization focused on growing in numbers or on seeking approval of its activities by outsiders (or those within PATH) that disagree with its philosophy, decisions, or activities.

PATH is led by the PATH Board. This Board is self-perpetuating; it elects and replaces its own members without approval or vote from the PATH membership as a whole. The Board has the right and obligation to oversee all activities and where needed, involve itself in the decision making process of PATH sponsored committees, functions, and activities. In rare and compelling circumstances, the Board may exercise its right to sustain, rescind, or change decisions made by such PATH committees, functions, or activities. The Board's decisions cannot be rescinded or changed by any type of vote or common agreement of PATH members. It is for this reason that the Board members take their responsibilities with humble, serious hearts, seeking to glorify God in all decisions.

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

PATH holds the following statements of Christian belief to be the foundation upon which we operate:

1. We believe the Bible to be the only authoritative Word of God, inerrant and infallible. (II Timothy 3:16,11 Peter 2:21)
2. We believe there is one true God, manifested in three distinct Persons known as the Trinity, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:1, John 10:30)
3. We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, who is the second person of the Trinity and that He possesses all of the attributes of the Father. He is the only son of God. He was born of a virgin and He is God incarnate (both God and man). He is mediator between God and man and will return in glory. (Matthew 16:27)
4. We believe the Holy Spirit, the third member of the Trinity, possesses all the attributes of the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit indwells, instructs and empowers all believers for spiritual service. (Matthew 28:19)
5. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the saved and the lost, the saved to eternal life and the lost to eternal punishment, (John 5:28-29)
6. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit who gives us spiritual gifts for the purpose of equipping us for the building up of the body of Christ. (John 14:26)
7. We believe that all who place their faith in Jesus Christ are placed by the Holy Spirit into the spiritual body of believers known as the church with Christ as the head. Genuine salvation will show itself by righteous attitudes and edifying conduct as a believer submits himself or herself to the control of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 2:8-9, Matthew 5:16, Acts 26:20, James 3:13, 1 Peter 27:12)
8. We believe in the creation of man by the direct act of God. (Genesis 1:26, Genesis 5:1-2)
9. We believe that man is sinful by nature and that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential and an absolute necessity for his salvation. We believe that eternal life is a free gift of grace for all who believe. (Romans 3:19 and 23, John 3:16-19, Ephesians 2:18-19, Titus 3:5-6)

## **PATH DENOMINATIONAL STATEMENT**

Our doctrinal statement of faith is fundamental to basic Christian tenets and contains those doctrines to which we unreservedly adhere. The following areas are left primarily to the teaching of the home and church:

1. Church government, authority and discipline
2. Time and mode of baptism
3. Security of the believer
4. Timing of future events
5. Second work of grace or baptism of the Holy Spirit
6. Sinless perfection
7. Gift of the Spirit, tongues, interpretation of tongues, healing, miracle working and discerning of spirits

There will be no attempt made by parents or students to promote these denominational positions. We desire to remain united in the salvation and love of Christ, avoiding dissension, which may be caused by denominational differences.

**Agreement for Mediation and/or Arbitration**

The following agreement to Mediate and/or Arbitrate is between \_\_\_\_\_ as the fully authorized parent or legal guardian acting on behalf of the \_\_\_\_\_ Family and its immediate members (“The Family”) and Plano Area Texas Homeschoolers (PATH) and its teachers– the parties to this agreement.

We agree to attempt to resolve differences with others (parents, students, teachers, administration) by following the biblical pattern of Matthew 18:15-17. Should we have unresolved issues with another PATH participant, officer or director after utilizing the Matthew 18 principle, the parties agree to be bound

by the following mediation and binding arbitration agreement in an attempt to resolve issues and bring reconciliation.

The parties to this agreement are Christians and believe that the Bible commands them to make every effort to live at peace and to resolve disputes with each other in private or within the Christian community in conformity with the biblical injunctions of 1 Corinthians 6:1-8, Matthew 5:23-34, and Matthew 18:15-20. Therefore, the parties agree that any claim or dispute arising out of, or related to, this agreement or to any aspect of the schooling relationship, including statutory claims, shall be settled by biblically based mediation.

If resolution of the dispute and reconciliation do not result from mediation, the matter shall then be submitted to a panel of three independent and objective arbitrators for binding arbitration. Each party to the agreement shall have the right to select one arbitrator (unless the parties mutually agree to the use of only one arbitrator). The two arbitrators selected by the parties shall jointly select the neutral, third arbitrator. If there is an impasse in the selection of the third arbitrator, the Institute for Christian Conciliation, a division of Peacemaker Ministries of Billings, Montana [(406) 256-1583] shall be asked to provide the name of a qualified person who will serve in that capacity. The mediation and arbitration process shall be conducted in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation" contained in the Peacemaker Ministries booklet, *Guidelines for Christian Conciliation*. (A complete text of the Rules is available at [www.HisPeace.org](http://www.HisPeace.org).)

The parties agree that these methods shall be the sole remedy for any controversy or claim arising out of the schooling relationship or this agreement and expressly waive their right to file a lawsuit against one another in any civil court for such disputes, except to enforce a legally binding arbitration decision. Governing Law. These Terms and Conditions, as well as any claims arising from or related thereto, whether in tort, contract or otherwise, are governed by Texas Law without regard to Texas’ choice of law rules.

Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of these Terms and Conditions shall not for that reason alone affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of these Terms and Conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (of The Family member or duly authorized legal representative)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of PATH representative

# PATH Teacher Covenant

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As a teacher at PATH, I accept the responsibility of cooperating with other parents in the spiritual, emotional, and intellectual education of our children. I believe that as parents our mission is not only to produce well-educated children, but to build disciples of Christ. In order to accomplish this mission...

- I will make it my aim to follow Christ's example in thought, word, and deed.
- I will **plan well and be completely prepared** for every class.
- I will strive to challenge and engage my students each Monday.
- I will be respectful to the parents of my students and strive to develop good communication with them regarding their children's academic and behavioral performance in my class.
- I will be respectful to my students, setting clear expectations on class participation, classroom behavior, and weekly homework assignments.
- I will commit to **returning student homework within two weeks**, in an effort to keep students from falling behind should there be concepts they do not completely grasp.
- I will maintain an **online grade book** (as directed by the PATH Board) so that the parents of each student will have a clear, current picture of his/her academic performance.
- I will make it my goal to **send out grades** for my students no later than 3 weeks from the last day of each PATH semester (*for 15-week classes*).
- I will be fair and consistent in discipline, **never shrinking back from communicating with my student's parents through behavior and homework notices**, understanding that these are positive tools set in place by PATH to hold our students accountable in these areas.
- I will make **every effort to prepare my class materials and deliver them to my assistant** in the event I will not be able to teach my class. (*This may involve my spouse driving my resources to the assistant's home prior to PATH.*)
- I will respect my fellow teachers/parents and solve differences in a peaceful and Christ-like manner.
- I realize that failure to comply with this covenant could result in my being in poor standing with PATH.

With the example of Jesus, the Master Teacher, I will do my best to live out this covenant while I teach at PATH.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# PATH Set Up/Cleaning Crew Covenant

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As a member of either the Set Up Crew or the Cleaning Crew at PATH, I commit to serve as Christ would serve. I realize that I am partnering with other parents to help maintain the church facilities and to help teach good stewardship to our children. In order to accomplish this mission...

- I will make it my aim to follow Christ's example in thought, word, and deed.
- I will report to my zone promptly each week so that the building can be cleaned in a reasonable amount of time.
- I will commit to maintaining a positive attitude when having to stay after PATH each week to serve, realizing that everyone involved with our co-op puts in many extra hours to ensure the success of our program.
- I will demonstrate a servant's heart by choosing to help other crew members with their duties in the event I finish my tasks early.
- I will remain at the church until cleaning is completed in all zones and I have been released by the Building Coordinator to leave.
- I will do my best to work diligently and joyfully with others as we labor together to maintain the facilities graciously provided by God.
- I will seek to be a problem solver when unexpected situations arise.
- I will go to the Building Coordinator with any concerns or ideas of how to accomplish tasks more efficiently.
- I will be faithful to my duties each week, giving the Building Coordinator as much notice as possible in the event I must be absent.
- I will respect my fellow crew members and solve differences in a peaceful and Christ-like manner.

With the example of Jesus, the ultimate servant, I will do my best to live out this covenant while on the Set Up/Clean Up Crew at PATH.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date