# School District of Philadelphia

# Student Handbook
# 2025 -2026

Crossroads Accelerated Academy
4300 Westminster Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19104
Phone 215.400.9070

Learning Network 12
Mr. Jeff MacFarland, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Kimberly A. Grahn, Principal
Mr. Christopher Angelini, Assistant Principal

**Mission Statement** ..... 3
**Vision Statement** ..... 3
**Our Commitment** ..... 4
**Message from the Principal** ..... 5
**Message from the Assistant Principal** ..... 6
**Meet the Staff** ..... 7
**Dress Code** ..... 8
**Bell Schedule** ..... 9
**Attendance Policy** ..... 10
**Lateness** ..... 11
**Early Dismissal** ..... 11
**Meals** ..... 11
**Transportation** ..... 11
**Student ID's** ..... 12
**Visitor Screening Procedures** ..... 12
**Communication with Families** ..... 13
**Celebrating Success** ..... 13
**School Policies** ..... 14
**Restorative Practices** ..... 14
**Types of Behaviors** ..... 15
**Anti Bullying and CyberBullying** ..... 16
**Cell Phones** ..... 16
**Acceptable Use Policy** ..... 17
**Supplies** ..... 20
**Curriculum** ..... 21
**End of Year Activities** ..... 22
**Dues** ..... 22
**Open House & Back to School Night** ..... 22
**Assessments** ..... 22
**Homework** ..... 22
**Parent Meetings** ..... 23
**Make up Work** ..... 23
**Plagiarism** ..... 23
**Health and Welfare** ..... 24
**Emergency Closing of Schools** ..... 25
**Promotion and Graduation** ..... 25
**Photo Release** ..... 26
**Internet Usage Policy - Virtual Learning Code of Conduct** ..... 26
**School District Student Code of Conduct 2024-2025** ..... 27
**Crossroads Accelerated Academy Student Agreement** ..... 27
**(To be retained in the student file)** ..... 29
**Transportation Agreement** ..... 30
**STUDENT HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** ..... 31

## Mission Statement

Through the Fox Chase Farm Extension at Crossroads Accelerated Academy, we are committed to fostering a nurturing and dynamic environment that encourages early career exploration and skill development. Our mission is to inspire curiosity, resilience, and a passion for learning among our students. By integrating core academic subjects with introductory career and technical education (CTE) pathways, we aim to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to excel in both their academic and future professional endeavors. We are dedicated to providing a supportive community that values diversity, creativity, and the unique talents of each student, preparing them for success in high school, post-secondary education, and beyond.

## Vision Statement

Our vision for the Fox Chase Farm Extension at Crossroads Accelerated Academy, is to be a leading innovator in early career and technical education, where every student is equipped with the tools to navigate their future with confidence. We envision a program where students are actively engaged in learning that is both meaningful and relevant to their interests and potential career paths. Through collaboration with industry professionals, hands-on projects, and real-world applications, we strive to ignite a lifelong passion for learning and a strong foundation for professional success. Our graduates will be critical thinkers, effective communicators, and ethical leaders, ready to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world with resilience and adaptability.

## Our Commitment

- ***Dedicated to Nurturing Individual Potential:*** *Our school is committed to recognizing and nurturing the unique potential of each student, providing a supportive and enriching environment that allows every learner to thrive academically, socially, and personally.*
- ***Commitment to Inclusive Education:*** *We pledge to foster an inclusive educational environment, where diversity is celebrated, and every student feels valued, respected, and supported regardless of their background, ability, or beliefs.*
- ***Excellence in Teaching and Learning:*** *Our school is dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of teaching and learning. We commit to employing innovative teaching methods, continuous professional development for our staff, and a curriculum that prepares students for the challenges and opportunities of the future.*
- ***Supporting Student Well-being:*** *Recognizing the crucial link between well-being and academic success, our school commits to providing a holistic support system for all students. This includes access to mental health resources, extracurricular activities, and a safe school environment where students can flourish.*
- ***Engagement with Families and the Community:*** *We believe in the power of community and the vital role families play in education. Our school commits to fostering strong partnerships with families and the community, encouraging open communication, and creating opportunities for parents and community members to actively participate in school life.*

## Message from the Principal

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome to an exciting and promising school year at Crossroads Accelerated Academy. As your principal, it is my honor to play a part in the educational journey of our students, guiding and witnessing their growth into capable, responsible, and thoughtful individuals. Our dedicated staff is committed to providing a nurturing environment that supports each student's unique path to success.

Our school handbook is designed to be a comprehensive guide for our school community. It outlines the policies, procedures, and expectations that enable us to create a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for everyone. We believe that understanding and adhering to these guidelines are crucial steps toward fostering personal responsibility and academic excellence.

We encourage students, parents, and guardians to read through the handbook together, discuss its contents, and use it as a reference throughout the school year. Your engagement and cooperation are key to making Crossroads a place where students can thrive academically and personally. Should you have any questions or need further clarification on any aspect of the handbook, please do not hesitate to reach out to our staff.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our school community. Together, we will make this school year rewarding and memorable for all.

Warm regards,

Kimberly A. Grahn, Ed.D
Principal

## Message from the Assistant Principal

Welcome Crossroads students and families!

I am so happy that you've decided to join us at one of the school district's "hidden gems". At Crossroads, we pride ourselves on being a small, supportive learning community and that applies while students are here at school as well as after they've left the building. Our focus here at Crossroads is ensuring that students are safe, supported and engaged.

We have some exciting things happening here at Crossroads this year including the launch of our Pre-CTE Green Careers program in partnership with Fox Chase Farm. This innovative program will give middle grades students an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in a variety of in-demand sustainable careers and trades. It will also provide a strong foundation in math and science that will support students as they move on to high school.

At Crossroads, we value open communication, so please be sure to reach out and let us know if there is anything we can do to better support your student as they make their transition to our school community.

I am looking forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,

Christopher Angelini

## Meet the Staff

| | |
|---|---|
| Dr. Kimberly Grahn, Principal | kgrahn@philasd.org |
| Mr. Christopher Angelini, Assistant Principal | cangelini@philasd.org |
| Mr. John Phillips, Climate Manager | jphillips2@philasd.org |
| Mr. Jim Brier, Math Teacher | jbrier@philasd.org |
| Mrs. Alice Carr, Nurse | acarr@philasd.org |
| Ms. Tracey Cossie, Secretary | thudson@philasd.org |
| Mr. Jemal Dillard, Health/ PE Teacher | jdillard@philasd.org |
| Ms. Lisa Imperiale, School Counselor | limperalie@philasd.org |
| Mr. Stephen Johnson, Climate Specialist | sjohnson18@philasd.org |
| Ms. Edith Smith-Johnson, Special Education Liaison | emsmithjohnson@philasd.org |
| Mr. Michael Southerton, Digital/ Media Teacher | mjsoutherton@philasd.org |
| Mr. Darryl Walker, Student Support Dean | daewalker@philasd.org |
| Mr. Roman Krivitsky, Social Studies Teacher | rkrivitsky@philasd.org |
| Ms. Cristina Sanchez, English/Writing Teacher | csanchez@philasd.org |
| Mr. Gregory Smith, Green Careers Instructor | gcsmith@philasd.org |

# Dress Code

Students are not  required to wear the Crossroads uniform. They are, however, expected to adhere to common practices of modesty, cleanliness and neatness; to dress in a respectful manner within the acceptable standards of the community. The uniform guidelines are below:

## SHIRTS:

- Black button down dress shirts and/or polo shirts are acceptable. These can be short or long sleeves.
- Crop tops, tube tops, halters and spaghetti straps are unacceptable (anything less than 2 inches is considered a spaghetti strap.)
- Low cut blouses, tops, sweaters, etc. with plunging necklines are not allowed.

- Transparent and/or see through material is considered unacceptable. Shirts/tops must touch the waist of pants/shirts at all times (i.e. when in movement, when arms are extended or raised, and when in seated positions, etc.)

## PANTS:

- Khaki or black pants should be worn. No shorts,

skirts or skorts are acceptable.

- Intentionally torn or cut/ripped up pants that are considered indecent exposure are inappropriate.
- Form-fitting garments such as spandex, tights, leggings, etc. may only be worn with another layer of clothing over top, which meets the dress code.
- Pajamas and flannel pants are inappropriate.

# GYM UNIFORM:

- Black sweatpants
- Black or grey t-shirt and/or black sweatshirt
- Sneakers

# OTHER UNIFORM RESTRICTIONS

- Any clothing, accessories, symbols, jewelry, or other paraphernalia, which depicts or suggests association with a gang or

inappropriate language or symbolism, shall not be brought to school, worn at school, or in any way be present at any school-sponsored event.

- Flip Flops, slides, or slippers are NOT acceptable. Students MUST wear shoes that have back support.
- Hoodies, scarves, du rags, bonnets, ski masks and hats are NOT acceptable to wear in the building.

# Lockers are available for these items.

**Bell Schedule**

Students 8:00 am - 2:30 pm

*any student entering after 8:15am will be marked late
*School dismisses at 2:30pm. There are ***NO*** after school activities

8:00 am - 8:15 am - Advisory/Breakfast
8:15 am - 9:00 am - Period 1
9:00 am - 9:45 am - Period 2
9:45 am - 10:30 am - Period 3
10:30 am - 11:00am - Period 4 / First Lunch
11:00 am - 11:45 am - Period 5
11:45 am - 12:15 pm - Period 6/ Second Lunch
12:15 pm - 1:00 pm - Period 7
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm - Period 8
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm- Period 9
2:30 pm - Dismissal

# Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend school daily to promote and ensure academic progress. **Hours of school attendance are: 8:00 am – 2:30 pm.**

If you absolutely have to be out, be sure to have your parent or guardian call 215-400-9070 or email thudson@philasd.org, the main office before 9:00 am to inform the school of your absence. On the day following your absence, please bring a note to the main office from your parent or guardian explaining why you were out. The District considers the following conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school:

- Illness
- Quarantine
- Recovery from accident
- Required court attendance
- Death in family
- Educational tours and trips, with prior approval.
- Authorized school activities

In the event that a note is not provided the absence will be marked as "UNEXCUSED." All legitimate absences will be "EXCUSED" for attendance records. Chronic absences will be automatically reported as truant. Finally, be sure to make arrangements to complete the work you missed.

For more details on the School Board's related student absence policies, please go to the 'policy' link at the district website HERE.

## Lateness

School begins at 8:00am. Students who arrive at school after 8:15 am are considered late. Students are excused if they have an appropriate note from a parent and/or guardian or a medical provider. Students are unexcused without an appropriate note.

## Early Dismissal

In an attempt to maintain the integrity of the educational program, it is necessary to keep early and irregular dismissals to a minimum. Students are required to submit early dismissal notes with a valid phone number for verification to the main office upon arrival. **Students will not be permitted to call from the main office for an early dismissal.**

Any person picking up a student must have a proper photo ID. Please be sure to visit the office first, present your identification, and sign the Early Dismissal sign-out book. All early releases will be dismissed from the main office. You may not go to your child's classroom with the intent of taking them out of school.

Please Note: Only the parent/ guardian listed on the School District network is permitted to request early dismissals. **Students are not dismissed on their own**; a parent and/or emergency contact must arrive to pick up students and sign them out for the early dismissal.

# Meals

Breakfast is served daily from 8:00 – 8:15 am. Please arrive during that time in order to be able to receive and eat breakfast. All students are provided with free breakfast and lunch.

**- Students may NOT bring any outside food or drink.**

**- Empty water bottles may be brought in to use with the water fountains.**

# Transportation

The School District transportation department will determine the student's eligibility for the Septa Fare Card. Students' addresses must be 1.5 miles or more from Crossroads to be eligible for a Fare Card. This process will take approximately 48 hours from the time the student is registered to Crossroads Accelerated Academy.

Students will receive their fare cards as soon as the School District transportation office determines their eligibility. They are to keep these cards for the **ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR.** Student Fare

# Cards are active 5:30 am - 8:00 pm only on days school is in session.
# If you lose your card, contact Mr. Angelini . Your old card will be deactivated and you will be issued a new card.

## Student ID's

Students will receive a photo ID that they will need to wear to school *everyday*. This ID is really important. This ID is attached to a system called ScholarChip. Scholar Chip is the School District of Philadelphia's program that we will use to track daily attendance. Every morning, there will be a scanner in front of the door. All students have to do is place their ID in front of the scanner, and it will mark them present.

**Fees for IDs**

Each student will be provided with a student Id free of cost for the first card. They will also receive a lanyard and card holder. Students should keep their ID inside the card holder for protection. If a student's card is damaged, it will not work. Your student will have to pay a fee $5 to replace the card and $1 to replace the lanyard and card holder. Losing an ID card will also delay the line during entrance. If a student leaves their ID at home, a staff member has to punch in their student ID number. Each time a staff member has to punch in their ID number, they are charged $1 to their student account which will have to be paid prior to receiving their program completion certificate.

## Visitor Screening Procedures

- Guests should go through security monitors and sign in at the front entrance with school police.
- Guests will be prompted to share their purpose for visit and be prompted to report to the main office.
- Guests will sign into the main office on the visitors log with the secretary.
    - If a parent is picking up a student, they MUST show their ID and be listed as

one of the student's contacts.
- Guests will exit through the main entrance and sign out with the school police officer.

## Communication with Families

It is important that we keep open lines of communication with our families regarding happenings at Crossroads . The following are the ways in which we regularly disseminate information to our families:

- School Messenger (Automated School Phone Call System)
- Email
- Mail (If your address is not up to date, please bring an official document that shows proof of address to the main office and our secretary will update in our system)
- School Website

## Celebrating Success

### PBIS

- Students earn PBIS points from teachers and staff for making positive behavior choices and upholding our school norms - Be Engaged, Academically focused, Respectful, and Self-disciplined.
- Students can redeem points at our school store or to attend monthly PBIS events. Past events have included trips, cookouts, movie events, and athletic competitions.

### On-Time Arrival Wheel

- All students who enter the building by 8:15 earn spin on the prize wheel at lunch. The wheel includes items like snacks, drinks, extra credit passes, Crossroads gear and other prizes.

### Monthly Attendance Challenges

- We challenge all students to make 90% attendance. Each month there is a different incentive for students who meet that goal. Past incentives have included pancake breakfast, gift card raffle, ice cream social, water ice, open gym, “paint night”, and other fun activities. Students should look for the attendance challenge signs posted at the beginning of each month describing the incentive and the number of days required to make 90%

**Grizzly Den**

- We are excited to launch our Grizzly Den game room this year. The game room has a mix of board games, arcade games, Students can be invited to the Grizzly Den for meeting individual academic weekly incentives.

# Grizz Status

- At Crossroads, we want to recognize students’ efforts and growth in and out of the classroom. One way that we do that is through a bi-weekly Grizz Status recognition.
- Students who earn Grizz Status are recognized on the board and are invited to the Grizzly Den last period every Friday.

| Grizz Status Criteria (determined every 2 weeks) | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Academic:** | **Behavioral:** | **Attendance:** |
| C or higher in ALL classes | 0 disciplinary infractions | 90% or higher |

## School Policies

### Restorative Practices

Our students are taught key skills for working through challenges such as showing empathy towards others, being mindful and reflective, and conflict resolution. Our approach to behavior support is to focus on proactive strategies for defining, teaching, supporting and restoring appropriate student behavior.

**Our Vision**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Building Relationships** | Wanting to authentically get to know a person, regardless of their position/status in the community. |
| **Creating an Inclusive Community** | Members of the community working together allowing all voices to be heard. |
| **Voice** | All perspectives are heard. The speaker shares and the listener validates the speaker. Inferences are not made on either end and needs are expressed and acknowledged by both parties. |
| **Working WITH each other** | Creating a space where everyone feels like a valued part through celebrations and rituals and establishing expectations and basic care. |

## Types of Behaviors

| Level I<br>Description:<br>Minor disruption in the classroom<br>Not Unsafe to self or others | Level II<br>Description:<br>Dangerous behavior to classroom or school<br>Can be unsafe to self or others<br>AND/OR<br>Major disruption in the classroom that prevents a teacher from teaching. | Level III<br>Description:<br>Very Dangerous behavior to classroom or school<br>Usually Unsafe to self or others |
|---|---|---|
| Types of Behaviors:<br><br>Off task<br>Disrupting during class<br>Unpreparedness to class<br>Cheating<br>Inappropriate use of technology (unrestricted websites, listening to music, chats, social media, etc.)<br>Forgery or Alteration of documents<br>Defiance (Refusal to relinquish unrestricted items or refusal to abide by request after several attempts)<br>Late to school without an appropriate note*<br>Dress Code Violation*<br>Late to Class Without Note* | Types of Behaviors:<br><br>Major Vandalism (Throwing or breaking furniture, writing on school walls, graffiti, etc.)<br>Leaving the Building<br>Inappropriate peer to peer contact (Any form of sexual contact )<br>Major Disrespect (Cursing out or degradation of a staff member, Racial Slurs or other forms of bigotry)<br>Class Cuts<br>Leaving the building*<br>Leaving class without permission*<br>Cell Phone Violation* | Types of Behaviors:<br><br>Simple Assault<br>Harassment<br>Sexual Harassment<br>Hazing<br>Causing Serious Bodily Injury<br>Pulling of fire alarm<br>Mutual Fighting<br>Mutual Group Assault<br>Threatening or intimidation of a community member<br>Instigation or participation in group assault<br>Cyberbullying and Bullying<br>Breaking an entering<br>Robbery<br>Possession of Alcohol, Drugs or Explosives<br>Possession of a weapon<br>Reckless Endangerment<br>Extortion<br>Threatening Mass Violence<br>Sexual exploitation of self or others of |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | any kind |
| Outcomes of Behaviors<br>See Level I Interventions and Consequences | Outcomes of Behaviors<br>See Level II Interventions and Consequences | Outcomes of Behaviors<br>See Level III Interventions and Consequences<br>Level III Infractions and consult with school district code of conduct |

## Anti Bullying and CyberBullying

Crossroads Accelerated Academy does not tolerate bullying of any kind. Bullying and Cyberbullying is defined as "actions (or threats of action), either physical or verbal, which instill fear or which serve to demean an individual and are committed by a community member over a period of time." Bullying includes verbal and physical taunting or intimidation for any reason. Examples include, but are not limited to, race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, and so on. Bullying can occur in person, over the Internet (Twitter, Facebook, etc.), through cell phones, cameras, or video, or by any other means through which people can communicate or share information. Students and staff alike can be victimized. Bullying can occur regardless of the intentions of the bully/bullies; it is the perception of the victim that must be taken into consideration. Students who engage in bullying of any kind will be subject to consequences according to the School District of Philadelphia's District Policy No. 249, Bullying/Cyberbullying and Student Code of Conduct.

## Cell Phones

**Cell phones and ipads are not permitted at Crossroads Accelerated Academy.** Students have the option of either leaving it at home or handing the phone in for the day. If a student/parent does not want the phone to be collected by school administration, the student should not bring the phone into the building.

- After arriving and passing through the scan, any student who is still in possession of his/her cell phone will turn it in at the entry for the day. Cell phones will be locked away securely and stored privately.

- All students will be given a bag with their name on it to put their phone in.
- Phones will be organized by cohort and distributed at the end of the day and will be given out to students as they leave the building.
- In the event a student has an authorized early dismissal, they should report to the main office to obtain the phone.
- If a student comes to school late, the phone will be placed in their cohort bin for pick up at dismissal

***In the event that a phone is found in the building, the phone will be confiscated and a parent/ guardian must come to the school to pick it up. Continuous offenses may result in administration confiscating the phone until the end of the school year.**

****Administration is not responsible for any electronic device that is lost, stolen, damaged or confiscated***

## Acceptable Use Policy

Crossroads Accelerated Academy values the use of technology and encourages its use in creative ways to support student learning in a safe and secure learning environment. This policy is a guide to ensuring the appropriate use as well as safety for all community members. While these technologies provide powerful learning opportunities, they must be used responsibly.

These rules apply to any electronic device including laptops, mobile, MP3 players, gaming devices, digital cameras, and any other devices that are connected to the School District of Philadelphia network. Learning always takes priority while using Crossroads's wireless and hardwired internet connections.

The following guidelines are in addition to the School District of Philadelphia Acceptable Use Policy

**School Norms around the use of technology devices:**

- Apple Watches are NOT to be utilized for texting or making phone calls.
- Do not touch another person's laptop/device unless invited by the owner.
- Do not play with, use, or change another person's user account.
- Do not access another person's files or resources.
- Only access areas of the network you have been given permission to access.
- Do not load any game, video or music file on your machine that is not paid for or that you do not have the rights to use.
- Do not access inappropriate websites (obscene, violent, etc.) on your laptop.

- Do not chat online or play music/videos unless given permission by your teacher.
- Do not post or send any message/picture/sound/video that is obscene, rude, harassing or insulting to anyone.
- Do not attack, threaten or intimidate another student via technology (or otherwise).
- Do not take pictures or post pictures of others without asking their permission.
- Do not download any illegal materials (e.g. cracked software, pirated music or movies, or any copyrighted materials) or intellectual property that was not purchased by you or that you do not have the rights to use.
- Peer to peer file sharing is strictly prohibited and monitored by the School District of Philadelphia - these software programs can be detected by the District and they will shut off your access to the SDP Network.
- Do not plagiarize i.e. present anybody else's work as your own
- No spamming, hacking, hawking, or trolling.
- Do not forward or send any content not directly associated with your learning (e.g. advertisements, games, pictures).
- Do not deliberately or negligently spread viruses, malware, or spyware.
- Do not attempt to access any areas of the school network, or other peoples' devices you do not have permission to visit.
- Do not run a business or seek to make profit using the school network unless sanctioned by the school district.

**Guidelines**

- Crossroads Accelerated Academy and The School District of Philadelphia have the right to and will monitor user data and internet access and check the contents of any electronic device brought onto the school's premises or during any school event or function.
- Crossroads Accelerated Academy and The School District of Philadelphia have the right to monitor user data and internet access and check the contents of any electronic device that is the property of Crossroads Accelerated Academy or the School District of Philadelphia.
- This statement covers (but is not limited to) the use of electronic devices owned by the school and by students that are brought onto school's premises, or on excursions, camps or other official school functions - including computers, laptops, digital video and music players, cameras, other recording devices, mobile phones and organizers.
- Crossroads Accelerated Academy reserves the right to ensure all student laptops and online storage have sufficient space to support learning activities. This may include the school needing to delete non-essential games, music and video files.

**Laptop Audits**

- Audits of student laptops can be done by any staff member at any time.

**Sanctions for violations stated above may include the following measures:**

- Confiscation of the device for a defined period.
- Withdrawal of privileges including online access for breaches of online policy.
- Withdrawal of the right to bring or use electronic devices to Crossroads Accelerated Academy.
- Blockage from the network of any and all devices downloading illegal files such as music, video and photographs.
- Payment for the cost of repairs.

**Responsibility**

- Keep the computer in a safe, clean place.
- Notify Crossroads administration if the user changes residence at any point during the time they possess the laptop.
- Provide Crossroads administration and school police with a police report in the event of fire or theft of the laptop.
- Keep the laptop in a PADDED laptop case or backpack.

**Serious Breaches of Rules**

- All incidents will be handled on a student by student basis.
- Suspension or expulsion
- Law enforcement agencies may be involved.
- Simple finder will be installed on your computer which limits the applications on your laptop to strictly educational use.
- The laptops are the School District of Philadelphia's property. All users are responsible for caring for and properly maintaining their laptops. Any damage may result in a fee up to the replacement cost of the laptop ($250).

**File Storage**

No personal files should be kept on the laptop, these must be saved to an external drive - this includes all music files and photographs. Crossroads is not responsible for any lost school or personal files.
All students will be assigned a Google account by the School District of Philadelphia. This account includes online storage. This is for school files ONLY.
Students are responsible for maintaining the organization of their Google Drive - further instruction on doing so will be given in the technology course during the first week of school.

**Network - Connecting to the Internet**

The entire school is covered by a high-speed wireless internet network. All students will be able to access the internet, as long as they follow this policy. With this connection

comes a degree of risk. This policy is made to help users avoid these risks, keep our community safe and abide by internet laws.

**Email**
Users will have access to an email account during the years they are at Crossroads . You may use this to communicate with parents, teachers, friends, experts and fellow students around the globe. An email address with the format <student ID>@philasd.org will be provided to all students. This address is to be used for all school-related business. Your private account should be used for all other communications. Users will have access to their other email accounts during "off" times during school, like lunch and free periods.

**Email/Chatting Etiquette**
Communicating online is very much like communicating with people in person. You must be respectful of others at all times. Remember that all email and virtual messages can be read by the School District of Philadelphia. Don't write anything you would not want to share with teachers and parents.

Students are expected to bring their chromebook and charger to school daily. There are no additional chromebooks for loaned devices. If a student does not have their chromebook, they will miss out on accessing their assignments. ***Students are no longer allowed to bring in personal devices. They must use district chromebooks that are assigned to them.***

## Supplies

Textbooks are supplied at no cost to the student, and remain the property of the School District of Philadelphia. Any School District property (ie: materials, computers, textbooks etc) that is defaced or lost must be paid for by the child to whom it was issued.

All outstanding debts must be paid prior to the student receiving his/her report card.

In addition to the supplies provided by the District, students will need to purchase the following supplies:

- Black or blue pens
- Pencils
- 1 notebook per subject
- any other supplies deemed necessary by the teacher
- Headphones

## Curriculum

Crossroads Academy adheres to the curriculum put forth through the Office of Academics in the School District of Philadelphia, which includes instruction in:

- English
- Mathematics
- Social Studies/ History
- Science
- Arts and Humanities
- Electives

7th graders will receive instruction :

- English 7
- Writing 7
- Math 7
- Science 7
- Social Studies 7
- Physical Education
- Health 7
- Green Careers
- Digital Media

8th graders will receive instruction :

- English 8
- Writing 8
- Math 8
- Science 8
- Social Studies 8
- Physical Education
- Health 8
- Green Careers
- Digital Media

8th graders *in the accelerated program* will receive instruction in 9th grade classes in a traditional setting:

- English 1
- Algebra 1
- Environmental Science
- Writing
- World History
- Physical Education
- Green Careers

- Digital Media
- Complete 8th grade online (I-Ready)
    - Reading

- *Upon successful completion of the one-year accelerated program, students will begin 10th grade for the 2025- 2026 school year.*

9th graders *in the accelerated program* will receive instruction in 9th grade classes in a traditional setting:

- English 1
- Algebra 1
- Environmental Science
- Writing
- World History
- Physical Education
- Green Careers
- Digital Media

- *Upon successful completion of the one-year accelerated program, students will begin 10th grade for the 2025- 2026 school year.*

## End of Year Activities

Participation in end of year activities is contingent upon academic success and compliance with the behavioral expectations at Crossroads Accelerated Academy.
The end of year activities include the Spirit of Philadelphia and the move up ceremony. Dates for these activities will be provided at a later date. Students can be removed from participating in any of the end of year activities at any time.

## Dues

All 8th and 9th grade students are required to pay dues for the end of year activities. If your child is unable to participate due to violation of the school's expectations, then money will be refunded. More information will be provided.

## Open House & Back to School Night

Open House and in person orientation will be TBD

Back to School Night will be TBD

## Assessments

All students are assessed utilizing STAR so that current reading and math levels can be captured. Students will be tested on their reading and math levels throughout the school year according to the School District calendar.

- 7th graders will take the PSSA: ELA, Math and Science in April.
- 8th graders will take the PSSA: ELA, Math and Science in April.
- 9th graders will take the Algebra 1 Keystone in May.

## Homework

Homework is a positive reinforcement of learned skills as well as a building block toward student responsibility. Parental support and cooperation is a vital component in ensuring its effectiveness. Every teacher will provide homework as part of the students' personalized learning plan.

Please keep in mind these key points:

- Students should communicate and voice any questions or concerns regarding the work.
- Teachers will assign homework and projects and will provide additional support as needed.
- Parents/Guardians should provide a quiet spot for students to do their schoolwork and to teach the student how to balance extracurricular activities.

## Parent Meetings

Families can request a meeting with Crossroads Staff. Meetings can be scheduled in person or virtual. Meetings will take place on an individual, as needed basis.

## Make up Work

All students who miss class for any reason are required to make up work they missed.

Students have two days upon returning to meet with teachers to receive missed work. All make up work must be returned within 1 week of pick-up.

Students may meet with teachers at the beginning, end of the day or by special appointment, not during class time.

Students with excused absences (notes) may make up work for full credit. Unexcused absences may make up work for half credit (50 percentage points).

Tests, Quizzes, and Projects are subject to special regulations; see your teacher for details.

## Plagiarism

The consequences for cheating and plagiarism and cheating can be very serious and can lead up to and include expulsion.

## Health and Welfare

Students should attend school **ONLY** when they are well enough to participate in all regular classes. There are, however, exceptions such as broken bones, post-surgery, etc. Fever and vomiting should have subsided for at least 24 hours to prevent the spread of infection.

The school nurse has outlined the following general rules on illness and absences:

- ◊ **COVID19 -** Contact the school Nurse
- ◊ **Streptococcal Infections (strep throat, scarlet fever, tonsillitis)**: Excluded for 7 days unless a physician certifies recovery in a shorter amount of time.
- ◊ **Pink Eye**: Excluded and can only be readmitted to school with a physician's certificate of **COMPLETE RECOVERY**.
- ◊ **Impetigo**: Excluded until judged noninfectious by the school nurse or physician.
- ◊ **Pediculosis (Head Lice)**: Excluded until judged noninfectious by the school nurse (no nits). Special attention for prevention includes: not sharing combs, hats or other clothing. Head lice are most prevalent immediately after the holidays. Treatment as per your physician or consult the school nurse.
- ◊ **Scabies**: Excluded until judged noninfectious by a physician or school nurse.

Please remember that the school nurse is not permitted to diagnose illness or injuries. **DO NOT** send your child to school with this expectation. Injuries occurring at home cannot be dressed or retreated by school personnel.

We prefer medications not be sent to school, unless a time schedule cannot possibly be made around school hours Any medication to be given in school **MUST** be accompanied by a note from the doctor with specific instructions for administration. **DO NOT** send your child in with the prescription medicine. A parent **MUST** bring it to the Crossroads Main Office to check it in. Over the counter medication cannot be dispensed without a signed doctor's MED-1 form.

## Emergency Closing of Schools

If school is closed for the day or closing early for inclement weather or any other emergency there will be an announcement on KYW or any news station and School District of Philadelphia page stating **"All Philadelphia Public Schools are closed"** or **"All Philadelphia Public Schools will have a two hour delay."** If there is a two-hour delay students must arrive by 10:00 am.

## Promotion and Graduation

Every student that attends high school within the Philadelphia School District must accumulate a total of 23.5 credits to graduate from high school. Credits are earned by passing classes and will allow students to be promoted to the next grade level. The following are the promotion requirements (moving to the next grade level):

**9th Grade:** Students must have a total of ***5 credits*** to be promoted to the 10th by September 2023.
**10th Grade:** Students must have a total of ***11 credits*** to be promoted to the 11th grade by September 2023.
**11th Grade:** Students must have a total of ***17.5 credits*** to be promoted to the 12th grade by September 2023.
**12th Grade:** Students must have ***23.5 credits to graduate*** in June of 2024.

Students must earn the following credits in each content area and complete the Senior Project in order to graduate:

| CONTENT AREA | Required Credits |
|---|---|
| ENGLISH | 4 Credits |
| MATHEMATICS | 3 Credits |

| | |
|---|---|
| SOCIAL STUDIES | 4 Credits |
| SCIENCE | 3 Credits |
| MATH/SCIENCE ADDITIONAL | 1 Credits |
| WORLD LANGUAGE | 2 Credits |
| ART/HUMANITIES | 2 Credits |
| PHYSICAL EDUCATION | 1 Credit |
| HEALTH | .5 Credit |
| ELECTIVES | 4 Credits |

**Credit Recovery**
Anything less than a 60 as the final grade in a class will result in no credit earned, which may cause your child to have to participate in summer school in order to make up missed credits.

## Photo Release

At times Crossroads will use photographs, videos, or other digital media in publications, including web-based publications or social media accounts. If you do not wish to have your students featured in our publications please contact Dr. Grahn at kgrahn@philasd.org and request that your student be excluded from school photographs. You can read the letter from orientation here.

## Internet Usage Policy

This Internet Usage Policy applies to all students of Crossroads Accelerated Academy who have access to computers. The Internet is used solely for completing school assignments. Use of the Internet by students at Crossroads is permitted and encouraged to support the goals and objectives of the Iready program and classroom assignments. However, access to the Internet is a privilege and all students must adhere to the policies concerning computer, email and Internet usage. Violation of these policies could result in disciplinary and/or legal action leading up to and including expulsion of the student. All students are required to acknowledge receipt and confirm that they have understood and agree to abide by the following rules:

Students are expected to use the Internet responsibly and productively. Internet access is limited to school-related activities assigned by the specific instructor on that specific day for that specific class period. Personal use of computers is not permitted. You may not:

- Engage in cyber bullying or harassment, including making threats or intimidating others;
- Access Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and other forms of social media;
- Access explicit of vulgar language or images

- Download files not necessary for school assignments
- Change the background image on the computers
- Link the computer to your cell phone (ie through imessage etc)

## School District Student Code of Conduct 2024-2025

The School District of Philadelphia is committed to providing well-resourced, and safe school environments conducive to teaching and learning. We strive to develop meaningful partnerships with parents and families, so we can work together to encourage academic, social, and emotional growth in all our students. Our goal is to ensure that all of our students have the needed resources to graduate and will be ready to succeed as fully engaged citizens of the world.

Click here for more information on the Student Code of Conduct.
School District of Philadelphia Behavior Matrix HERE

## Crossroads Accelerated Academy Student Agreement

The parent/guardian and the student listed below confirm that this agreement outlines how the District, parent and the student will share the responsibility for continued student academic achievement upon entering Crossroads Accelerated Academy.

**Student Responsibilities:**

The student will share in the responsibility to maintain or improve his/her academic achievement and achieve high personal standards and conduct his/her self in the appropriate manner every day in school and in the community. Specifically the student will:

- Complete assignments and projects in a timely manner and ask for help when needed
- Attend school regularly and on time
- Participate in meaningful activities in and out of school
- Improve or maintain the target behavioral expectations set forth at Crossroads Accelerated Academy:
    - **An average daily attendance of 90% or better**
    - **Participate in the school and community in a positive and productive manner and not incur any Level 4 or higher of Student Code of Conduct violations.**

**If the student is involved in any Level 4 or higher offense, Crossroads will provide a report, all EH21 documentation and hold a parent conference with the parent and student. The student may be referred to a disciplinary school program.**

**District School Responsibilities**:

- Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating students to meet the required academic and standards as outlined below:
    - Support student to maintain and improve attendance above 100%
    - Support student to increase or maintain literacy and math skill levels at grade appropriate levels
- Hold parent-teacher conferences at least quarterly along with the report card cycle
- Provide interventions and support to students.

**Parent Responsibilities:**

Parents will support the student's learning and participation in the alternative school program in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance (student will strive for an 100% attendance rate)
- Making sure all homework and projects are completed
- Promoting positive use of the student's extracurricular time
- Staying informed about the student's education and communication with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by mail or by the student and responding, as appropriate
- Ensuring the student adheres to the school's student code of conduct and the District's Student Code of Conduct

By signing this Student agreement below, both the parent and student understand and agree that the student upon entering Crossroads Accelerated Academy will continue his/her education with mandatory stipulations for maintaining and improving his/her grades. The parent and student also understand that the student must adhere to the positive behavior expectations and code of conduct and ethics at all times on and off the school grounds (on the way to school and on the way home from school). **Violation of this contract as it pertains to school rules and expectation may result in students being excused from the Crossroads Accelerated Academy.**

**I/we have read the Crossroads Accelerated Academy Agreement and agree to its terms and conditions. In addition, we agree to follow the Philadelphia School District Code of Conduct. (Can be read in its entirety HERE)**

**School Year Calendar : 2025-2026**

**CELL PHONE Policy Agreement**

**STUDENT AGREEMENT:**

I understand that my parent/guardian has given me permission to be in possession of a cell phone on school property. I hereby acknowledge that I have read and that I understand the Crossroads Accelerated Academy policy relating to student possession of a cell phone. I understand that possessing a cell phone on school property is a privilege, not a right. I understand that cell phone must be turned off and turned into the main office upon arriving to school. My cell phone MAY NOT be used in school, during school or on school grounds.

Using cell phones to take photos or record at ANY time is prohibited. Should I fail to comply with the rules pertaining to possession of this item, I will lose the privilege of having a cell phone on school grounds, the phone will be confiscated and additional disciplinary action may be taken. I also understand that I am responsible for the care, security and use of the cell phone.

**PARENTAL CONSENT:**

I, the parent/guardian of _____ give my permission for him/her to be in possession of a cell phone on school property. I herby acknowledge that I have read and that I understand Crossroads Accelerated Academy's policy relating to student possession of cell phones. I understand that possessing a cell phone on school property is a privilege not a right. I understand that cell phones must be turned off and turned into the main office at the start of the school day. Cell phones MAY NOT be used in school or on school grounds. Using cell phones to take photo or record at ANY time is prohibited. Should he/she lose the privilege of having a cell phone on school grounds, the phone will be confiscated, and additional disciplinary action may be taken. I also understand that he/she is responsible for the care, security and use of the cell phone.

## Transportation Agreement

**School dismisses at 2:30pm and there are no after school activities. Students must leave the premises at dismissal. Please let the school know if your student will:**

- **Walk**
- **Take SEPTA**
- **Be picked up**
- **Uber**
- **OTHER:**

## STUDENT HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**My student and I have received, read and understand the policies and procedures in the Crossroads Accelerated Academy Student Handbook. I agree to uphold the policies and procedures as outlined in the Crossroads Accelerated Academy Student Handbook.**