

PETALUMA ACCELERATED CHARTER SCHOOL AT MCKINLEY 2021-22 INFORMATION AND ADMISSION

The Petaluma Accelerated Charter School (PACS) at McKinley was founded in 2015 with a mission to engage a diverse group of junior high school students in a dynamic, rigorous, and personalized 21st-century learning experience while preparing them to become global citizens, problem solvers, and leaders.

Successful candidates are self-motivated students who are interested in and prepared for a dynamic, rigorous, and fast-paced academic environment with a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.

Contact Us:

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WELCOME TO SOMETHING GREAT

- Diverse, personalized junior high school experience
 - Character development, friendship, and team-building experiences
 - Inquiry-based and student-driven learning
- Rigorous academic focus
 - Students will be ready for Math II (sophomore-level math) upon successful completion of the program
 - Students will take Spanish during 7th and 8th grade and may qualify for Spanish II (sophomore-level Spanish) in 9th grade
- Integrated Instructional Core Curriculum
 - Students will engage in honors-level ELA curriculum
 - Social Studies
 - Math and Science
 - Spanish-language acquisition through content (~120 minutes/week)
 - Physical Education instruction (~200 minutes/week)
- Academic focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) Electives
 - Drama
 - Podcasting
 - Board Game Design
 - Literature and Film Analysis
 - Beginning and Advanced Robotics
 - Debate
 - Film Studies
 - Food Science
 - Art
 - Glee Club/Choirs

ADMISSION PROCESS

To apply for a spot at PACS at McKinley, students and their families need to complete the attached application and return it to the PACS at McKinley office with a copy of the applicant's most recent report card, state test scores, and teacher letter of recommendation. Before the faculty reviews a student application, students will take the PACS at McKinley placement exam (MDTP). Once a **complete** packet is turned in the office staff with a timestamp and you will be called and given a time to take the MDTP. Lastly and only as necessary, students and their family may be asked to meet with the principal before they are officially registered to ensure that PACS at McKinley is a good fit for their child's needs.

Registration closes at **4:00 PM on Friday, February 19th, 2021**. After this date, all students may submit their application on a rolling basis, if space is available. For consideration for priority admission, the attached application must be completed and received in the PACS at McKinley office. All applications received after this date will be considered for rolling admissions if space is available.

Our program capacity is limited to two classrooms and sixty-four (64) students per grade level. All applications will be timed stamped upon receipt in the office of PACS at McKinley.

If the number of completed applications exceeds sixty-four (64), applicants will be placed on a waiting list.

TIMELINE

Informational Night

- Tuesday, January 12th @ 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

PACS Application Packets Available in the McKinley Office

- Wednesday, January 13th

Classroom Tours

- Informational Night Video will be posted to the website (no in-person tours)

PACS @ McKinley Placement Exam

- A time will be given to you upon completion of the application.

Enrollment Closes

- Friday, February 19th

Admission and Acceptance letters mailed to students

- Friday, March 5th

PACS @ McKinley Orientation and First Day of School

- August 2021

PACS AT MCKINLEY REGISTRATION PACKET CHECKLIST

- To register or be placed on the waiting list for PACS at McKinley, you must submit a completed registration packet with all of the following documents:

Document Needed	Date Checked Off	Comments
PACS Registration Checklist and Registration Forms (pages 5-8 of this document) All Applicants		
A signed and sealed PACS recommendation form from a 6th-grade teacher (pages 9-10 of this document) ONLY NON MCKINLEY STUDENTS		
A copy of your child's most recent report card ONLY NON MCKINLEY STUDENTS		
A copy of your child's most recent State test scores (CAASPP) ONLY NON MCKINLEY STUDENTS		
Immunization Records, including proof of the TDAP vaccine Do not need this for application but before you start.		
Date of birth confirmation (eg. birth certificate, passport, baptism certificate, an affidavit from the parent or guardian, etc.) ONLY NON MCKINLEY STUDENTS		

PACS AT MCKINLEY APPLICATION

All Applicants fill this page out

Student Data Sheet

Student Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Current School Attending: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Home Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Work Number: _____

Services currently receiving or qualified to receive (please check all that apply):

_____ Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

_____ English Language Learner (ELL)

_____ Individualized Education Plan (IEP)

_____ 504 Plan

_____ Other (please specify):

I have submitted a copy of my child's most recent report card and state testing scores. My signature below authorizes the PACS at McKinley to contact my child's most recent school to discuss their academic, behavior, and attendance records:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

All Applicants fill this page out

Parent/Guardian Questionnaire

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Student Name: _____

1. I am interested in PACS at McKinley for my child for the following reasons:

2. What do you feel are your child's areas of strength?

3. What do you feel are your child's areas of challenge and unmet potential?

4. Most communication and scheduling is done using technology. How comfortable are you with this type of communication on a scale of 1-5 (1 = Not comfortable at all, 5 = Very comfortable)? _____ Please explain:

5. The PACS at McKinley puts an emphasis on parent participation and requests that all parents to volunteer at school for at least 10 hours per year. What areas of expertise would you be willing to contribute to this program?

All Applicants fill this page out

Student Questionnaire

Student responses must be completed in ink and in the student's own handwriting. Written responses must be limited to the space provided.

1. Successful participation in the PACS at McKinley requires a high level of self-motivation. Why are you interested in becoming a student at PACS at McKinley?

2. What do you do particularly well that will contribute to being a member of the PACS at McKinley community?

3. What do you feel are your greatest challenges and unmet potential in school?

4. PACS at McKinley is a 1:1 iPad school. On a scale of 1-5 (1 = Not comfortable at all, 5 = Very comfortable), how comfortable are you with technology? _____ Please explain:

5. Do you have any questions or concerns about joining the PACS at McKinley community?

All Applicants fill this page out

Student and Family Pledge

The faculty at PACS at McKinley believes that it is important for families and staff to work as partners to help students realize their full potential in both academics and behavior. By signing the following pledge, students and families agree to join us, as partners, to support student success at school, home, and in life. We understand that fulfilling these roles and responsibilities is an important way for all of us to support the success of our students and school.

As a student, I promise to:

1. Maintain a good attendance record and commit to the academic calendar.
2. Effectively utilize all of the time in the school day.
3. Show responsibility and trustworthiness in all that I do.
4. Communicate with my parents daily about school so they can be informed and can help me reach my full potential.
5. Commit to a rigorous homework load and be diligent with my work by completing my assignments on time and in a quality manner.
6. Show respect to everyone.
7. Use technology wisely and appropriately.
8. Set goals for my learning and participate in the larger school community.
9. Abide by the school rules and conduct myself in a responsible manner.

Student signature: _____

As a parent or guardian, I promise to:

1. Model through my actions and deeds that learning and education are important.
2. Commit to the academic calendar and compel my child's regular school attendance.
3. Uphold all school rules and student expectations.
4. Support and participate in school activities.
5. Stay updated through Aeries about my child's progress in school. If I have questions or concerns, I will promptly contact the appropriate staff, starting with my child's homeroom teacher.
6. Help my child set learning goals and support the work needed to achieve those goals.
7. Show respect to everyone at school and conduct myself as a model for students.
8. Participate in the larger school community
9. Do my best to volunteer at least (10) hours per year in support of the school.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Only Non Mckinley Students

PACS @ MCKINLEY TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

Candidate's Full Name _____

The above-named candidate is being considered for Petaluma Accelerated Charter School at McKinley. Please complete the survey to the best of your ability. **Please place this form in a sealed & signed envelope provided by the student, seal the envelope, sign along the seal and return it to the student.**

Person completing form _____ Relationship to student _____

Grades/Subjects taught _____

Please rate the student using the scale provided.	No Basis for Judgement	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent
Attitude & Academic Motivation					
Ability to Work Independently					
Ability to Work Cooperatively in Groups					
Academic Ability					
Academic Potential					
Organization and Work Habits					
Ability to Keep Commitments/Meet Deadlines					
General Level of Maturity					
Leadership Potential					
Critical Thinking Skills					
Citizenship & Behavior					

Only Non Mckinley Students

PACS @ MCKINLEY TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM, CONTINUED

1. Do you feel this student will be successful in an accelerated, rigorous middle school learning environment? (Please provide details)

2. Is this student prepared to take a compacted math curriculum (7th - 9th-grade math in 2 years)? (Please provide details)

3. Please comment on this student's reading and writing ability.

Overall impression of the candidate: (please circle one)

Highly Recommend Recommend Recommend with Reservation Do not Recommend

Signature _____

Date _____

