

Princeton Charter School

Dear Parents:

We are at the point where we can provide access to your student's current lunch balance and attendance, as well as grades (for grade levels 3-8), through the internet. We will begin distributing the website address, your confidential ID, and your private password this week. Please come into the office at your convenience to pick up your login information. If you have internet access at home or at work you can view the information on your student at any time. Please keep your passwords confidential so only you can access the information. We are not issuing log-ins for students. We encourage you to avoid sharing your log-in information with students. We are concerned that students may not understand how important it is to refrain from sharing their grade information or their log-in password with others.

Here is a critical tip that will ensure the use of the PowerSchool Parent Portal is productive. After each time you view your child's grade information, please be aware that communicating directly with the teacher before taking time for open communication with the students can truncate the child's sense of individual responsibility and agency, cause confusing parent-teacher communication, and decrease the opportunities Parent Portal provides. Princeton Charter School is making Parent Portal available in order to promote more seamless parent-student-teacher communication and partnership. As is always the case, parents are encouraged to email or call teachers for the benefit of their child.

Please see the questions and answers below. I hope you enjoy this enhancement to our parent communication systems. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email our technology coordinator, Mr. Brian Ciuffreda, your Assistant Head of School, or me.

Sincerely,

Broderick L. Boxley, Ed. D.
Head of School

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is my child's information secure?

A: PowerSchool takes the security of the servers very seriously. They support 128-bit SSL encryption and the database servers do not have access to or from the internet.

Q: Can PowerSchool share my child's information with third-party vendors or use the stored information?

A: No. All data is the property of Princeton Charter School, and PowerSchool is not authorized to use data on our students in any way. To quote a PowerSchool representative, "You own the data. What the database contains is your business. Not honoring this principle would violate our contract with you and the law."

Q: How should we use this information?

A: The goal behind providing access to this level of information is to enable you, as a parent, to have open and meaningful discussions with your child. It is not intended to increase pressure on students. On the contrary, responsible parental use has been shown to decrease student stress and increase student performance based upon the feedback shared by other schools.

Q: Who else knows my password?

A: The only person who knows your password is you. Please be sure to safeguard your password. In order to prevent the possibility of others guessing at a password, your password is a randomly generated alphanumeric sequence.

Q: What else can I do to keep my child's information confidential?

A: Make sure that if you access PowerSchool via a wireless device that you are on a secured, password-protected network. Do not allow your web browser to store your password - especially if you log in from a public machine – and always log out when done rather than simply navigating to another window or closing out your browser.