

**REVISED
COVENANT RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

**A COVENANT BETWEEN
PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL
AND THE
SYNOD OF THE SUN**

I. THE NATURE OF THE COVENANT

This covenant between the Synod of the Sun and Presbyterian Pan American School located in Kingsville, Texas, is established for the purpose of defining the relationship between the Synod and the School.

This relationship involves a spirit of mutual understanding advancing our common mission, a striving for creative solutions to problems and shared concerns, and a pledge to serve God.

This covenant is consistent with and subject to all legal documents of Presbyterian Pan American School and the Synod of the Sun (Charters, By-laws, the Book of Order, Standing Rules, etc.)

This covenant re-affirms the ongoing and future relationship between Presbyterian Pan American School and the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

II. PARTIES TO THE COVENANT

A. PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL

1. History and Relationships

Presbyterian Pan American School was founded by action of the Synod of Texas (PCUS) in 1955 by melding the assets of Texas Mexican Industrial Institute (founded in 1911) and Presbyterian School for Mexican girls (founded in 1924). From 1956 through 1974 it was operated by trustees elected by the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, by the Synod of Texas (PCUS) and by the Boards of National Missions and of World Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, under directives given by the Synod of Texas (PCUS).

On January 10, 1973 the Synod of Red River (PCUS) succeeded to the rights, titles, properties and benefits of the Synod of Texas (PCUS).

From 1974 through June 29, 1985 the Synod of Red River (PCUS) [succeeded by Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)], and five of their constituent presbyteries, New

Covenant, Mission, Grace, Palo Duro and Tres Rios, along with the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, have elected persons to serve as trustees of Presbyterian Pan American School, and the Presbyteries provided regular budgeted benevolent gifts to the School annually. In 1985, the Synod of the Sun was reorganized to include eleven presbyteries.

On September 21, 1979 the Synod of Red River (PCUS) by quit claim deed conveyed title to and responsibility for the land, buildings, financial assets, and perishable property in which the Synod of Red River (PCUS) may have had interest as successor to the Synod of Texas (PCUS) to the Trustees of Presbyterian Pan American School in return for a covenant with the School that Synod and all ecclesiastical bodies would be released from any and all responsibility for debts, obligations or liabilities of the School.

2. Mission of the School

Presbyterian Pan American School is a Christian college preparatory school That educates and empowers young adults for leadership in the global community.

3. Board of Trustees and Administration

Presbyterian Pan American School is governed by an independent Board of Trustees elected by itself, the Synod of the Sun, and the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico.

The School is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas and is recognized as a 501 (c) 3 organization.

The School is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The Principal staff officer is the President, who is elected by the Board and is responsible for the ongoing operation of the School.

B. THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

The Synod of the Sun is a regional council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), successor to the Synod of Red River (PCUS) and the Synod of the Sun (UPCUSA), which is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas.

The Synod serves the mission of Jesus Christ, communicating among and connecting with the presbyteries, Presbyterian colleges and seminary, institutions, agencies, and ministries within the region embracing Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. The goal of the Synod is to facilitate these components to harmonize in ministry. The Synod proclaims and promotes the reign of God in a spirit of ecumenicity.

III. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Presbyterian Pan American School (the “Corporation”) shall be governed by a board of directors which shall be referred to collectively as the “Board,” and each individual director shall be referred to as a “Trustee.” The Board shall consist of not less than twenty (20) nor more than twenty-six members. Included among these shall be nine (9) Trustees elected by the Synod of the Sun (the “Synod”), two (2) Trustees appointed by the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico or its congregations, and elected by the Presbyterian Pan American School Board of Trustees, and not more than fifteen (15) Trustees nominated by the Board itself (no more than six of whom may be At-Large -- members of religious bodies other than the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or members residing outside the bounds of the Synod of the Sun).

Persons so nominated will be confirmed as Trustees by majority vote of the Board and shall serve staggered three-year terms and cannot serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. The Synod will solicit recommendations from the President of the Corporation and the Board for persons suitable to fill Synod vacancies on the Board. Each year the Synod will elect three (3) persons, giving consideration to those nominated by the Board itself in consultation with the President.

In selection of nominees, the Board of Trustees and the Synod shall give consideration to representation of women, minorities and alumni. Further, the Synod shall make an effort to secure broad representation from all geographical areas of the Synod.

IV. COMMITMENT OF THE COVENANT

A. COMMITMENTS OF PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL TO THE SYNOD

Presbyterian Pan American School is an international boarding and day school, grades 9-12, for young men and women seeking a college preparatory education in a Christian environment in the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions.

1. The School’s purposes are:
 - a. To prepare students from many nations for admission to the college or university of their choice;
 - b. To train and encourage young people for church and/or secular service as Christian leaders for all the Americas and beyond;
 - c. To develop mature Christian young people who can relate to and function successfully in an increasingly complex, multicultural and multilingual society;
 - d. To teach young people the value and dignity of any job well done by engaging each student in meaningful and productive labor for the well-being of the school community;

- e. To serve as a cultural, recreational and educational resource for the Church and neighboring communities.

2. Therefore, the School agrees:

- a. To meet its responsibilities to the Synod with regards to representation, consultation, reports and recommendations and with such details as may be necessary to reveal the purpose, programs and needs of the School;
- b. To make available to the Synod, its presbyteries and its churches information regarding the program and mission of the School, such as printed materials, video presentations and student visits;
- c. To develop, when possible, and maintain a relationship to the Presbyterian Hispanic community of the Synod and serve it as a resource, e.g., Hispanic churches;
- d. To encourage and sustain an ongoing relationship with all racial ethnic communities, the National Hispanic Latino Presbyterian Caucus, and the racial ethnic ministry offices of the General Assembly;
- e. To pursue the multicultural, multilingual objectives of the School by seeking to recruit students from all cultural backgrounds;
- f. To encourage, when possible, various bodies of Synod and other church groups to visit, meet, or work on campus;

B. COMMITMENTS OF THE SYNOD TO PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL

The Synod pledges to cooperate with the School in its mission. To that end the Synod makes the following commitments:

- a. As partner with the School in its mission of multicultural, multilingual, multinational education, to encourage and aid the School in communicating and interpreting its mission, its program and its needs to Presbyterians across the Synod;
- b. To encourage and assist the School in the seeking of financial and other support for its programs;
- c. To encourage its presbyteries and churches to provide opportunity for the School to interpret its work and to encourage their responsible stewardship in its behalf;

- d. To list the School as one related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and recommend it to prospective students throughout the Church;
- e. To support Presbyterian Pan American School with the General Assembly agencies to the effect that the unique purpose and programs of the School be identified, promoted, and supported as a church-wide resource;
- f. To encourage and promote the ongoing close relationship between Presbyterian Pan American School and all racial ethnic communities, the National Hispanic Latino Presbyterian Caucus, and the racial ethnic ministry offices of the General Assembly.

C. A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOR HISPANIC MINISTRY

While Presbyterian Pan American School serves students from many nations, the Synod and the School recognize that the School's primary constituency is people of Hispanic background. Therefore, both the School and the Synod affirm the School's unique capability to assist Synod in its Hispanic ministry. To this end:

1. The Synod and the School shall mutually inform one another of opportunities and challenges for Hispanic Ministry;
2. The School and the Synod shall share in Hispanic ministries in the Synod and beyond;
3. The Synod and the School shall mutually resource one another for ministering with the Hispanic community.

V. PROCEDURES FOR APPROVAL

This covenant shall become operative when it has been approved by the Board of Trustees of Presbyterian Pan American School and by the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). By adopting this covenant the School and the Synod pledge to advance the cause of Christ together as partners.

VI. REVIEW AND REAFFIRMATION CYCLE

The initial duration of this covenant shall be for five (5) years. Every five (5) years, a covenant review team shall be created. The covenant review team shall include two (2) representatives nominated by the Board of Trustees of the School, and two (2) representatives (one of which will be Hispanic) from the Synod of the Sun.

This team will review the current covenant and may recommend possible changes or amendments.

At the request of either the School or the Synod, a process of review and reconsideration of the covenant at an earlier time shall be initiated.

Approved by:

Board of Trustees – Presbyterian Pan American School

Chair:

President

Date

Kingsville, Texas

Approved by:
The Synod of the Sun

Moderator:

Stated Clerk:

Date

Irving, Texas