

= Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre de Pichilemu =

Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre de Pichilemu (Spanish pronunciation : [ko?lexjo ðe la p?e?sjsa ?sa???e ðe pit?i?lemu] , English : " Pichilemu School of the Precious Blood ") , often shortened to Preciosa Sangre , is a coeducational Roman Catholic private state @-@ subsidized day school , serving students in preschool (Chile 's pre @-@ kínder) through twelfth grade (cuarto medio) , located in the commune of Pichilemu , Libertador General Bernardo O 'Higgins Region , Chile .

It was founded in April 1947 by the Chilean Congregation of the Precious Blood as a girls ' school under the name of Escuela Doctor Eugenio Díaz Lira . The school has been fully coeducational since March 1979 , and was renamed to its current name in 1986 . Cardenal Caro Province newspaper El Expreso de la Costa declared Preciosa Sangre to be " the best school in Pichilemu " based on the results of 2011 standardized tests , while O 'Higgins Region newspaper El Rancagüino called the school " a regional icon " . It is the largest school in Pichilemu , with 534 students in the 2015 school year .

The school offers students several extracurricular activities , in the sports , religious and humanistic areas . Cheer C.P.S. , Preciosa Sangre 's cheerleading squad , has won several national competitions , and has also participated in two international ones . The school 's English debate team , informally called Kick @-@ Ass , reached second position in a regional competition in 2011 .

= = History = =

After the commune of Pichilemu was officially created in 1891 , Agustín Ross Edwards , a wealthy Chilean writer , member of parliament , government minister and politician , wanted to turn the town into " a touristic place , an elite resort , collecting the most important characteristics of European places , which would make it unique . " For this purpose , he constructed a hotel , a post office , a park , among other structures and buildings , which attracted wealthy families from Chile and Argentina . One of those families was that of Maria Luisa Lira Errázuriz , widow of Wenceslao Díaz Gallegos , a well @-@ known physician ; Lira , with her ten children , came from her El Olívar estate near San Fernando , and stayed at Ross ' facilities in Pichilemu in several occasions .

As years passed , Lira 's family decided to visit other beach resorts ; however , one of Lira 's children , Eugenio , decided to continue visiting Pichilemu , and after he completed his medicine studies in 1904 , he constructed a summer house near the center of the town . Eugenio Díaz Lira had a close relationship with several Catholic presbyters and bishops , whom he invited to his summer residence . During his summer stays in Pichilemu , Díaz Lira also created the first medical center in the town called San Rafael . However , he fell ill , and died on 12 June 1945 in Santiago , at age 65 .

After his death , Díaz Lira 's wife and his daughters decided to donate his summer residence to the Chilean Congregation of the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ . Under the request of the General Superioress of the Congregation Mother María Úrsula Montes Rojas , the house was turned into a free girls ' school , which was founded in April 1947 under the name of Escuela de Niñas Particular N ° 16 Doctor Eugenio Díaz Lira (English : Doctor Eugenio Díaz Lira 16th Girls ' Private School) , in honour of the late physician . The school 's main goal was to " educate girls in Catholic values , " with the " necessary training for their insertion in the society as Christian mothers and workers with a solid Human Christian formation . " The school 's first principal was Mother María Teresa Corvalán Guzmán .

The school was recognized by the Ministry of Education of Chile by Decree 12 @,@ 946 , on 31 December 1954 . It became a coeducational school in March 1979 . During the commemoration of the centennial of the Chilean Congregation of the Precious Blood , the school was renamed to Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre , a name which " represented better the school 's founders " , on 14 November 1986 . The school was authorized to dictate secondary education classes on 30 January 1995 , and started doing so that same year , with the first class graduating in 1998 .

In 2012 , Governor of Cardenal Caro Province Julio Ibarra Maldonado announced the Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre , in addition to several other high schools in the province , would host professional

institute IPG (Instituto Profesional IPG) , which would let at least 300 people from Pichilemu obtain a technical degree . Also during that year , the school 's oldest building , which hosted the preschool classes , was demolished because of the damage it suffered from the 2010 Chile earthquake , and was re @-@ constructed ; the new building was inaugurated on 10 September 2012 .

= = Academics = =

As of 2012 , Preciosa Sangre 's class schedule varies with the student grade level , up to a maximum of 08 : 00 to 18 : 00 with ten periods for high school students . Students are not allowed to leave the school during school hours . Preciosa Sangre aims to give students " integral development , academic excellence " , with emphasis in religious values . The school has a Catholic religious orientation .

According to Cardenal Caro Province newspaper El Expreso de la Costa , the school is " the best in Pichilemu " , considering the scores obtained in 2011 from the Prueba de Selección Universitaria (PSU) , a standardized test for university admissions in Chile . From the 2 @,@ 945 high schools in Chile with students taking the PSU test , Preciosa Sangre ranked 1328th nationally in 2009 . It rose to the 849th position in 2010 , and in 2011 it placed 738th .

Preciosa Sangre " ranks higher than similar schools " in the Sistema de Medición de Calidad de la Educación (in English : Education Quality Measurement System , SIMCE) standardized tests , taken to students from fourth , eighth , tenth , and eleventh grades . The tests include reading , mathematics , history and social sciences , natural sciences , and English language .

Test scores

= = Students and faculty = =

In the 2015 school year , the Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre had an enrollment of 534 students from preschool (pre @-@ kinder) to twelfth grade (cuarto medio) with an average of 38 per grade . The school serves students aged between 4 and 19 years old . In 2012 , 159 students were classified as " priority " under the SEP law (Ley de Subvención Escolar Preferencial , Preferential Scholar Subsidy Law in English) ; " priority students " under the SEP law are those whose " homes ' socioeconomic status decreases their chance to participate in the educational process . " In 2012 , Preciosa Sangre 's faculty had 30 full @-@ time teachers . By 2014 , the faculty had 29 workers .

Admission begins each 1 November and ends on 9 December . Most people apply for entering the preschool (pre @-@ kinder) class , which has a maximum of 35 students . Preference is given to siblings or brothers of current or former Preciosa Sangre students . Applicants must be at least four years old , but in exceptional cases , students not meeting the prescribed age may take a test to be admitted . No payment is required for enrollment .

Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre is governed by the Chilean Congregation of the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ . The school 's principal was , between 2006 and September 2012 , Mother Loreto Fuentes Parra . Mother Loreto was also the school 's director in the 1980s ; in 1987 , she was named by the Colegio Provincial de Profesores Cardenal Caro one of the best teachers in Cardenal Caro Province , in a ceremony held at the school 's hall . Since 2013 , Preciosa Sangre 's principal is Mother Elizabeth Carmen Arriagada Sanzana . The Pedagogical Technical Unit (Unidad Técnica Pedagógica , UTP) is directed since 2011 by teacher Graciela Vargas Urzúa . The school has an administrative staff of 45 people . The parents ' center (centro de padres y apoderados) of Preciosa Sangre is presided since 2012 by Mónica Cornejo Rojas .

The students ' center (centro de alumnos) of the Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre describes itself as a " representation instance for the school 's students , acting in different roles . " Students ' centers are student organizations , whose members (president , vice president , secretary , among others) are elected democratically by their peers .

= = Activities = =

There are numerous extracurricular activities available to Preciosa Sangre students . Excluding those from the sports area , the activities include choir , instrumental , dancing , scientific (Explora) , musical drama , handicrafts , folkloric dance (cueca) , pastoral , catechesis , language , and mathematics workshops . The school also conducts a preuniversitario , which consists of special courses to prepare the students for the Prueba de Selección Universitaria (PSU) test .

Additionally , an activity known as the Escuela para Padres (School for Parents) takes place every month , in which parents are given advice on how to educate their children .

= = = Athletics = = =

As of 2012 , Preciosa Sangre offers seven workshops related to sports . These sports are run by the Club Deportivo Cultural Colegio Preciosa Sangre (Colegio Preciosa Sangre Cultural @-@ Athletic Club) , and include football , tennis , volleyball , basketball , gymnastics , cheerleading , and cheerleading for newbies . Preciosa Sangre 's athletic club also has hosted tournaments , including CheerPichilemu , a cheerleading competition which , in 2007 , had fifteen participating teams . The club has also organized events such as the first family marathon in Cardenal Caro Province (Primera Gran Gorrída Familiar Provincia de Cardenal Caro) in 2011 .

Preciosa Sangre 's soccer and volleyball teams , Selección Colegio Preciosa Sangre or CPS Pichilemu , compete in the Liga Deportiva Cardenal Caro (Cardenal Caro Athletic League) , a provincial @-@ level league . The girls volleyball team placed second in the provincial league , in 2009 .

In 2007 , Trinidad Segura from the Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre placed first in the Women category of the Campeonato Estudiantil de Surf (Student Surf Championship) , which took place in Matanzas beach , in Navidad , and in La Puntilla beach in Pichilemu . In the Primary Students (Men) category , Felipe Sierra and Washington Saldías placed second and third , respectively . The competition was organized by the Commerce Chambers of Navidad and Pichilemu .

= = = Cheer C.P.S. = = =

The cheerleading squad of Preciosa Sangre , Cheer C.P.S. , is coached by physical education teacher Claudio Rojas Covarrubias , who founded it in 2007 . In 2009 , it consisted of 27 students . The team has won several national competitions , two of them making them eligible to participate in competitions held in the United States of America .

2009 US trip

In 2009 , Cheer C.P.S. was the only Chilean team to participate in the JAMfest Nationals international tournament in Tampa , USA , reaching the first place in the Senior All @-@ Music category , and fifth in the Grand Champion category , out of more than 150 teams from several countries . Diario VI Región reported Cheer C.P.S. reached the first place of an international team , and fifth overall . The team could participate in the US competition after winning a tournament held in Viña del Mar in 2008 .

According to a report by former councilor of Pichilemu Washington Saldías on online newspaper Pichilemu News , there were massive celebrations after a local radio reported the team 's achievement . Upon their arrival at Chile , the squad was received at the Palace of La Moneda by Government General Secretary Minister Carolina Tohá , mayor of Pichilemu Roberto Córdova , and Members of the Parliament , before coming back to Pichilemu , on 22 April 2009 . Their return to Pichilemu was described by Diario VI Región newspaper as " historic " , by saying " at Pichilemu , a historical reception was being prepared , as a multitude of people crowded the streets and avenues at the beach resort , waiting for them , in a journey that ended at Colegio Preciosa Sangre in that city . "

2013 US trip

In 2013 , Cheer C.P.S. participated in two international tournaments after winning a national tournament in 2012 : All Star USA 2013 and JAMfest Bash Series , both held in Orlando , Florida , United States . The team , composed of 28 teenagers ? most of them Preciosa Sangre students ?

and their teacher Claudio Rojas , collected funds to travel to the United States by participating in several national tournaments and with the help of the municipality of Pichilemu and the O'Higgins Region government . In the All Star USA 2013 competition , held on 30 March 2013 , Cheer C.P.S. made it to the second place , only surpassed by an unspecified Russian team , and cheerleader Noemí Pavez obtained the first place in the Jumping category . In the second competition , Jamfest Nationals (Jam @-@ Bash Series Orlando) , held on 6 April 2013 , they obtained the first place in the Senior (Co @-@ Ed) Cheer , Best Choreography category . After taking knowledge of the news of their accomplishment , Governor of Cardenal Caro Province Julio Ibarra Maldonado said that " Pichilemu is celebrating [their triumph] , " something which was also reported by the local media . Upon their arrival in Chile on 9 April , they were received by President Sebastián Piñera at the Palace of La Moneda in Santiago , along with the Governor of Cardenal Caro , and Mayor of Pichilemu Roberto Córdova . The team 's achievement was described by news program 24 Horas of state channel Televisión Nacional de Chile as " coming from a distant beach resort in the region of O'Higgins to conquer North American lands . "

CheerPichilemu championship

The cheerleading squad has also organized the CheerPichilemu tournament , hosted for the first time on 29 September 2007 at the Municipal Stadium of Pichilemu (Estadio Municipal de Pichilemu) . According to Pichilemu News , CheerPichilemu was " the first national open cheerleading tournament . " There were four categories in the first edition : Senior Women , Senior Co @-@ Ed , Open Women , Open Co @-@ Ed , and Couples . The competition was supported by the Tourism Chamber of Pichilemu , the local government , and several other institutions and individuals .

= = = English debate team = = =

The English debate team , informally called Kick @-@ Ass , is led by English teacher Natalia Polanco Pino . The team participated for the first time in the National English Debates Tournament organized by the English Opens Doors program from the Chilean Ministry of Education in 2011 , and made it to the regional finals , reaching the second place , losing against the San Fernando College team from San Fernando , discussing the topic " This house believes that unhealthy food should be more expensive than healthy food . " Despite they only reached the second place in the competition , they were homaged by mayor of Pichilemu Roberto Córdova Carreño , and the Provincial Education Director , Abelardo Sepúlveda Vargas , in a ceremony held at the school on 26 October of that year .

In the 2012 tournament , Preciosa Sangre 's team Kick @-@ Ass passed to regional finals , along with the Colchagua Province teams from Liceo Santa Cruz from Santa Cruz , and San Fernando College from San Fernando , and the Cachapoal Province teams from Liceo San José from Requínoa , Liceo Bicentenario Ignacio Carrera Pinto from San Vicente de Tagua Tagua , Liceo Bicentenario Óscar Castro Zúñiga and Colegio Gabriela Mistral , both from Rancagua . The team reached fourth place in the 2012 regional finals , losing against Liceo Bicentenario Óscar Castro Zúñiga . The topic in the regional finals was " This house believes that social media should be censored . "

The Preciosa Sangre English debate team participated once again in 2013 . They passed to the Ministry of Education 's English Debate Tournament regional finals with 173 @.@ 5 points , the highest score of any of the Region of O'Higgins participant schools . The Preciosa Sangre team was closely followed by the teams of Instituto San Andrés from Rancagua (173 points) , San Fernando College from San Fernando (172 @.@ 5 points) , and Liceo Bicentenario Óscar Castro Zúñiga , also from Rancagua (164 @.@ 5 points) . Kick @-@ Ass , however , ultimately lost the regional finals against Colegio San Fernando College ; this latter reached the second national place , in August 2013 .

Their final participation in the Ministry 's English Debate Tournament was in 2014 . After obtaining the highest score in their region during a first round of debates , they ultimately obtained the third place in O'Higgins Region after discussing whether " [a] dvertisement aimed at children should be banned " .

= = = Olimpiadas de Actualidad = = =

A team from Preciosa Sangre , led by Spanish language teacher Fabián Valle Silva , participated in the Olimpiadas de Actualidad (News Olympics) , a competition organized by the Chilean Asociación Nacional de Prensa (National Press Association) , INACAP , and El Rancagüino newspaper . Preciosa Sangre participated for the first time in the 2012 edition , reaching the regional finals . The team placed third , losing against Colegio El Salvador from San Vicente de Tagua Tagua and the Instituto Regional Federico Errázuriz from Santa Cruz .

Preciosa Sangre participated again in the 2013 edition of the Olimpiadas de Actualidad . However , they did not make it to the second round , obtaining the 19th score (32 points) from 22 participating teams .

= = = Other activities = = =

Students from Preciosa Sangre have participated in several competitions and activities besides the English Debates Tournament and the Olimpiadas de Actualidad . One of those activities was the Modelo de la Organización de Estados Americanos (MOEA ; Model of the Organization of American States) , organized by the Institute of Public Affairs of the University of Chile . With the support of the Governor of Cardenal Caro , Julio Ibarra , seven students represented Preciosa Sangre in the activity , in August 2011 . The Preciosa Sangre team was led by history teacher Erna Pereira Arenas , and the students represented the country of Trinidad and Tobago . MOEA took place at the former National Congress in Santiago , and 32 other schools participated . According to Mother Loreto Fuentes Parra , principal of the school , Preciosa Sangre was one of the best three teams in the activity .

A team of second graders from Preciosa Sangre participated in the 2008 edition of a competition called Maratón Minera (Mining Marathon) , organized by the Chilean Ministries of Mining and Education . The competition was a four @-@ stage " marathon of knowledge " . From the 98 teams from the O'Higgins Region which participated in the competition , only two were awarded a prize , one of them was Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre , whose team Los Cuchitos was given an honorific mention .

In the first edition of Sé Reportero (Be a Reporter) , a competition organized in 2011 by national newspaper El Mercurio and educarchile , Diego Grez Cañete from Preciosa Sangre was awarded the second place in the Opinion Column category , with an article called " ¿ Educación gratuita ? " (" Free education ? ") . In 2012 , the same student earned an honorific mention for his tale " Es un lindo día " (It 's a Beautiful Day) from the Andrés Bello University 's Interescolar de Cuentos en Español (Interschool Contest of Spanish @-@ language Tales) . " Es un lindo día " was published in a book commemorating the interschool contest of that year .

In October 2012 , a group of eleventh and twelfth grade Preciosa Sangre students , led by history teacher Erna Pereira Arenas , organized a debate (Spanish : debate municipal) between candidates for mayor of Pichilemu , which was held on the 23 of that month , just five days before the election took place . Candidates Mario Moraga Cáceres (independent) , Washington Araneda Carrasco (Progressist Party) , Cristián Tamayo Latapiat (independent) , and Carlos Acuña Arévalo (National Renewal) participated . According to Jorge Nasser Guerra from Radio Entreolas , and an article published on Diario VI Región , Roberto Córdova Carreño , who was eventually elected , rejected to participate in the debate because he " would not attend that kind of events " , while Iván Cabrera Martínez " never responded the students ' invitation " . Some of the issues discussed in the debate were " municipal and higher education , health , urbanization , municipal corruption , " amid other topics . The debate was broadcast live on local radio stations Entreolas and Isla FM . The debate was praised by local online newspaper Pichilemu News for being " the first ever debate held in Pichilemu " and " whose planification took care of every detail " .

Every year , Preciosa Sangre celebrates its anniversary in October or November , with activities and games during two days ; those include basketball , football , and Chilean games . The school is

divided in two groups or alliances ; in 2011 , there was a red and a white alliance . The celebrations conclude with the presentation of carnival floats created by every alliance , and a gala party . During the 2012 celebrations , both alliances recorded a parody of the " Gangnam Style " music video by South Korean entertainer PSY ; since the videos were uploaded to YouTube , the red alliance video reached almost 4 @, @ 000 views as of February 2013 , while in contrast , the white alliance video has only reached 1 @, @ 800 in the same time span .

= = Notable alumni = =

Among former students of the Colegio de la Preciosa Sangre de Pichilemu are Jorge Vargas González (born 1966) , a local politician who served as councilor of Pichilemu between 1992 and 1996 , and later as mayor of the commune , between 1996 and 2007 ; and Rebeca Cofré Calderón (born 1962) , current mayor of Chépica , in Colchagua Province , who initially took office in December 2008 and was re @-@ elected in 2012 to a second term .