

PANTHER CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

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Catamount Messenger 8.18.24

Catamount Families,

Here is some important information for the 2024-2025 school year:

PCHS Testing Information- Please read!

In an effort to provide communication in a timely manner, we have compiled a list of testing dates for Panther Creek for the 2024-25 school year. We hope that having this information in advance will prevent student absences during required test sessions. All participating students are expected to be on campus for these exams on the dates indicated below.

- **PSAT/NMSQT, October 9th:** The PSAT is available to any 9-11th grade student who wishes to participate. Students will be registered for the exam when they pay the fee through School Cash Online. More information will be provided once registration opens later this month.
- PreACT, November 6th & 7th: All sophomores are required to take the PreACT. No registration is required. The exam consists of English, Math, Reading, and Science questions.
- **Fall Semester Final Exams, January 13th 17th:** Students will complete either a final exam or a project-based assessment. Exams must be administered within this testing window. A more detailed exam schedule will be released closer to the end of the semester.
- **ACT, March 12th:** All juniors are required to take the ACT exam. No registration is required. The exam is administered online and consists of English, Math, Reading, and Science questions.
- **Spring Semester Final Exams, June 13-17:** Students will complete either a final exam or a project-based assessment. Exams must be administered within this testing window. A more detailed schedule will be released closer to the end of the school year.

*Note: Exam dates are subject to change based on the discretion of the school administration. If there are any changes to the testing program, communication will be delivered via Catamount Messenger, the school website, as well as the school announcements.

PCHS Student Schedules

Student schedules will be visible in PowerSchool on Monday, August 19th. There will be a process/form posted on the school website if your student is need of a schedule correction. For this process, keep in mind that requests to make changes to core classes will be the priority.



Update on DEC forms

Good news! We have received more DEC forms and have been told that we are able to provide these to students without having to show proof of an appointment at the DMV. The DEC form only lasts for 30 days, so please make sure that you are able to get into the DMV during that timeframe once you have received your DEC form.

Reminder: Driver Education Update for Fall 2024

Fall 2024 Driver Education classes and registration information has been released. There are three fall sessions that will be offered afterschool in the PCHS media center. Registration will open on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 11:00 am on a first come, first serve basis. Once the sessions (35 seats each) are full, they will become unavailable to register for online. Please refer to www.jordandriving.com for class details and information pertaining to Panther Creek High School. If you have questions, please reach out to pathercreek@jordandriving.com

Reminder: Clear bag policy reminder

As required by WCPSS, Panther Creek High will require clear bags at all spectator events. This includes athletic events, performing arts events, and other events outside of the school day. PCHS will not hold bags for spectators. This expectation applies to both students and guests. Read more about the clear bag policy <u>HERE</u>.

Reminder: Cell Phone Policy at PCHS

Panther Creek High will have a cell phone/electronic device policy this school year. Please know that cell phone use in class is a major distraction to student engagement and negatively impacts student performance. Students should not have their cell phone visible in class. Please begin talking about this with your student and we would appreciate your support in trying to curb student usage of cell phones during class time. You can read more about the PCHS cell phone policy HERE.

Reminder: Walk your Schedule

Panther Creek will open its doors on Friday, August 23rd for all students who would like to walk their schedule from 9:00am to 11:00 am. This is not designed to be a "meet the teacher" event, as that is scheduled later. Teachers will be working in their classrooms or in meetings and may not be available to answer questions. Students who were unable to attend this orientation may attend the make-up session during walk your schedule on August 23rd. The make-up session will be from 9:00-9:45 am in the auditorium. *Any 9th grade student who still needs to pick up their Chromebook, can do so during walk your schedule in the media center.

Reminder: Student Parking Application Window is OPEN!

Seniors and Juniors who wish to purchase a parking pass, may do this now. Please click <u>HERE</u> to access the information on student parking, which is also on the school website under the "Students" tab. In order to park on the campus of PCHS, you must have a parking pass. Students risk being towed if they park on campus without a pass or in a nearby apartment lot. If you have questions, reach out to Ms. Monica Click at <u>msclick@wcpss.net</u>.



Reminder: Off-Campus Lunch Pass

Off-campus lunch passes for Juniors and Seniors ONLY are on sale now during office hours. In the summer, office hours are from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm. Off-campus lunch passes are available to be picked up in the main office now. Please bring proof of payment when submitting your application. Payment will be processed using SchoolCash Online. For more information on SchoolCash Online, see above. Information on off-campus lunch passes, including the application, can be found HERE.

Reminder: New Online Payment System

Panther Creek High School will be using SchoolCash Online as its preferred method of payment for all school fees, including everything from parking to club fees. If you have an account from last year there is no need to re-register. The link to register is: https://wcpss.schoolcashonline.com/. Once here, click REGISTER to get started. If you encounter any difficulties, please contact the SchoolCash Online parent help desk.

Reminder: Class of 2025: ACTION NEEDED NOW

North Carolina law now requires all rising 12th graders to receive a meningococcal vaccine booster before starting 12th grade. The vaccination must be done before the 2024-25 school year begins. Parents will need to provide a copy of their child's immunization record showing proof that the meningococcal vaccine has been completed prior to the first day of school. This is a 2-dose immunization; the 1st dose was required in the 7th grade in Wake County schools. There are still 400 Seniors who have not submitted this documentation. Please submit these to Christina Erexson at cerexson@wcpss.net.

SAVE THE DATE- Class of 2025!

We are excited to share that our graduation date has been set! Panther Creek High School class of 2025 will graduate on Wednesday, June 18 at 4pm at the Raleigh Convention Center.

PTSA- Please join!

PCHS parents, please support our students and school community by purchasing a 2024-25 PCHS PTSA membership! Your membership helps fund vital programs and events. Join us today and make a difference! panthercreekptsa.givebacks.com/store

PCHS Spirit Wear for sale

The PTSA has Spirit Wear on hand for sale! T-Shirts are \$20 and Sweatshirts are \$35. You may prepurchase your spirit wear here:

https://panthercreekptsa.givebacks.com/store?limit=21&live=true&category=Apparel%20and% 20Promo%20Items

Upcoming Dates

Please visit the school calendar on the PCHS website:

https://www.wcpss.net/Page/14077#calendar27844/20210921/month

8/23: Walk Your Schedule Day (9:00 am-11:00 am)

8/27: First Day of School

9/2: Labor Day Holiday: NO SCHOOL for students or staff

9/5: Save the date! Meet the Teacher event 5:00-7:00 pm floating



9/20: Teacher Workday: NO SCHOOL for students

Administrator/Counselor Contact

During the summer, please contact Ms. Telfair for Student Services or counseling questions.

Administrator	Students (Last Name)	Counselor
Ms. Monica Click (msclick@wcpss.net)	9 th grade: A-He	Ashley Mathes (amathes@wcpss.net) A- Ma
Ms. Jeorgine Trevithick (jtrevithick@wcpss.net)	9 th grade: Hi-Pa	*Students with last names Hi-Ma will work with Ashley Mathes. Students with last names Mb-Pa will work with Michael Smith.
Mr. Joseph Biggs Email coming soon	9 th grade: Pe-Z	Mr. Michael Smith (msmith21@wcpss.net) Mb-Z
Ms. Casey Otten	10 th -12 th grades:	Mr. Mario Jones
(cotten2@wcpss.net)	A-F	(mjones13@wcpss.net)
Mr. Dion Mapp (amapp@wcpss.net)	10 th -12 th grades: G - L	Ms. Akanksha Jain (ajain@wcpss.net)
Mr. Grey Mangum	10 th -12 th grades:	
(tmangum2@wcpss.net)	M-Ri	Vacant
Ms. Crystal Locus	10 th -12 th grades:	Ms. Angela Spangler
(clocus@wcpss.net)	Ro – Z**	(aspangler@wcpss.net)
Dean of Students		Ms. Shernita Telfair
		(stelfair@wcpss.net)



Student Assistance	Ms. Jasmine Iverson
Program Counselor	(jiverson@wcpss.net)
School Principal	Dr. Gregory Decker
School Filhelpal	(gdecker@wcpss.net)

Thank you for your continued support of Panther Creek High School!