

# Welcome PCHS Class of 2023!



**Freshman Orientation – 2019**  
**Parent Session with Student Services**

# PCHS Administrators/Counselors

- ▶ Principal
  - Dr. Gregory Decker

Administrator	Last Names	Counselor
Mr. Jonathan Chang	A – Da	Ms. Morgan Graves
Mr. Ben Olin	De – Ji	Mrs. Beverly Davis
Mr. Drew Mabe	Jo – Mo	Mrs. Amie Graham
Mr. Eric Rosen	Mu – Se	Mr. James Gross
Mrs. Crystal Locus	Sh – Z	Ms. Pam Savage
	SAP Counselor	Mrs. Daria Johnson
	Dean of Students	Ms. Felicia Moore

# PCHS At a Glance





# Upon arrival...



Students go to 1<sup>st</sup> period when the 6:55 bell rings.



Students can purchase breakfast and take it to their 1<sup>st</sup> period to eat before school starts.

# A day at PCHS.....

## Daily Schedule:

Students Arrive and Go To 1<sup>st</sup> Period Starting at 6:55am

1<sup>st</sup> Period: 7:25 – 8:49

2<sup>nd</sup> Period: 8:55 – 10:24

SMART Lunch: 10:24 – 11:18

3<sup>rd</sup> Period: 11:24 – 12:48

4<sup>th</sup> Period: 12:54 – 2:18



# Block schedule...

- ▶ Each course is taught in about 90 days
  - Quick pace
  - Absences more significant
- ▶ First Semester
  - August 26 – January 27
- ▶ Second Semester
  - January 28 – June 12



# Testing Schedule

- ▶ Exams are always given during the last 5 days of each semester.
- ▶ Exams are worth 20% of the course grade.
- ▶ Do not book vacations, etc., during the exam window until you know the exact schedule.





# Typical ninth grade schedule...

Variety of **core** and **elective** classes:

## Sample core classes:

- ▶ English I
- ▶ World History
- ▶ Fundamental/Intro Math, Foundations of Math 1 and 1B, Math 1, Math 2, Math 3
- ▶ Healthful Living
- ▶ Earth/Environmental Science or Biology



## Sample electives:

- ▶ Band
- ▶ Dance
- ▶ Chorus
- ▶ Theater
- ▶ CTE courses
- ▶ World Languages if available





Day	Terms	1	2	3	4	
A	19-20	S1	<b>English I Honors</b> 10215X0.1 Mulrine, Kathleen Pedro Room: M306 1(A-B) S1	<b>Principles of Business &amp; Finance</b> BF102X0N.2 Teacher, CTE 2 Room: M204 2(A-B) S1	<b>Spanish I</b> 11412X0N.2 Nicholson, Paula Andrea Room: 1630 3(A-B) S1	<b>NC Math 1</b> 21092X0.2 Williams, Laurie Room: M501 4(A-B) S1
		S2	<b>Healthful Living I Honors</b> 60495X0.6 Morris, Amanda Rae Room: 1715 1(A-B) S2	<b>Python Programming I</b> BP142X0N.3 Fox, Andrew Nichols Room: M503 2(A-B) S2	<b>Biology Honors</b> 33205X0N.7 Laycock, Denise Room: M403 3(A-B) S2	<b>World History Honors</b> 43035X0N.15 Budway, Zachary Forrest Room: M105 4(A-B) S2

# Benefits of taking an Honors or AP course...

- ▶ Personal and academic growth
- ▶ Rigorous courses look favorable for college admissions.
- ▶ Rigorous work helps improve SAT and ACT scores.
- ▶ Earn college credit in high school with AP exams.
- ▶ Students are exposed to college level work with high school support.
- ▶ Helps ease the transition from high school to college
- ▶ Weighted credit for final course grade
- ▶ AP courses available starting Sophomore year

Academic	Honors	AP
A - 4	A - 4.5	A - 5
B - 3	B - 3.5	B - 4
C - 2	C - 2.5	C - 3
D - 1	D - 1.5	D - 2

# Sample GPA

Course	Grade	Quality Points
English III	A	4
American History I	B	3
Chemistry	A	4
Spanish I	B	3
Weighted GPA: 3.5		

Course	Grade	Quality Points
English III Honors	C	2.5
AP Psychology	B	4
Chemistry Honors	A	4.5
Spanish I	B	3
Weighted GPA: 3.5		





# BYOD...

- ▶ Bring Your Own Device:
- ▶ Students are allowed to bring personal devices.
- ▶ Students learn parameters for using devices at school.
- ▶ Students are responsible for devices.



# SMART Lunch....#pchsSMART

## ▶ SMART lunch tutorials

- *Students Maximizing Achievement, Relationships, and Time*
- Teachers available two SMART lunch sessions per week for tutoring





# Skills that support ninth grade success...

- ▶ Time management
- ▶ Organization
- ▶ Study habits
- ▶ Self-advocacy
- ▶ PCHS Basic Expectations
- ▶ SMART Lunch!

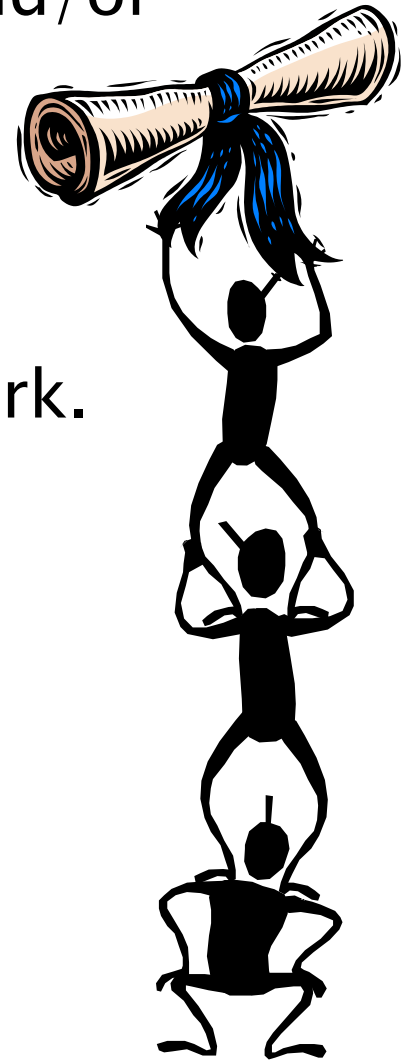






# Support high school students...

- ▶ Set goals with your child each quarter and/or semester.
- ▶ Discuss assignments with child.
- ▶ Set a regular time and place for homework.
- ▶ Communicate with teachers regularly.
- ▶ Monitor academic progress.
- ▶ Provide daily encouragement.



# Power School Parent Portal

The screenshot displays the PowerSchool Parent Portal for a student named Babb, Judy H. The interface includes a navigation menu on the left with sections for Information, Academics, and other services. The main content area shows the 'Quick Lookup' for the student, with tabs for 'Quick Lookup' and 'Standards Grades'. Below this is an 'Attendance By Class' table.

Exp	Last Week					This Week					Course	O1	O2	S1	O3	O4	S2	Absences		Tardies	
	M	T	W	H	F	M	T	W	H	F								S2	12-13	S2	12-13
																		S2	12-13	S2	12-13
1(A)											Journalism	A-	B+	A-	A-	A-	A-	0	5	0	0
											Hastings, Jacquelyn V.	94	89	92	93	95	93				
2(A-B)											Spanish 2	-	-	-	A	B+	A-	0	0	0	0
											Viral, Hector				100	87	93				
3(A)											Chamber Singers	-	-	-	A	A	A	1	1	0	0
											Berndt, Corde E.				100	100	100				
4(A-B)											Trigonometry	-	-	-	A-	B	B+	0	0	0	0
											Taylor, Steven M.				92	83	89				
1(B)											Speech	B+	A-	B+	B	B	B	0	5	0	0
											Lura, Colleen R.	88	91	89	85	85	85				
3(B)											Current Affairs	C+	B+	B-	B	B+	B-	0	5	0	0

- Your middle school account will roll over into high school – no need to sign up again!
- What information will be available in Power School?
  - Grades, Missing Assignments, Attendance, Schedule, Fines
- Sign up for “Power School Parent Portal” In Student Services if you are new to WCPSS or never had an account

# Resources to support PCHS students

*Power School Parent Portal*

*Online tutorials*

*Canvas/Website*

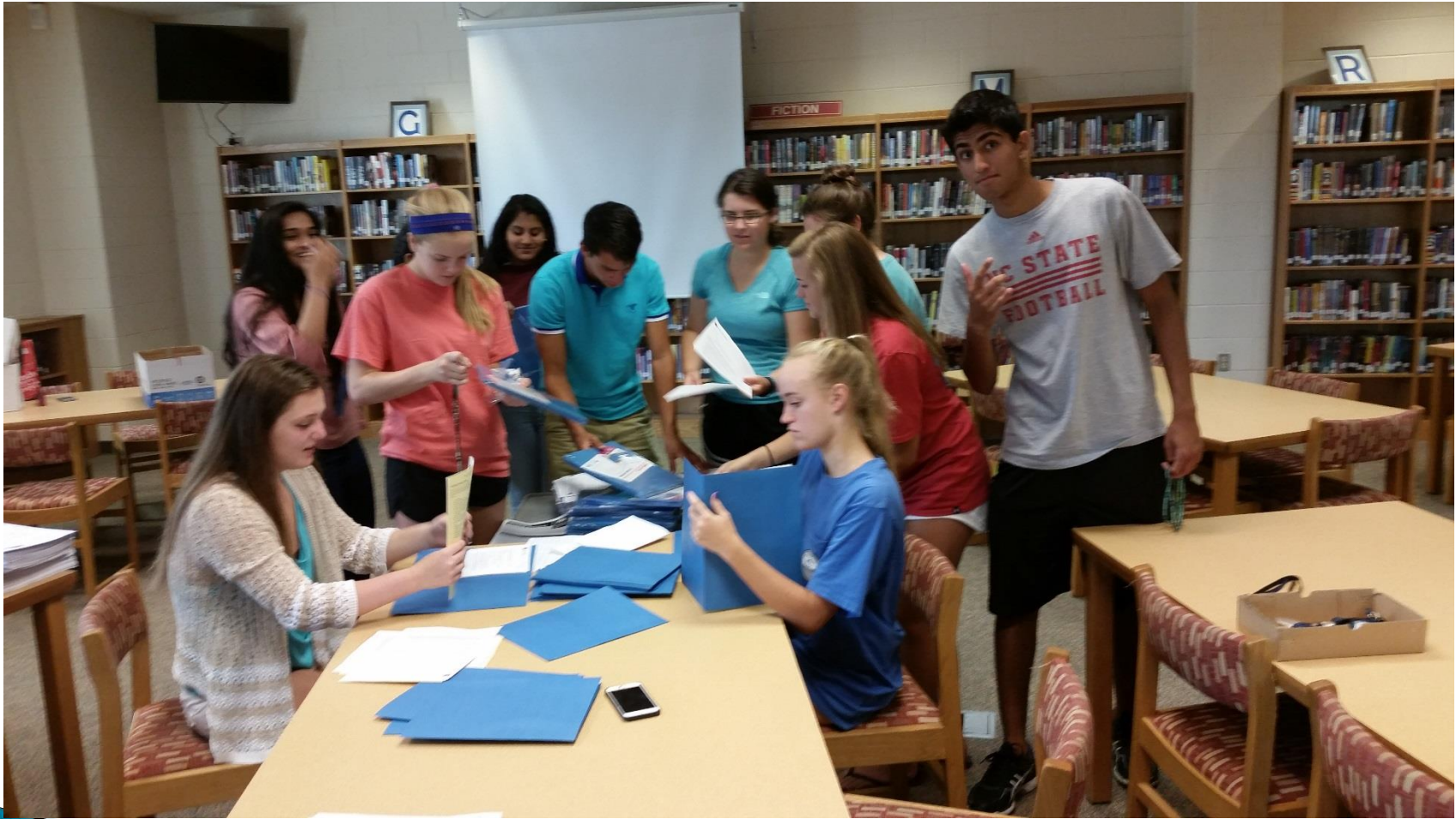
*Media Center*

*Teachers*

*Counselors*







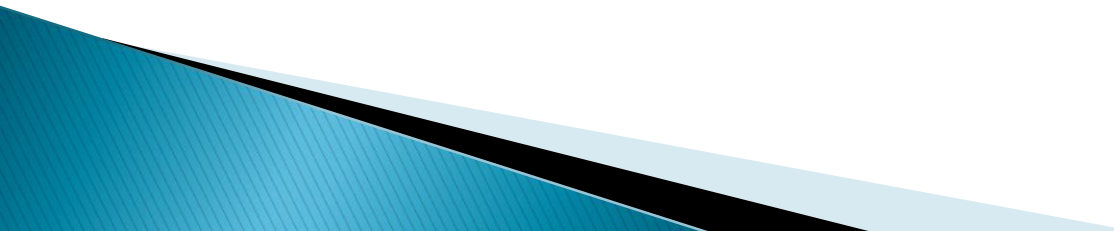
# Transitioning to High School...

- ▶ Some uncertainty...“what ifs”...
- ▶ New Social Environment...
- ▶ Peer relations...
- ▶ Independence from their families...
- ▶ Search for identity...
- ▶ Occurs by developing:
  - Values
  - Pride in one’s achievements
  - Close relationships with peers

From: [Student Transitions From Middle to High School](#)



# Families can...

- ▶ Listen...
  - ▶ Ask probing questions...
  - ▶ Concerns noted by rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders:
    - Getting to class on time
    - Understanding the requirements of new teachers and courses
    - Learning the expectations of a new school
    - Making new friends in a new setting
    - Peer acceptance; fitting in
- 

# Other Support Thoughts...

The reality of school (elementary, middle and high) is that friendships are fluid.

- Discuss “healthy relationships” and the true meaning of being a ‘friend’.
  - Does a ‘true’ friend talk about you?
  - How should you respond to peer pressure?
- Discuss and monitor “Social Media”.
  - (Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, KIK, Ask.fm, text messages, etc.)
- Encourage your child to seek out their counselor when they have any concerns.



# Preparing for Beyond High School

## ▶ 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Focus on Grades
- Participate in Volunteer opportunities
- Get connected with school extracurricular activities
- Take interest inventory test
- Create an CFNC account ([www.cfnc.org](http://www.cfnc.org))
- Get to know your School Counselor

## ▶ 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Focus on Grades
- Take Pre-ACT and PSAT Test
- Volunteer
- Extracurricular Activities
- Start Researching Schools
- Get to know your School Counselor

Stay Focused...Start Strong

Start Exploring Post-Secondary Options

# Preparing for Beyond High School

## ▶ 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

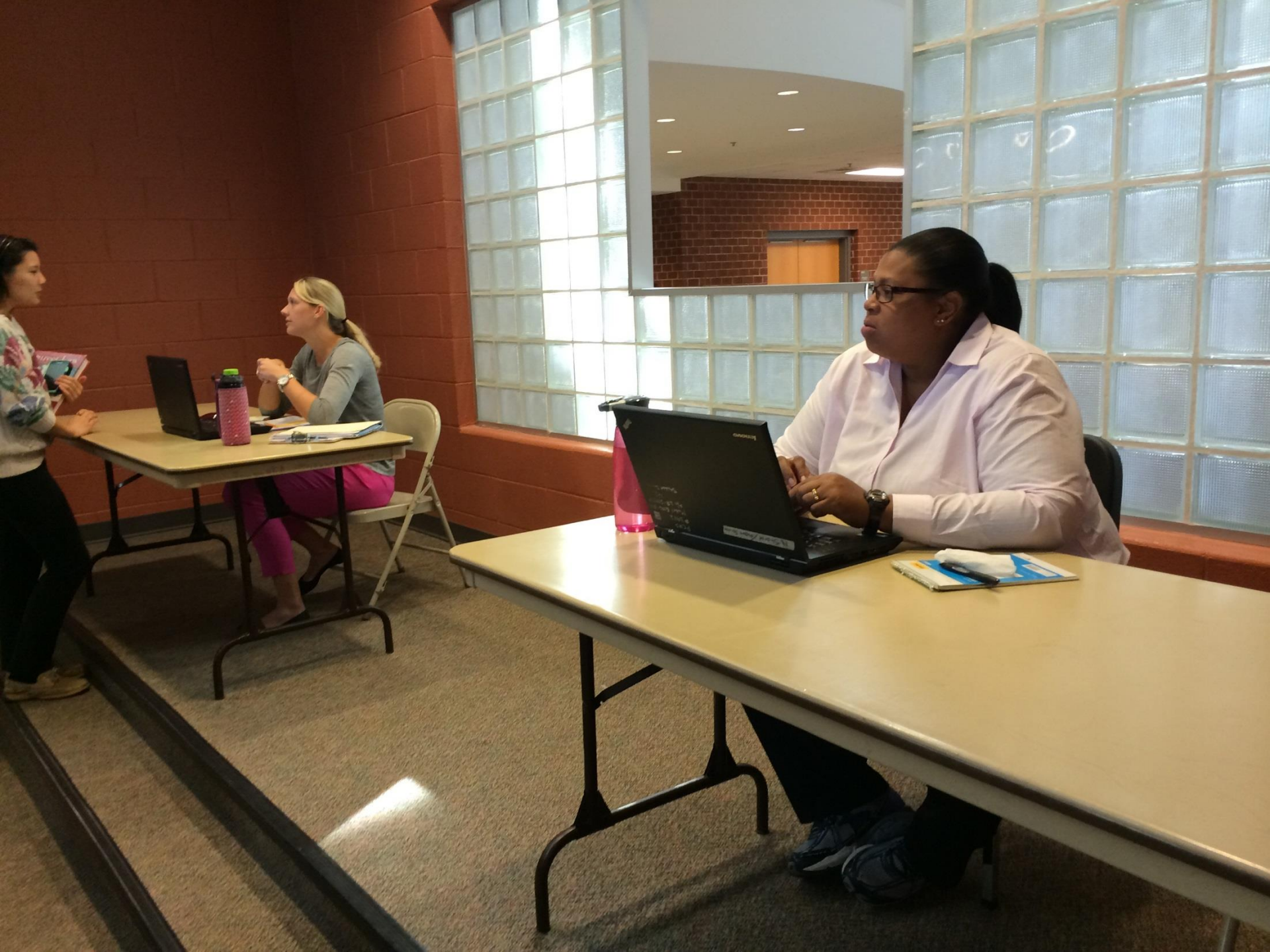
- Focus on Grades; Stay involved
- Visit Colleges/Universities
- Talk to admission counselors (attend college fairs, workshops)
- Take the SAT and/or ACT Test
- Connect with School Counselor and Teachers for recommendations
- Explore post graduation options
- Take ASVAB test, if applicable

Stay Focused...Stay Strong

## ▶ 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Focus on Grades
- Stay involved
- Complete Application(s) (College, Work, Military, Trade School, 2 year College)
- Take SAT and/or ACT
- Apply for scholarships

Stay Focused...Finish Strong



# Student Services



- Provides a continuum of support services that positively impact the personal/social, academic, and career development of the student
- Resources include individual counseling, small group counseling, consultations, and referrals to community agencies.
- Students must use WCPSS student account to email teachers and counselors. We cannot respond to personal email. Check with Media Center staff for help. Example account:  

PantherCreekHS  
<aktalasila@students.wcpss.net>
- Counselors Corner – at lunch – quick questions and consultation
- Appointments with Counselors – You can walk into Student Services and make one at the desk.
- Parents can contact counselors directly via email or phone with questions **(if it is a question about a class, contact the teacher first).**





▶ Welcome Class of 2023....#alwaysacatamount!

