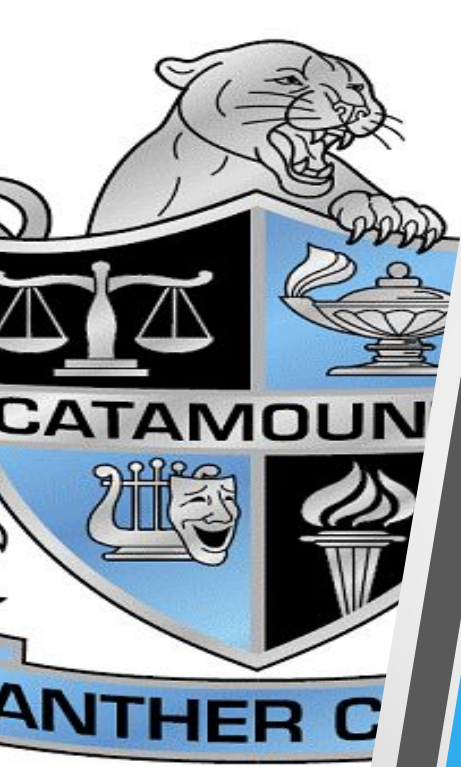




WELCOME to
Panther Creek High School
New Student Orientation
August 7, 2025



Family Engagement



PANTHER
CREEKHS

PTSA[®]

everychild.one voice.[®]

*Join
Today!
\$20*

*Visit our table in
the Commons Area*

<https://panthercreekptsa.givebacks.com/store>

<https://www.panthercreekptsa.org/>



<https://panthercreekabc.org/>

PCHS Thespian Boosters

Theatre Arts



Instagram
@pchs_thespian

PCHS Choral Boosters

*Visit our
table in the
Commons!*



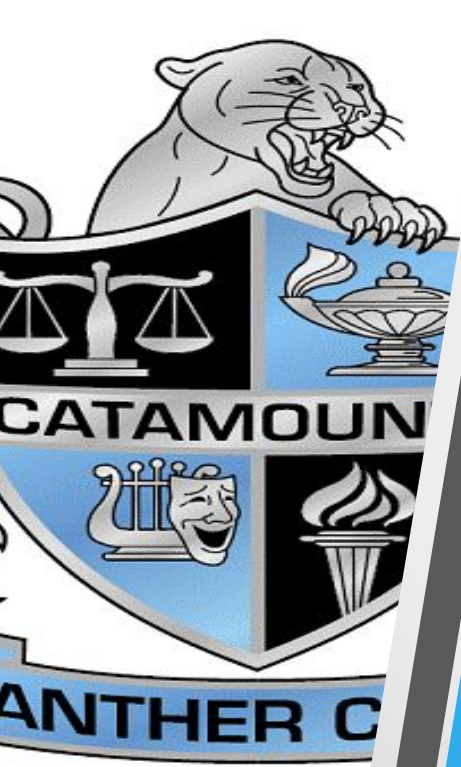
<https://sites.google.com/wcpss.net/panthercreekchorus/home/>

PCHS Band Boosters



PANTHER CREEK
BAND

<https://panthercreekband.org/>



PCHS At-a-Glance



PCHS Administrators and Counselors

Principal
Dr. Gregory Decker

Panther Creek High School Administrator & Counselor Assignments 2025 – 2026



Dr. Gregory Decker, Principal
(gdecker@wcpss.net)

<u>Administrator</u>	<u>Students</u> (Last Name)	<u>Counselor</u>
Ms. Monica Click (mclick@wcpss.net)	Aa-Col	Mr. Mario Jones (mjones13@wcpss.net)
Ms. Casey Otten (cotten2@wcpss.net)	Con-Hil	Ms. Letrieva Wilson (lwilson11@wcpss.net)
Mr. Dion Mapp (amapp@wcpss.net)	Hillen-Mac	Ms. Akanksha Jain (ajain@wcpss.net)
Mr. Grey Mangum (rmangum2@wcpss.net)	Mad-Ped	Ms. Ashley Mathes (amathes@wcpss.net)
Mr. Joseph Biggs (jbiggs@wcpss.net)	Pem-Smi	Mr. Michael Smith (msmith21@wcpss.net)
Ms. Crystal Locus (clocus@wcpss.net)	Smo-Z	Ms. Angela Spangler (aspangler@wcpss.net)
Dean of Students		Ms. Shernita Telfair (stelfair@wcpss.net)
Student Assistance Program Counselor		Ms. Brooke Kearney (wcpss.net)

What does it mean to be PCHS?

Character traits taught by WCPSS & PCHS

- Courage
- Good Judgement
- Integrity
- Kindness
- Perseverance
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Self-Discipline

Demonstrate character and represent PCHS in all areas:

- Classrooms
- Hallways
- Lunch
- School Activities
- Extracurricular Activities
- Athletics
- Cyberspace

Panther Creek High School

Overview

- **Location:** Cary, NC
- **Grades:** 9-12
- **Type:** Public High School
- **Student Enrollment:** Approximately 2,700
- **Notable Achievements:**
 - High academic performance with a strong emphasis on college readiness.
 - Offers a range of Advanced Placement (AP) courses.
- **Extracurriculars:**
 - Diverse clubs and activities including sports, arts, and academic teams.
 - Active student engagement in community service and leadership programs.
- **Facilities:**
 - Modern classrooms, sports facilities, and technology labs.
- **Community Feedback:**
 - Positive reviews for academic rigor and supportive environment.

Things to know....

Navigating the
2025-2026
School Year



A day at PCHS

Daily Schedule:

1st Period: 7:25 – 8:49

2nd Period: 8:55 – 10:19

SMART Lunch: 10:19 - 11:19

3rd Period: 11:25 – 12:49

4th Period: 12:55 – 2:18



*PCHS operates on an Advisory schedule every Monday.

* PCHS will operate on an altered bell schedule for the first two-weeks of the fall semester.

Block schedule...

- Each course is taught in about 90 days
 - 4x4 semesters
 - Quick pace
 - Absences create more of a significant curricular impact
- First Semester
 - August 25– January 23
- Second Semester
 - January 27 – June 11



Testing Schedule

**1st Semester
Exams:
January 20-23**

**2nd Semester
Exams:
June 5-11**



Exams are always given during the last 5 days of each semester.



Exams are worth 20% of the course grade.



**Do not book school visits
and vacations, etc.,
during the exam window
until you know the exact
schedule.**

Typical student schedule...

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

Sample core classes:

- English Course
- Social Studies Course
- Math Course
- Science Course
- Healthful Living (9th ONLY)

Sample electives:

- Art, Band, Dance, Chorus, Theater
- Computer Science, Business, Engineering, Family/Consumer Science
- World Languages - French and Spanish

*Core selections are not guaranteed and subject to change based on seat availability



Things to Consider Before Taking AP Courses

1. Academic Rigor

- AP courses are challenging and require strong study habits.

2. Time Commitment

- Expect increased homework and study time; balance with extracurriculars.

3. Interest and Strength

- Choose subjects you're passionate about and excel in.

4. College Goals

- Consider how AP credits align with your college plans and requirements.

5. Support System

- Assess availability of teacher support, tutoring, and study resources.

6. Stress Management

- Be aware of potential stress and have strategies to manage it effectively.

7. Current Workload

- Evaluate your past performance to avoid overload.

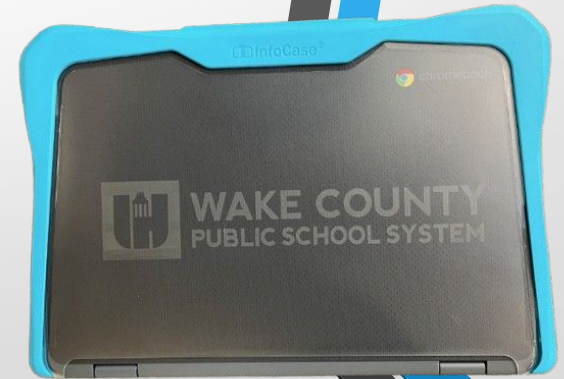
Benefits of taking an Honors, AP, or CCP courses...

- 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
- CCP courses available starting Junior 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

Student Device Expectations

- The Student Device Program provides every WCPSS student with a chromebook to use at school and at home.
- All Students are required to bring their charged chromebook to school every day.
- Changes in WCPSS Technology use prevent students from accessing certain applications on personal devices
- Students are not allowed to remove cases to chromebooks as case removal may result in screen damage
- **Students can obtain their device from the Media Center after New Student Orientation.**



School Policies & Procedures

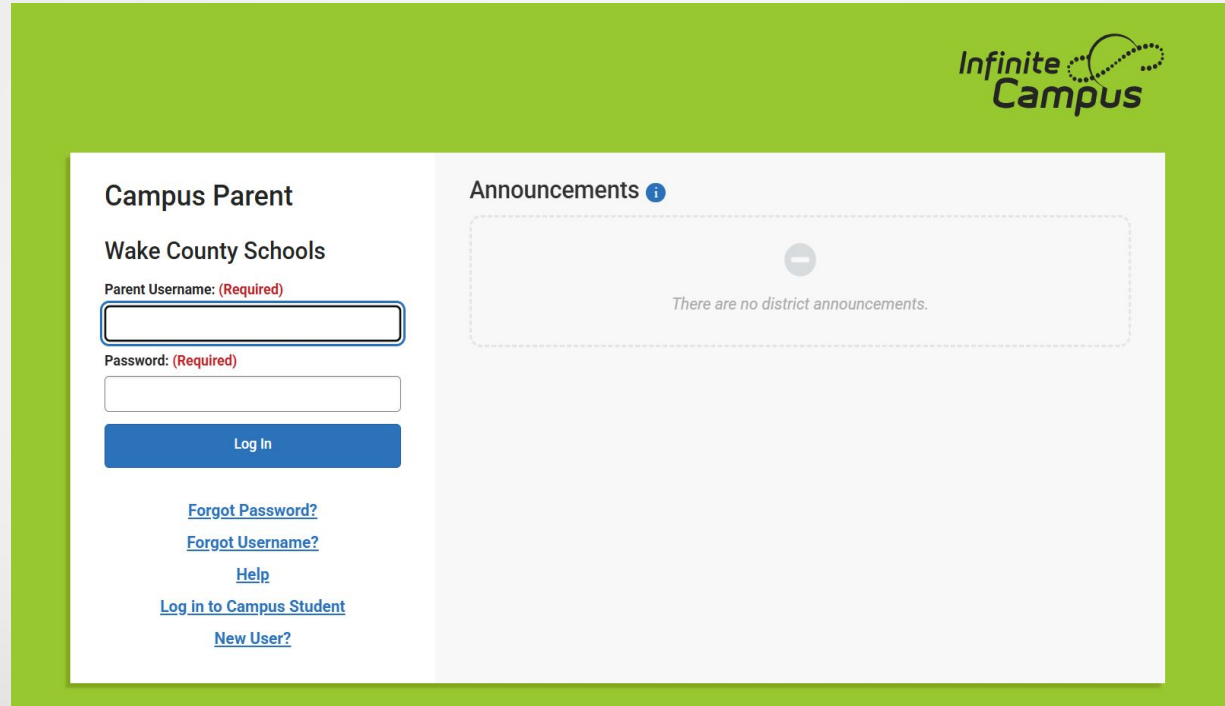
Just to highlight a few.....

- [New in 25-26*** WCPSS Cell Phone Policy!](#)
- [Dress Code](#)
- [Attendance & Tardy Procedures](#)
- [WCPSS Student Code of Conduct](#)

Infinite Campus Parent Access

How to get started?

- Login to your WakeID portal
- Welcome email sent by Infinite Campus the first week of July.
- If account is not created, they will resend emails weekly.
- Contact your school's data manager to check or update your contact information.



The screenshot shows the Infinite Campus Parent Access login page. The page has a green header with the Infinite Campus logo. The main content area is white and divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Campus Parent' and 'Wake County Schools'. It contains a login form with fields for 'Parent Username: (Required)' and 'Password: (Required)', a 'Log In' button, and links for 'Forgot Password?', 'Forgot Username?', 'Help', 'Log in to Campus Student', and 'New User?'. The right column is titled 'Announcements' and contains a dashed box with a minus sign icon and the text 'There are no district announcements.'

- What information will be available in Infinite Campus?
 - Real-time Grades, Missing Assignments, Attendance, Schedule, Fines
- Sign up for "Infinite Campus Parent Portal" by visiting this website:
<https://920.ncsis.gov/campus/portal/parents/psu92owakeco.jsp>

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 (Barb Fhlor and Sharon Purucker).
- Appointments with Counselors – You can email your counselors. Once on campus, you can go into Student Services and make an appointment 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).



Talking to Your Child...

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, Tik Tok, etc.)

- Encourage your child to seek out their school counselor when they have any concerns.

Let's Stay in Touch!

Catamount Messenger - weekly updates provided Sunday evenings through email.

Talking Points - mobile app to connect with school and teacher communication.

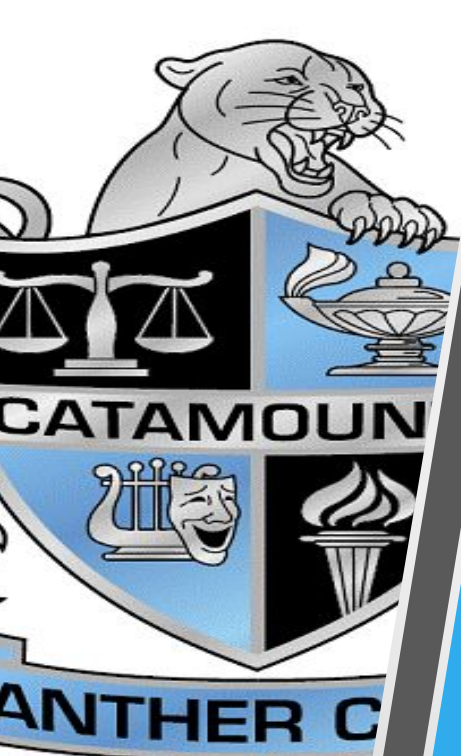
Infinite Campus - If you had an account for your WCPSS middle school student, it will roll over into high school – no need to sign up again! Families new to WCPSS will need to sign up.

School Website - stay abreast of important information about the school.

- Athletics Schedule
- Testing Calendar
- Forms
- Staff Directory, etc.
-

Email - receive communication from PCHS faculty

<https://www.wcpss.net/panthercreekhs>



Welcome New Students!

Passion. Pride. Purpose.

#alwaysacatamount!

Mark your calendars:

Walk Your Schedule

August 22, 2025 9-11 AM

&

Meet the Teacher Night!

September 9, 2025 5-7 PM