


# *Panther Creek High School*

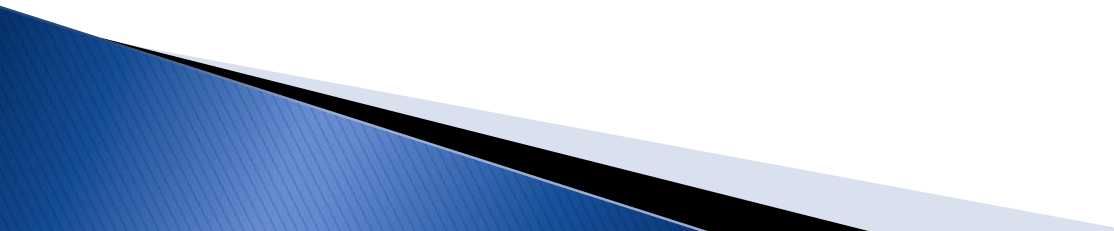
# High School Orientation Class of 2025

Fall 2021

# Today's Objectives

- ▶ Identify the purpose of Student Services and how to get help and information.
  - ▶ Understand graduation and promotion requirements and how to calculate GPA (Grade Point Average).
  - ▶ Understand the necessity of organization and study skills in being successful in school.
  - ▶ Identify district attendance policy, athletic eligibility, and driver eligibility.
  - ▶ Understand why perseverance is crucial to achieving long- and short-term goals.
  - ▶ Understand the importance of positive and supportive relationships.
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# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Presentation PreTest

- ▶ <https://tinyurl.com/yxpl7zbm>
  - ▶ Access the link and complete the pretest. Click submit when are finished. There are no right or wrong answers.
  - ▶ You will remain anonymous.
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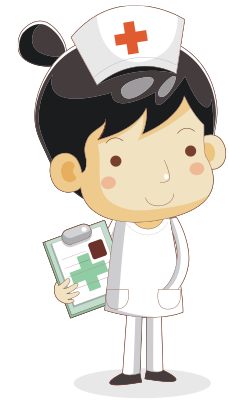
**Panther Creek High School  
Administrator & Counselor Assignments  
2021 - 2022**

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

<b>Administrator</b>	<b>Students (Last Name)</b>	<b>Counselor</b>
<b>Mr. Jonathan Chang</b> (schang@wcpss.net)	<b>A – Ci</b>	<b>Ms. Katherine Gambella</b> (kgambella@wcpss.net)
<b>Ms. Casey Otten</b> (cotten2@wcpss.net)	<b>Cl – Ha</b>	<b>Ms. Beverly Davis</b> (bdavis@wcpss.net)
<b>Ms. Casey Otten</b> (cotten2@wcpss.net)	<b>He – Ka</b>	<b>Ms. Amie Graham</b> (agraham4@wcpss.net)
<b>Mr. Dion Mapp</b> (amapp@wcpss.net)	<b>Ke – L</b>	<b>Ms. Amie Graham</b> (agraham4@wcpss.net)
<b>Mr. Dion Mapp</b> (amapp@wcpss.net)	<b>M – Pa</b>	<b>Mr. James Gross</b> (jgross@wcpss.net)
<b>Mr. Eric Rosen</b> (erosen@wcpss.net)	<b>Pe – Si</b>	<b>Ms. Jessica Redmond</b> (jredmond@wcpss.net)
Ms. Crystal Locus (on leave): <b>Ms. Wilma Jenkins- Flythe (Interim)</b> (wjenkins-flythe@wcpss.net)	<b>Sl – Z</b>	<b>Mr. Melvin Blackwell</b> (mblackwell@wcpss.net)
	<b>Dean of Student Services</b>	<b>Ms. Felicia Moore</b> (fmoore@wcpss.net)
	<b>SAP Counselor</b>	<b>Ms. Daria Johnson</b> (djohnson@wcpss.net)

# PCHS Student Services Staff

- ▶ Ms. Christina Erexson, Student Services Receptionist
- ▶ Vacant, Student Services Receptionist
- ▶ Ms. Robin Glover, Registrar
- ▶ Ms. Leslie Nelson, Data Manager
- ▶ Mr. Dennis Aberle, School Psychologist
- ▶ Ms. Kristi Martyn, School Nurse
- ▶ Ms. Sabrina Waters, Financial Aid Advisor
- ▶ Mr. Daniel McCoy, Career Development Coordinator



# What can Student Services do for me?

- Academic Advising
- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Peer Mediation/Conflict Management



## How do I make an appointment with my counselor?

<http://pchsstudentservices.weebly.com/>

- ▶ Look at the Home tab for counselor calendars.
- ▶ Go to your counselor's calendar and click on a date and time to set up an appointment.

# How do I make an appointment with my counselor?

If you are on campus, you can either use the Weebly site or go to Student Services and find the QR code on the door. You will be linked to the Student Services Weebly page so you can make an appointment.

**If you have an urgent need to talk to your counselor, let the person at the front desk know immediately.**



# Student Services Weebly

- ▶ <http://pchsstudentservices.weebly.com/>
- ▶ The Freshman tab contains useful information including a four-year graduation plan if you want to plan ahead.
- ▶ Other tabs contain helpful information for each grade level or topic.





# Career Services Website

- ▶ <https://catamountcareers.weebly.com/>
- ▶ This site contains information about Career Conversations, Interviewing, Resume Writing, Jobs, Interest Inventories, and much more about careers.



# Helpful Tips

- **Create a study plan and set goals**
  - Treat school like a job and your pay-off will be credit toward graduation and earning your diploma.
- **Have a schedule and manage time**
  - Commit to working a set amount of time during the day to reach your daily/weekly goals.
  - **Goal:** My goal is to complete my homework by 9 pm every night.
  - **Plan:** Work for an hour or two after school with short breaks, take a longer break, work an hour or two after dinner with short breaks.
  - **Goal Met:** completed work by 9 pm
  - **Note:** You may have to work more hours if needed to meet the expectations of your courses or adjust your times depending on the responsibilities of the day.

## Have a dedicated place to work

- Find a quiet place to work with a place you can set up your materials and focus. Make sure you have good internet access and try to limit the distractions around you while you are working.

## Take Notes

- Even if work is on Canvas, get in the habit of taking good notes during class.

## Take Breaks

- If you are working more than one hour at a time, take a break if needed.

## Stay Healthy

- Get rest and stay positive. Reach out to PCHS Student Services if you feel overwhelmed.

## Ask Questions

- Communicate with your teachers if you are frustrated or have questions about an assignment.
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# Reach out for help ASAP and as often as needed!

## Utilize All Resources:

- Attend SMART Lunch.
- Have a notebook during class and write down any questions or concerns to ask your teachers during the times they are available during the class.
- Another way to communicate is to email teachers with questions, especially if you are completing homework or working during lunch. You may not get a response until the next day, but the teacher knows you are asking for help.
- Do NOT procrastinate!

# Graduation Requirements

For the class  
Of  
2025



# Required Courses for the class of 2025

- English I, II, III, IV (4 credits)
- Earth/Environmental Science, Biology and a Physical Science (3 credits)
- World History, Civic Literacy, American History, Economics and Personal Finance (4 credits)
- Math I, II, III and a higher-level math (4 credits)
- Healthful Living (1 credit)
- Additional electives (10 credits)
- TOTAL MINIMUM of 26 CREDITS
  - EOC's – Math 1, Math 3, English II, Biology





# Electives



## Required

- **2 Elective credits of any combination from either:**
  - Career and Technical Education (CTE)
  - Arts Education
  - World Languages (not required for graduation, but is a requirement for admission to most 4–year colleges)
  
- **4 Elective credits strongly recommended (four course concentration) from one of the following:**
  - Career and Technical Education (CTE)
  - Arts Education (e.g. dance, music, theater arts, visual arts)
  - Any other subject area (e.g. mathematics, science, social studies, English or cross–disciplinary)
  
- Students can select CTE courses to complete a career pathway.

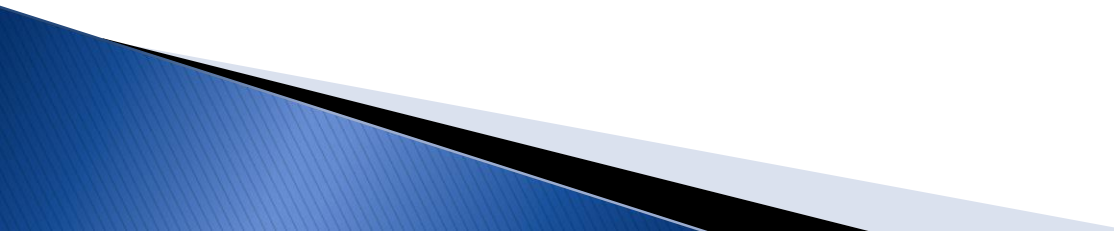
# Why are my grades important?

- ▶ Transcripts
- ▶ GPA/Class Rank
  - ▶ Promotion
- ▶ Driver's License
  - ▶ Athletics





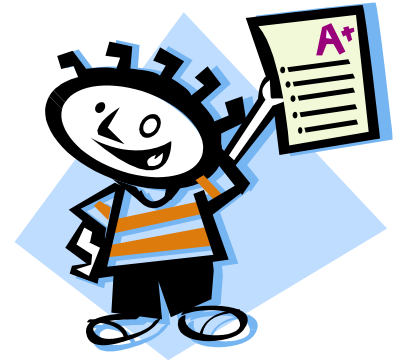
# What are the benefits of taking an Honors/AP course?

- ▶ 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
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# GPA and Quality Points

GRADE	Academic	Honors	AP
A	4	4.5	5
B	3	3.5	4
C	2	2.5	3
D	1	1.5	2
F	0	0	0

# Example



▶ English I (H)	A	4.5
▶ Math I	C	2
▶ Earth Science (H)	D	1.5
▶ HL	B	<u>3</u>

$$11 / 4 = 2.75$$

➤ English I	A	4
➤ Math I	C	2
➤ Earth Science	D	1
➤ HL	B	<u>3</u>

$$10 / 4 = 2.5$$

# What does it take to be promoted to grade 10?

- ▶ English I
- ▶ Two credits from Math, Science or Social Studies
- ▶ Three additional credits
  
- ▶ Total 6 Credits



# Planning for Life after High School

- ▶ Options after graduating from PCHS
  1. Attend a 2-year college (with option of transferring to a 4-year college/university)
  2. Attend a 4-year college/university
  3. Enter workforce
  4. Enlist in the military



# Planning for Success

- Choose wisely: Take the most rigorous courses that you can handle while being successful!
- A high GPA is important, but it's not the only thing college recruiters are looking for in prospective students.
  - Extracurricular Activities
    - Sports, clubs, community service, job
  - Leadership Roles
    - Ex. President of club, student director of school play, camp counselor, etc.
- Plan, study, attend SMART lunches, complete all of your homework, become your own advocate!

# WCPSS POLICY 6000.8 – ATTENDANCE



At the secondary level cumulative absences above ten (10) in a block course are excessive. After five (5) days of accumulated absences in one or more block courses, there will be school-determined, expectations-based intervention to help the student improve his or her attendance. The intervention will involve parents. After ten (10) days of accumulated absences in a block course and failure to meet previously-determined expectations, the student will be subject to failure, retention, or summer school.

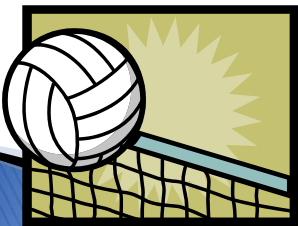




# Athletic Eligibility



- ▶ All incoming freshmen are eligible for athletics in the fall semester of their ninth grade year.
- ▶ After first semester of the freshman year, students are eligible if they **PASS** three (3) of their four (4) classes during the semester **previous** to the sport they wish to play.
- ▶ WCPSS requires students to be in attendance 85% of the previous semester.





# Driver Eligibility

- ▶ Students must pass 70% of courses (3 out of 4 on a block schedule) to be able to obtain or maintain their driver's license.
- ▶ Contact Jordan Driving School ([www.jordandriving.com](http://www.jordandriving.com)).



**Student Services will be utilizing Twitter for communication to students.**

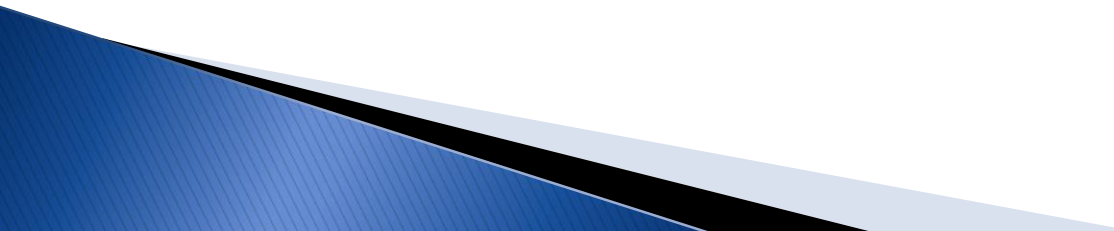
▶ Follow us on Twitter @pchscounselors

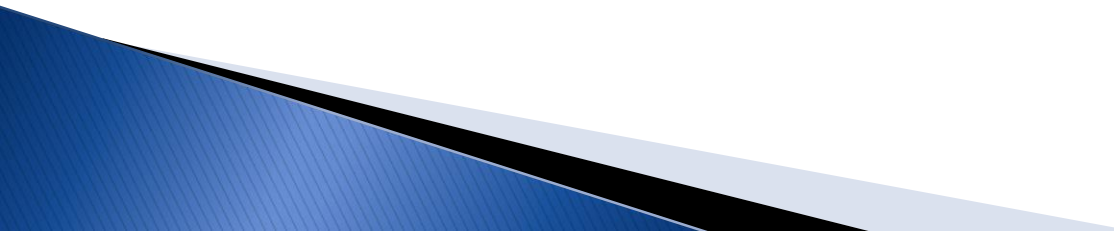


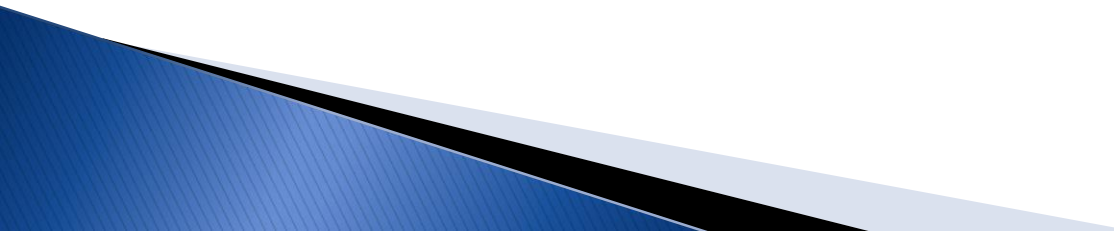
# Positive Relationships and Communication

- ▶ Creating mutually respectful and positive relationships is a very important part of high school. Leaving middle school behaviors behind can be a challenge but learning to have mature communication is a cornerstone for high school and life success.

# How Can I Communicate Better

- ▶ 1) Use “I” messages. Start you sentences with “I” not “you”. “You” did or said this can put people on the defensive. Be specific about what you truly feel, think, or want.
  - ▶ 2) Do not call the other person names or blame them. Comments like this only make the other person angry and make it harder to communicate.
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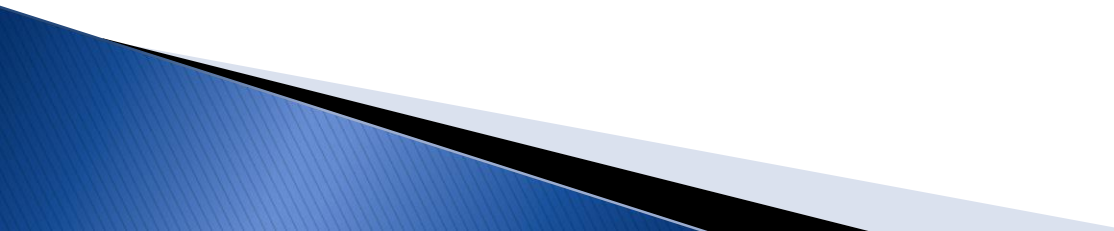
- ▶ 3) Consider the other person's point of view. Ask what they were thinking or why they said something. Don't assume you know how they feel. Talk with them in person; don't just have a "text" conversation.
  - ▶ 4) If tempers start to flare, get yourself out of the situation. Wait for things to calm down before saying something that either you don't mean or that will make the situation worse.
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- ▶ 5) Don't be a bystander. Instead be an upstander by encouraging others to work out their differences. Don't try to stir things up or pit one person against another.
  - ▶ 6) Remember that conflict is a part of life. How you deal with the conflict now will set up future interactions in your school, community, work, and family.
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# Perspective and Choice (PC)

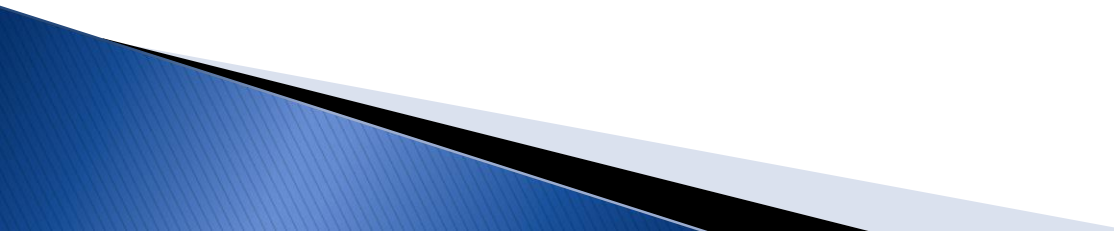
- ▶ In every situation, a person has to look at their perspective, the other person's perspective, and then make a choice about how to respond.
- ▶ Perspective
  - ❖ What is really going on?
  - ❖ Who is involved?
  - ❖ Is this a small or large situation?
- ▶ Choice
  - ❖ What is the right choice?
  - ❖ What choice will end with a desirable outcome for all?

# Peace and Calm

- ▶ Learn to recognize your body's signs that you are in alert (fight or flight mode) when faced with conflict.
  - ▶ Then take a breath and tell yourself to calm down. This may mean walking away from the situation until you can become calm.
  - ▶ Once you are calm, you can think about the correct positive action to take.
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# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Presentation PostTest

- ▶ <https://tinyurl.com/yywj3kzb>
  - ▶ Complete the posttest. These are the same questions you answered in the pretest.
  - ▶ You will remain anonymous.
  - ▶ Results are used by counselors in curriculum planning.
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# Questions?

