Welcome to Pulaski County High
School and the 2023-2024 schoo
year. The purpose of the
Teacher/Student Handbook is to
provide you with information that
will help facilitate success as a
member of one of Virginia's finest
high schools.
All pages can be accessed directly
by clicking on the topic you wish to
read.

La interpretación de este documento está disponible. Llame a Dannah Card, especialista en EL, al 540-643-0919.

可以阅读本文档的解释。请拨打电话540-643-0919致电EL专家 dannah Card

Contents

Parent Portal	3
School Event Calendar	4
Title IX	4
School Counseling Services https://sites.google.com/pcva.us/pc hs-counseling/home	5
School Counselors	6
Student Transcript and Test Record	6
Section 504 Hearing Procedures	6
NRCC Career Coach	6
School Clinic/School Nurse	7
Immunization Regulations	7
Insurance 8	8
Contagious or Infectious Diseases 8	
Guidelines for Medication Administration	8
Deliveries/Telephone Messages to Students	9
Food Deliveries	9
Visitors	9
Telephone 10	0
Driver's Education 10	0
Lockers 10	0
Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) 10	0
Lost and Found 10	0
Instructional Media Center (IMC) 10	
Electronic Devices 10	0

	Student Dress Code	11
	School Money and Purchases	11
	Emergency/Fire/Campus Wide Drills	11
Atte	ndance Procedures	12
	Attendance Requirement	12
	Chronic Absenteeism	12
	Attendance Plans Overview	12
	Parent's Role in Student	
	Attendance Call-In	13
	Tardy (unexcused)/Skipping Pol 13	icy
	Skipping	16
	Check-out Procedures	16
	Hall Passes	16
	Absence for Part of a Day	17
	Make-up Work	17
	Make-up Work and Suspension: 18	S
РСН	S Discipline System	18
	Disciplinary Procedures	18
	Disciplinary Action Levels	18
	Loss of Privileges	19
	Searches	20
	Loss of Privileges	20
	In-School Suspension (ISS)	21
	Out-of-School Suspension (OSS 21	5)
	Restorative Academy	22
Stuc	lent Discipline	22
Tran	sportation	23
	Parent Pick-up/Drop-off	
	(7:30am-8:25 am and after	
	3:22pm)	23
	Behavior on Buses	23
	Exchange Schools for Changing Buses	23
	Riding Another Bus or Getting of at Another Stop	24
	Boarding and Exiting Buses	24
	Student Drivers/Driving Privileg 24	es
	Student Driver Rules	25
	Student Parking Fee	25
	Penalties for Driving/Parking Violations	25
Grad	duation Information	26
	Standard Diploma (5 verified credits)	26
	Advanced Studies Diploma verified credits)	a (5 26
	Verified Credits	27
	Certain classes require an	

	accompanying SOL end-of-cour	se
	test. A verified credit is earned $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right$	
	when a student passes the clas and its accompanying SOL test.	
	Diploma Seals	27
	Senior Rank and Average	27
	Honor Graduate Status	27
	Graduation Speakers	27
	Graduation Regalia Application	
	Full-time Student Requirements	
	28	5
	End-of-Course Testing	28
	End-of-Course Testing	
	Remediation	28
Scho	olarship	28
	Grading System	29
	Incomplete Grades	29
	Cheating/Plagiarism/Misreprese ation	ent 29
	Report Cards/Interim Reports	29
	Course Adjustment/Withdrawa 29	l
	Promotion to the Next Grade	30
	Rank and Average Calculation	30
	Honor Roll and Academic Certificate Criteria	30
	Midterm and Final Assessments	s30
	End of Course Assessment Exar	
	Exemption Policy	31
	Transfers	31
Stud 31	dent Activities and Organization	าร
	Student Council Association (SC 31	CA)
	National Honor Society (NHS)	31
	National Technical Honor Societ	ty
	(NTHS)	32
	Yearbook	32
	Clubs and Organizations	32
	PCHS Dances (Homecoming, Prom) and Guests	33
	International Trips for Students	33
	Interscholastic Competitions VF 34	1SL
	VHSL Non-Athletic Activities	34
	Other Competitive Activities	34
Virg	inia High School League	34
	Pulaski County Public Schools Activities Code of Conduct	34

Administration

Mrs. Jennifer Bolling Principal,

540-643-0398

Mrs. Rebekah Blevins Assistant Principal,

540-643-0222

Mrs. Nancy Dillon Assistant Principal,

540-643-0479

Mr. Bryan Ward Assistant Principal,

540-643-0487

Mr. Ken Arnold Assistant Principal

540-643-0596

Mr. Scott Vest Athletics & Activities Director

540-643-0750

PCHS Main Office 540-643-0747 Fax Main Office 540-643-0212 CTE Office 540-643-0235

In order to be most effective, administrators see parents/students by appointment. Please contact Kim Alger at 540-643-0230 to schedule an appointment.

REGULAR SCHEDULE	
Block 1 – 8:30-10:00	
Block 2 - 10:04-11:34	
Block 3 - 11:38-1:48 1st lunch: 11:38-12:00 2nd lunch: 12:13-12:38 3rd lunch: 12:48-1:13 4th lunch: 1:23-1:48	
Block 4 - 1:52-3:20	

2 HOUR DELAY
Block 1- 10:30-11:32
Block 2 -11:36-12:38
Block 3 - 12:42-2:10
Block 4 - 2:24-3:20

1 HOUR DELAY
Block 1- 9:30-10:40
Block 2 - 10:44-11:54
Block 3 - 11:54-2:04 1st Lunch: 11:54-12:19 2nd Lunch: 12:29-12:54 3rd Lunch: 1:04-1:29 4th Lunch- 1:39-2:04
Block 4 - 2:08-3:20

3 HOUR EARLY RELEASE
Block 1 - 8:30-9:18
Block 2 - 9:22-10:10
Block 3 - 10:14-11:27 lunch delivery to classrooms
Block 4 - 11:31-12:20

2 HOUR EARLY RELEASE	
Block 1 - 8:30-9:20	
Block 2 - 9:24-10:14	
Block 3 - 10:18-12:23	
Block 4 - 12:27-1:20	

<u>Early release students (including students going to work)</u> are expected to remain in class until the end of the period of any alternate schedule. Please communicate and discuss this policy with your parent or guardian, employer, or other applicable individuals.

Parent Portal

Pulaski County High School provides parents an opportunity to access student information online. The online portal allows parents to view information such as their child's attendance, grades and assignments. Student records are updated in real time so this will be the most up-to-date method for obtaining information regarding the progress of your child. The portal also provides a parent-to-teacher email option for obtaining answers to quick, simple questions.

This method of communication is intended to supplement, not replace, current modes of communication used by teachers, parents, and students. A successful educational experience is based on personal interaction among those involved. The primary means of communication at the secondary level should be face-to-face contact between teacher, student, and parents. A personal phone call and/or attendance at parent/teacher conferences still remain as the most informative and reliable methods for parents to obtain information concerning their child's performance.

Due to security and confidentiality requirements, parents will have to personally visit the school at the beginning of each school year to pick up their new password. Please plan to bring a picture I.D. (driver's license) to verify your identity. Additionally, PCHS will only be able to provide the option to

individuals who have legal access to a particular student's record. Students who have reached the age of 18 have the right to deny parents/guardians access to the online system. Access to and more information about Parent Portal can be found using the Parent Portal link on the district website at www.pcva.us.

School Event Calendar

To access school events use www.riverridgedistrictva.org. Follow the link to the Pulaski County School calendar. All athletic events and the dates, times, and locations of most school activities are included. The calendar is a product of our Student Activities Office and contains the most updated information available concerning student activities and athletic contest delays or cancellations.

The PCHS calendar may also be accessed directly by following the links: School, Pulaski County High, Students, and Event Calendar on the district web site at www.pcva.us.

All weather related changes to PCHS events are immediately placed on this calendar and it is the best source for investigating weather related cancellations or delays.

Additional announcements can be found on Facebook (Pulaski County High School), the Pulaski County Public Schools App, Instagram (@pchscougars), and the Senior Calendar of Events (http://pcva.us/PCHSCalendars.html#Senior).







School Services

Title IX

Equal educational opportunities shall be available for all students, without regard to sex, sexual orientation, race, creed, national origin, gender, gender identity, ethnicity, religion, disability, ancestry, marital or parental status or any other unlawful basis. Educational programs shall be designed to meet the varying needs of all students. No student, on the basis of sex or gender, shall be denied equal access to programs, activities, services or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, or advantage or be denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

The School Board shall provide facilities, programs and activities that are accessible, usable and available to qualified disabled persons; provide a free, appropriate education, including non-academic and extracurricular services to qualified disabled persons; not exclude qualified disabled persons, solely on the basis of their disabilities, from any preschool, daycare, adult education or career and technical education programs; and not discriminate against qualified disabled persons in the provision of health, welfare or social services.

Any student who believes he or she has been the victim of prohibited discrimination should report the alleged discrimination as soon as possible to one of the Compliance Officers designated in this policy or to any other school personnel. The alleged discrimination should be reported as soon as possible, and the report generally should be made within fifteen (15) school days of the occurrence. Further, any student who has knowledge of conduct which may constitute prohibited discrimination should report such conduct to one of the Compliance Officers designated in this policy or to any school personnel. Any employee who has knowledge of conduct which may constitute prohibited discrimination shall immediately report such conduct to one of the Compliance Officers designated in this policy.

The reporting party should use the form, Report of Discrimination, JB-F, to make complaints of discrimination. However, oral reports and other written reports shall also be accepted. The complaint should be filed with either the building principal or one of the Compliance Officers designated in this policy. The principal shall immediately forward any report of alleged prohibited discrimination to the Compliance Officer. Any complaint that involves the Compliance Officer shall be reported to the Superintendent.

The complaint, and identity of the complainant and of the person or persons allegedly responsible for the discrimination, will not be disclosed except as required by law or policy, as necessary to fully investigate the complaint or as authorized by the complainant. A complainant who wishes to remain anonymous will be advised that such confidentiality may limit the school division's ability to fully respond to the complaint.

School Counseling Services

https://sites.google.com/pcva.us/pchs-counseling/home

Each student has been assigned a school counselor who can provide services and information to help the student while at Pulaski County High School. The student and his/her parents should become acquainted with the assigned

counselor, and together they should use the resources available through the School Counseling Department. Some of the services provided include the following:

- High school academic counseling
- Career counseling and job placement
- College admission preparation
- Financial aid and scholarship information
- Maintenance of cumulative records
- Personal counseling and referral
- Testing services

Appointments: In order to be most effective, counselors see students/parents on an appointment basis. A student or parent may arrange an appointment through the appropriate school counselor.

School Counselors

Mrs. Carmen Haas	540-643-0282	9 th -10 th Grades, A-K
Ms. Gina Miano	540-643-0336	9 th -10 th Grades, L-Z
Ms. Meagan Pratt	540-643-0249	11 th -12 th Grades, A-K
Mrs. Chrissi Vest	540-643-0380	11 th -12 th Grades, L-Z
TBD	540-643-0245	Career Development Counselor

Student Transcript and Test Record

Parents, guardians or others with legal control of a student can elect in writing to have the student's test record excluded from the student transcript. The test record includes at least the highest score earned, if applicable, on college performance-related standardized tests such as SAT and ACT, excluding Standards of Learning (SOL) test scores. The written request to have scores excluded must be sent to the registrar in the PCHS guidance department.

Section 504 Hearing Procedures

The Pulaski County Public School Board does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of disability. When a student believes that he or she has been discriminated against on the basis of disability, the student shall have the right to request a hearing. The Superintendent of Pulaski County Public Schools shall establish hearing procedures that conform to federal requirements for any student alleging disability discrimination.

NRCC Career Coach

The career coaches assist students in post-high school planning, including career and college paths.

Mrs. Kathy Kleppin 540-643-0976

School Clinic/School Nurse

Health information for students can be updated electronically by using CareDox (https://secure.caredox.com/c/accounts/login). Should a student become ill while at school, he/she will be given permission by a teacher or administrator to report to the clinic with a pass. If the student is ill, the school nurse will contact the parent, and the parent must come to the school and sign the student out. If the student is driving his/her own car and is determined to be of questionable driving capacity because of illness, he/she will be given permission to drive himself/herself home only after the school nurse has obtained parent consent. Students are not to phone a parent without first reporting to the school nurse. Students are required to sign in and out of the nurse's office for illness. State law prohibits the dispensing of any medication to students without a valid doctor's order. Emergencies resulting from accidents or acute illness may require transporting students to emergency medical facilities. Parents will be notified as soon as possible of such situations and the local EMT services will transport students to the medical facility. Chronic or long term medical conditions of students requiring special considerations, such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, special dietary requirements, or mobility impairment (such as broken limbs), should be brought to the attention of the school nurse or administrative staff before school opens in the fall or when such conditions develop. A record of student accidents and injuries will be kept by the school nurse.

The school nurse is in the clinic from 7:30 a.m. -3:30 p.m. She will stay after school if a reasonable request is made, in advance, to receive medication from parents.

Mrs. Nikki Lockhart 540-643-0255 Fax Number: 540-643-0121

Mrs. Ann Paulson 540-643-0364

Immunization Regulations

In accordance with the Code of Virginia every new student and every student seeking to be readmitted shall provide documentary proof of adequate immunizations before he/she will be admitted to Pulaski County High School. The school will abide by all aspects of the immunization regulations. Students from another state must have a physical examination before being enrolled at Pulaski County High School.

Upcoming Seniors must provide documentation of a meningitis vaccination, per the updated state requirements, prior to the first day of school. No senior

may attend school until this documentation has been provided to the school nurse.

Insurance

All students of Pulaski County Public Schools are covered under a student accident insurance program. This coverage is secondary to any other coverage the family may have and will pay only eligible medical expenses not payable by other sources of coverage. Additionally, the coverage is limited to a maximum benefit of \$25,000.00 per accident. This policy covers all Pulaski County Public School students from doorstep to doorstep including: to and from school, field trips, athletics, gym class, on and off-site dances, off-site dances, off-site technical education projects, walking to and from class and all other school-related extracurricular activities.

In case of a student accident, notify the school immediately. Claim forms may be obtained from the school and must be completed by both a school officer and the parent. Medical treatment must commence and the claim form must be sent within 90 days from the date of injury to be eligible for benefits.

Contagious or Infectious Diseases

The Virginia School Law (22.1-272)(1980) states that a person suffering from contagious or infectious disease shall be excluded from the public schools while in that condition. Pulaski County Public Schools will work cooperatively with the Pulaski Health Department to ensure compliance with Virginia Code 22.1-271.3 for school attendance of children infected with immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Pulaski County High School will adhere to School Board policy 7.51-7.51.2. The Pulaski County Schools' policy handbook may be accessed at www.pcva.us

Guidelines for Medication Administration

Students are not to be in possession of medication (prescribed, over the counter, or supplements) at any time. This includes, but is not limited to, cough drops, ibuprofen, Tylenol, orajel, pre-workout supplements, energy drinks and cold/allergy medication. All medications to be taken during school hours and school-related activities (including over the counter and prescription) must be accompanied by a medication authorization form signed by both a parent and physician, which must be renewed each school year. Chronic condition medications (asthma, diabetes, etc.) require additional forms that can be obtained through the school clinic. If medication must be given during the day, the following procedures must be met:

Parent Responsibilities:

- 1. The Authorization for Medication Form must be completed in full and signed by the physician and parent.
- 2. Any medication that is to be taken during school hours must be

- specifically prescribed by a physician. This policy includes over-the-counter drugs and supplements.
- 3. Parents or another adult (authorized by the parent/guardian) must personally deliver both over-the-counter, supplements and prescription medications to the school.
- 4. All medication must be provided in the original pharmacy container labeled with the name, dosage, and prescription information.
- 5. Parents are responsible for picking up unused medication. Any medication not claimed by a parent within two weeks after completion of the physician's orders will be destroyed by the principal or school nurse.

School Personnel Responsibilities:

- 1. All medications must be administered as ordered by the physician.
- 2. Medications administered at the school should be stored in a secure, locked, clean container or cabinet.
- 3. An individual record/log should be kept of medications administered by school personnel on a daily basis for each student.
- 4. If there is an error or medication incident (accident), immediately notify school nurse, administration, child's parents and/or physician. Document the incident.
- 5. All drugs have the potential for causing side effects. School staff should observe a student's response to medication and report to parents, school nurse, or physician (according to district procedure) any changes in behavior or awareness, rash, complaints, or anything else that may be related.

Deliveries/Telephone Messages to Students

Items such as packages, birthday gifts, flowers, balloons, fast food lunches, Valentine's gifts, etc.cannot be delivered to students at any time before, during or after the school day.

Food Deliveries

Students are not allowed to order or receive fast food deliveries during the school day. Breakfast and lunch may be obtained from the cafeteria, or the student may choose to pack a lunch from home. Food or drink packaged in outside food establishments shall not be brought into the cafeteria to be consumed by students.

Visitors

We do appreciate and welcome parents/guardians of PCHS students as visitors. All visitors must check in at the front office.

Telephone

Students are not allowed to use school telephones in the academic pods, classrooms, office, CTE building or the Commons without permission.

Driver's Education

PCHS offers Behind the Wheel Driver's Education to students who hold a valid learner's license and who have successfully completed the classroom requirement. The fee is \$209.00.

Lockers

All students will be assigned a locker upon entering PCHS. Students are encouraged but not required to use their locker. Lockers are allowed to be accessed at the beginning of school, during class change and at the end of the school day.

Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)

PCHS PTO includes parents, teachers & staff who collaborate to support new PCHS teachers, provide meals for teachers on parent-teacher conference dates, and support planning and funding of senior events. If you are interested in assisting with our PTO, please contact rblevins@pcva.us.

Lost and Found

Individuals who have lost an item at Pulaski County High School or at a school function should check the Lost and Found Department located at the front desk area in the Main Office.

Instructional Media Center (IMC)

The library is open from 8:28 a.m. to 3:22 p.m. for student use. A valid student ID number is required in order to check out books and materials. Students must have a pass signed by a PCHS staff member to access the IMC during class time. No more than 3 books may be checked out at one time. Books are checked out for 3 weeks, and fines are assessed when books are 5 school days overdue. Lost or damaged books will be paid for by the student who checked out the books.

Electronic Devices

Students may possess cellular telephone, smartphone, tablet, Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), or other communications device on school property, including school buses, provided that the device must remain off and out of sight from the time the student arrives at school until the end of the instructional day.

Pulaski County High School students are permitted to use their cellular device until 8:30 am. After 8:30 am, devices are to remain off and out of sight until the students' lunch period. Cellular devices may be used appropriately during the students' lunch period. Any misuse of student cell phones during the lunch period will result in loss of phone for the remainder of the school day. Following the lunch, devices will remain off and out of sight until the end of the instructional day.

The division is not liable for devices that are lost, stolen or brought to school or school activities.

If a student uses such a device in violation of this policy, additional disciplinary sanctions may be imposed and the device shall be confiscated from the student and returned only to the student's parent/guardian.

Student Dress Code

Students are expected to dress appropriately for a K-12 educational environment. Any clothing that interferes with or disrupts the educational environment is unacceptable. Parents of students requiring accommodation for religious beliefs, disabilities, or other good causes should contact the principal. Students not complying with this policy will be asked to cover the non-complying clothing, change clothes or go home.

https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/2286/PC HS/2371712/Dress_Code-revised_06_2022.pdf

School Money and Purchases

A student who collects or otherwise handles school funds will deliver such money to his/her sponsor. Sponsors will deliver these funds to the school bookkeeper (Mrs. Graham) by 2:00 p.m. each day. The school will not accept responsibility for lost or stolen funds. **Returned checks:** There will be a \$10.00 service charge on all returned checks made out to Pulaski County High School. Payments can also be made online at pcva.schoolcashonline.com.

Emergency/Fire/Campus Wide Drills

Emergency drills will be held often during the first month of school, regularly the remainder of the school year. Evacuation plans are posted in each classroom. Students should take valuables, walk quickly in a single file without running or talking, remain in line until led to a safe distance from the building, answer to the teacher's roll, and return to the building when directed. Campus wide safety drills will be held regularly throughout the school year.

Attendance Procedures

Attendance Requirement

Attendance is required under the current laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia Section 22.1-254. When a student is absent, and a call-in has not been received, the school staff makes every effort to contact a parent on the day of the absence, using the automatic computer call-out system. All students should make attendance and punctuality a priority for the school year. All absences will be considered unverified unless appropriate documentation is provided. To be counted present for the class a student must be in attendance for two-thirds (2/3) of the class period. Compulsory Attendance-Board Policy JED

• Parental Cooperation in Remedying Excessive Unexcused Absence: It is expected that parents will cooperate with the attendance officer and other school officials to remedy the student's attendance problem. Where direct contact with a parent cannot be made, despite reasonable efforts, or where parents otherwise fail to cooperate in remedying the student's attendance problem, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee may seek immediate compliance with the compulsory school attendance laws. The attendance officer, with the knowledge and approval of the Superintendent, shall institute proceedings against any parent who violates these laws. Where the complaint arises out of the parent's failure to comply with the requirements of §22.1-258, the attendance officer shall document the school division's compliance with this Code section.

Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic Absenteeism is defined as missing 10% or more of the school day. This is equal to about 2 days per month or 18 days per year. Chronic Absenteeism is looking at all types of absences (UNV= Unverified Absence; PC= Parent Contact; Note= Professional Note; S= Suspension; T= Tardy, Cl= Check In; CO= Check Out). In accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), attendance will now be an integral part of every schools' accreditation. All types of absences will count as a loss of an instructional day. Students who do not attend school will be considered chronically absent and may be contacted by school officials to discuss Attendance Awareness and/or Chronic Absenteeism. Students deemed as Chronically Absent may lose their In-Good-Standing status (see *Chronic Absenteeism Contract System*).

Attendance Plans Overview

I. Step One: Chronic Absenteeism

-Any student who reaches four(4) absences of any kind will be placed on an Attendance Success Plan.

II. Step Two: Attendance Improvement Plan

-Any student who reaches five(5) unexcused absences will be placed on an Attendance Improvement Plan. The parent/guardian will be contacted by either Ms. Dillon, Mr. Arnold, or Mr. Ward to complete an Attendance Improvement Plan. The Attendance Improvement Plan is the first step in ensuring that a student/(parent/guardian) are complying with Compulsory Attendance Law. The AIP is designed to address unexcused absences and avoid Truancy Team and possible Court Services intervention.

III. Step Three: Referral to Truancy Team

-Any student who reaches seven(7) unexcused absences will be referred to the PCPS Truancy Team. The PCPS Coordinator of Student and Family Services will contact the parent/guardian to schedule a meeting with the Truancy Team. The Truancy Team is comprised of members that represent the school division, related agencies, and government representatives. The goal of the Truancy Team is to provide support to families and implement interventions to avoid Court Services involvement.

Parent's Role in Student Attendance Call-In

The parent or guardian of a student who is absent should call the main office (643-0747 *press 2) to report the absence between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the day of the absence. A note from the parent may substitute for a call-in when the note is sent on the day the student returns. A note must contain the current date, the date of the absence, the reason for the absence, a parent or guardian's signature, and a phone number where the parent or guardian can be reached to verify the note. The student must present the note to the main office upon his/her return to school.

Tardy (unexcused)/Skipping Policy

I. Philosophy

Being on time to school and all classes has been proven to increase student grades and make students feel more a part of the school community. Students who are tardy to school/class can disrupt teaching and potentially cause security and safety concerns for school personnel.

II. Student Expectations

- Students are expected to arrive to school and class on time.
- Students who arrive late to class are required to have a valid pass from a teacher, counselor, administrator, or other school personnel.
- Students who are late to class and do not have a valid pass are in violation of the tardy/skipping policy.

III. Tardy to School

- Students who arrive to first block after the 8:30 bell are tardy to school, regardless of when they arrived to school, and should be directed to the main office.
- Students who arrive to school after 8:30 for any reason will report to the main office and not their first block class.
- Students with professional documentation from any of the following will be "Checked-In" to school and not considered tardy:
 - Doctor
 - Dentist
 - Court
 - Counselor
 - Funeral
 - Extenuating circumstances will be assessed on a case by case basis
- Students who do not have an excused reason to be late to school are tardy to school and will be marked as such in Powerschool. All students will be sent to first block from the main office with a red or green pass.

IV. Tardy to blocks 2-4

- Students arriving after the tardy bell and within the first five minutes of class are tardy. Teachers will mark these students tardy in Powerschool.
- Students arriving to class after five minutes without a valid pass are considered skipping and the teacher will notify administration via incident@pcva.us immediately and write a discipline referral.

V. Disciplinary Steps for Excessive Tardies to School/Class

- Any student who reaches 8 tardies of any kind will be placed on the LOP list for one week. Students will be taken off the LOP list after the one week period if the student has zero tardies and completes the LOP release form process.
- LOP list removal forms will be reviewed by Mr. Arnold.
- Students will be placed on the LOP list a second time after 4 tardies for two weeks.
- Students who are placed on LOP list and continue to be tardy will receive RA/ISS for excessive tardies.
- Tardies will reset for second semester

VI. Tardy Communication:

- Parents/Guardians will receive a daily text message stating their student was tardy to class.
- Teachers will call parents/guardians after the 4th tardy to their specific class to discuss how tardies may be affecting the student's grade.

VII. Daily Schedule

- First Block: Any student who arrives to school/class after 8:30 is tardy and must report to the main office.
- Second Block: 10:04-10:09 Tardy 10:10-Skipping
- Third Block: 11:38-11:43 Tardy 11:44 Skipping
 - 1. First Lunch- Any student who arrives to lunch between 11:38-11:43 is tardy to lunch.
 - 2. Second Lunch- Any student who arrives to lunch between 12:17-12:22 is tardy to lunch.
 - 3. Third Lunch- Any student who arrives to lunch between 12:52-12:57 is tardy to lunch.
 - 4. Fourth Lunch- Any student who arrives to lunch between 1:27-1:32 is tardy to lunch.
 - 5. Any student who arrives after the tardy bell back to class from lunch is tardy.
 - 6. Any student who arrives to lunch after the five minute tardy period to lunch is skipping and will receive a discipline referral.

Skipping

- Not reporting to school, failure to attend the assigned class while at school, or leaving school without proper check-out will be regarded as skipping if the student has not followed proper procedures regarding attendance. Chronic skipping may also lead to truancy charges.
 - o First offense: Refer to administrator for 1 day of ASI and call home.
 - o Second offense: Refer to an administrator for 1 day of Restorative Academy and call home.
 - o Third offense and above: Referral to administrator for 1 day of ISS. Use of a vehicle for skipping purposes may result in loss of driving privilege or escalated discipline as determined by the administrator. Additional skipping may result in more serious disciplinary actions.

Check-out Procedures

Before a student can check out of school, he/she must have a call-in from a parent or guardian. Students must always check out through the main office. This applies to all students, even if they have reached their 18th birthday, unless they have been emancipated by the court. It is required that parents/guardians call the school prior to the check-out time. Requests for early check-out should be made for crucial and unavoidable situations and only when the situation is so critical that it cannot be taken care of after school hours, or on a day when school is not in session. Early check-outs will not be granted for students who need to go to work during school hours unless the work is a part of a school program. Check-out requests should be made at the earliest convenience.

A student is not to leave school at any time without following proper check-out procedures. Failure to use proper check-out procedures through the front office will be considered skipping and will result in disciplinary action.

Students who check-out for excused reasons such as a physician, dentist/orthodontist, court, funeral, or counseling appointments should bring documentation verifying the appointment/service upon returning to school.

Hall Passes

Students must have a hall pass from his/her teacher to be out of the classroom. Hall passes are color coded to represent the area in which a student should be permitted. All students must remain in the classroom during the first five minutes of each block/period and last five minutes.

Pass Color	Courses	Pod Floor Color	Locker Bank Color
Pink	English Choir Band Drama Library	Maroon	Maroon
Light Blue	Social Studies Foreign Language Art Commons Classrooms	Blue	Blue
Orange	Math P.E. Testing Center	Orange	Orange
Light Green	Science	Green	Green
Light Green	Guidance Main Office	N/A	N/A
Yellow	CTE	N/A	N/A

Absence for Part of a Day

Students are required to check in through the main office when they arrive late to school. Additionally, students must check out through the main office if they leave school early. Students must be present for two full blocks to be eligible for extracurricular participation for that day. Special circumstances must be approved through PCHS administration in advance.

Make-up Work

A student will have an opportunity to complete all assignments missed because of absence. The teacher's written attendance log, in conjunction with the attendance log in PowerTeacher, Student/Parent Portal, is the official record for Course Credit Requirements.

- 1. Upon returning to school, a student is responsible for any assignments or tests that were scheduled prior to the absence.
- 2. A student is expected to make up assignments for all absences, including school-sponsored activities and suspensions.
- 3. Once the make-up assignments have been provided to the student, the time allowed to make up missed work is equal to the number of days absent, plus additional resources if needed. If at the conclusion of the

allotted make-up time, the assigned make-up work for any specific class has not been returned to the classroom teacher, then the teacher should assign the student to ASI (for up to as many days as originally absent). Failure by the students to complete the make-up work and return it to the classroom teacher by the day following ASI will result in the assignment(s) being given a zero (with a note in the grade book referencing the actions taken by the teacher).

Make-up Work and Suspensions

Students and parents may work through the student's grade level counselor to obtain specific assignments from the classroom teachers for the days to be missed while suspended.

PCHS Discipline System

Disciplinary Procedures

All faculty members have the right to correct any student and to expect a proper response when doing so. Failure to identify one's self correctly upon request may result in disciplinary action including suspension from school.

Disciplinary Action Levels

The following summarizes the levels of disciplinary action that shall be enforced by school personnel with students who are in violation of school rules, Standards of Student Conduct, School Board Policies, Division Regulations, Division Administrative Discipline Handbook, and/or local, state, or federal laws:

- Verbal warning/reprimand
- Conference (teacher/student and/or parent/guardian and telephone call home)
- Intervention (referral, detention, behavioral contract, no tolerance contract, restriction)
- Restorative Academy (RAP)
- In-School Suspension (ISS)
- Remediation Hour (RH)

A continuing/chronic pattern of student misconduct will be considered insubordination and can result in the suspension and possible expulsion of a student. Please view discipline measures at Pulaski County High School as an effort to ensure a safe, productive learning environment for all students.

- Short-term suspension (1-10 days out-of-school suspension)
- Long-term suspension (up to 365 days out-of-school suspension)
- Expulsion (long-term suspension, until readmission by the School Board, usually one or more school years.)

Loss of Privileges

Pulaski County High school strives to offer as many Extra-Curricular activities as possible to allow students to explore their interests beyond their four block classroom schedule. However, PCHS also believes these activities are privileges and students must meet certain behavioral requirements to take part in them. The Loss of Privileges List addresses behaviors that will exclude students from taking part in these activities. However, at the same time giving them an opportunity to regain these privileges; typically after a one to three week period of good behavior specific to why the student was added to the "LOP" list.

 Definition: LOP means that students may not attend and/or participate in extracurricular school activities on or off campus before, during, or after school.

Events include:

- Field Trips
- Participation in Games, Performances, Plays, Academic Competitions, etc
- Practices and Rehearsals
- Attendance to Dances, Concerts, Productions, and Games/Competitions
- Ability to drive to school and park on campus
- PCHS reserves the right to include other events as necessary
- II. How is a student added onto the LOP list?
 - 1. Restitution and Fines-Students are taken off the LOP list as soon as payment is received.
 - 2. 8 tardies of any kind in a nine weeks-one Week on LOP list
 - 3. 2 dress code violations in a nine weeks-two weeks on LOP list
 - 4. 2 cell phone violations in a nine weeks-two weeks on LOP list
 - 5. 2 office referrals in a nine weeks-three weeks on LOP list
 - 6. Other reasons deemed appropriate by PCHS Administration
 - 7. Duration of OSS/ISS
 - 8. Placement on list by the Superintendent and/or PCHS Administration

- III. Removal from Loss of Privileges List
 - 1. Students will regain their privileges if they do not repeat the behavior for which they were placed on the LOP list. For example, if tardies placed the student on the LOP list, they will only be eligible if they do not have any tardies for one week.
 - 2. Once a student is eligible, they will reapply for privileges in the front office and seek administrator approval from Mr. Arnold. Forms will be located in the Main Office.

IV. Subsequent Loss of Privileges Placement

- 1. Students who apply and are taken off the Loss of Privileges list <u>can</u> be placed on the LOP list for a second time. However, all infractions are reduced by half and the period of time on the LOP list is doubled. For example, if a student is placed on the LOP list after 8 tardies and serves one week, the student will be placed on the list again after 4 tardies for two weeks and must apply a second time for removal from the list.
- 2. Students who are placed on the list a third time will remain on the list for the remainder of the semester.
- 3. The LOP list is cleared at the end of the first semester with the following exceptions:
 - Restitutions and Fines carry over
 - Placement on list by the Superintendent and/or PCHS administration

Searches

The courts have determined when reasonable suspicion exists that a student is in possession of contraband, school officials have the authority to conduct searches of individuals and their personal possessions (wallets, handbags, book bags, lockers, automobiles, cell phones, etc.). The courts have further determined that school officials have a duty to conduct such searches. This authority may be exercised at any time.

Loss of Privileges

Consequences for violating the student code of conduct are not limited to the assigning of detention, ISS, After School Improvement (ASI), suspension, etc.

When appropriate, restitution for damages and suspension of privileges may be used in addition to other consequences. Examples of loss of privileges may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- on campus driving privileges revoked
- bus privileges suspended
- school network access revoked
- limited access/participation in extra-curricular activities, including athletic participation and spectatorship

In-School Suspension (ISS)

Students will be assigned to the In-School Suspension (ISS) for a minimum of one day and until assignment is completed. When assigned, the student will do his/her class assignments in addition to working on changing his/her behavior. The student will report to ISS when he/she arrives at school and remain in the center until dismissal time. Students who fail to report to ISS or exhibit unmanageable behavior in the center will be suspended from school. Students assigned to ISS are required to work on the assignments provided by their classroom teachers. Students who are placed in ISS are ineligible for participation in school activities until the student has reestablished status as a student in-good-standing. Parents will be notified when a student is placed in ISS.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

When a student's behavior violates the PCPS Student Code of Conduct, the student may be suspended from school. The following procedure will be implemented when suspension is requested:

- (a) A conference will be held with the student and administrator.
- (b) The parent will be contacted as soon as possible.
- (c) A letter detailing the incident will be sent to the parent as soon as possible.
- (d) The suspended student cannot be on any property of Pulaski County Schools, nor attend any school functions until he/she has been reinstated.
- (e) Upon the student's return, a conference may be held with the student and/or parent to review re-entry requirements.
- (f) Classwork assigned during a suspension can be completed for credit. Students on suspension have as many days as they were assigned to OSS to make up missed work.

It is the student's responsibility to make up all missed assignments.

Administrators and teachers may assign students to After School Improvement (ASI) to assist in making-up assignments that were not completed by the return date following a suspension. (Please see Make-Up Work and Suspensions)

Restorative Academy

Any student who receives a short term suspension (1-10 days) may be assigned to attend Restorative Academy. This program is designed to allow students to receive instruction and any other related services on campus in lieu of a typical out of school suspension. PCHS administration will determine if placement in the Restorative Academy is appropriate based on the appropriate qualifications.

Student Discipline

The following policies can be accessed by clicking the links.

<u>Disciplinary Actions for Controlled Substances Offenses: Pulaski County Public School's Counseling and Preventative Services (CAPS) Program (Also JFCF-R, JFCI-R, JGD, and JGE-R2)</u>

Student Conduct JFCStandards of Student Conduct-R

Standards of Student Conduct JFC-R1

Standards of Student Dress JFC-R2

<u>Disciplinary Actions for Controlled Substances Offenses: Pulaski County Public School's Counseling and Preventative Services (CAPS) Program (Also JFCF-R, JFCI-R, JGD, and JGE-R2) JFC-R3</u>

Bullying JFC-R4

Activities Code of Conduct JFC-R5

Student-Athlete Substance Abuse Policy JFC-R7

Drug Testing of Student-Athletes JFC-R8

Teacher Removal of Students from Class JFCA

Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity JFCB

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES JFCC

WEAPONS IN SCHOOL JFCD

Gang Activity or Association JFCE

<u>Drugs in School JFCF</u>

Tobacco-Free School for Staff and Students JFCH

Substance Abuse - Student Assistance Program JFCI

Student Assistance Program JFCI-R

Written Notification of Violation of School Policies by Students in Alternative

Education Programs JFCJ

Notification Regarding Prosecution of Juveniles as Adults JFCL

Search and Seizure JFG

PROHIBITION AGAINST HARASSMENT AND RETALIATION JFHA/GBA

Corporal Punishment JGA

Appeal of Recommendation for Student Discipline JGD-E1 / JGE-E1

Student Suspension/Expulsion JGD-R1 / JGE-R1

Student Suspension/Expulsion JGD / JGE

Disciplining Students with Disabilities JGDA

Student Suspension/Expulsion JGD/JGE

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES AND REQUIREMENTS JHC

Transportation

Parent Pick-up/Drop-off (7:30am-8:25 am and after 3:22pm)

To ensure a safe path for buses and special transportation, students are NOT to be dropped off or picked up at the front of the school near the flagpole BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL. Parents dropping off or picking up students should do so at the back of the school in the upper student parking area near the gym. Students must report to the Commons in the morning before school.

Behavior on Buses

Students must adhere to the expectations as facilitated by bus drivers and staff. Students may be given assigned seats, and are to remain seated until the bus arrives at its destination. **Student should refrain from the following activities:**

- eating food or consuming soft drinks
- food and beverages must be kept in lunch boxes or book-bags while on the bus
- smoking or use of tobacco products
- no audible music
- using profane or obscene language
- arguing or fighting
- harassing other students
- vandalism to any part of the bus
- failure to obey bus driver's instructions
- making excessive noise
- throwing objects
- any student behavior that distracts the bus driver is inappropriate

Exchange Schools for Changing Buses

Students must remain in the assigned areas in addition to following all rules outlined above.

Riding Another Bus or Getting off at Another Stop

Students who need to ride a different bus from the one regularly assigned must have a note each time from a parent/guardian and have this signed by the front office staff. If a student is riding the bus home with another student on a different bus, both parties must have a note. The note(s) should be presented to the front office prior to lunch and picked up prior to loading the bus. The signed note(s) must be presented to the driver. All changes to a student's assigned bus route must be approved by school administration; school administration will contact the transportation office to ensure the space is available on the noted bus(es).

Boarding and Exiting Buses

Students must remain in the designated area in an orderly manner at the bus loading zone until the bus comes to a complete stop. The door will not be opened until students are lined up to get on the bus. Students must exit the bus without running or pushing and always cross in front of the bus. Students who ride a bus are not allowed to go to the parking lot or other areas of the building or campus in the afternoon and then return to the bus circle to catch the bus. Leaving the bus circle area classifies as being in an unauthorized area (see skipping).

Student Drivers/Driving Privileges

Automobiles are permitted as a means of transportation to and from school by students who meet the requirements and accept the responsibilities of driving private automobiles to school (subject to availability of parking spaces). This privilege depends on the student's willingness to follow the parking and auto usage regulations as prescribed by Pulaski County High School. Failure to follow the auto and parking regulations could result in the loss of parking privileges for a period of time determined by administration. Only students with a valid Virginia's Drivers License may drive vehicles to school. Students must register their vehicles before they can legally drive on school property. When students register, they must present a valid Virginia's Driver's License (learner's permits are not accepted). A student who parks illegally will lose his/her privileges. Students who leave school for any purpose without permission may lose their privilege to drive and will be considered as skipping school. Students should not transport students off school grounds without permission from the student's legal guardian. Students who do so may lose their privileges to drive and further discipline may be taken.

Student Driver Rules

Parking for students is provided in the student lots near the Field House. Parking spaces in the honors lot near the gym will be assigned to honor students on the basis of academic averages at the beginning of the school year. Students may not park along curbs, in fire lanes, or in driveways. The right-of-way must be given to buses at all times. Students must drive in a safe manner (single file, no passing) and obey the speed limit of 10 MPH on school grounds.

Students must report to the building immediately after parking and are not allowed to remain in the parking area. Students are not allowed to return to their vehicles during the school day without first obtaining permission from an administrator. Students may not leave and drive their cars off campus during lunch, or any other time of the school day. Driving to and from the fitness center during class change, or parking at the fitness center during the school day is not permitted. Violators will have consequences including, but not limited to, towing of a vehicle at the owner's expense.

Any student observed demonstrating behaviors that are distracting to other drivers may lose their parking privileges.

Student Parking Fee

Students who have outstanding financial obligations from previous school years will not be granted a parking permit. Completed applications may be returned to Ms. Alger in the main office beginning August 10th (between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM) for issuance of parking hang tags.

All students with a valid driver's license MUST register their cars by September 30th. A vehicle that is illegally parked is subject to towing at the owner's expense. All financial obligations to the school must be cleared before a student parking permit may be purchased.

Penalties for Driving/Parking Violations

Driving to school is a privilege. A student driver may lose that privilege by a single serious violation or by the accumulation of extensive discipline infractions relating to the PCHS Code of Student Conduct.

A student whose driving privileges have been revoked may not drive any vehicle to school. Students who continue to drive to school after driving privileges have been rescinded:

- Driving privileges rescinded for a longer period of time, or
- Driving privileges revoked indefinitely, and

 Assignment to After School Improvement (ASI) or out-of-school suspension for violations of the PCPS Student Code of Conduct while driving.

Graduation Information

Standard Diploma (5 verified credits)

Courses	<u>Credits</u>
English	4
Math	3
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Health & PE	2
Foreign Language, Fine Arts or Career &	
Technical Education	3
Economic & Personal Finance	1
Electives	<u>7</u>
Total	26

Advanced Studies Diploma (5 verified credits)

Courses	<u>Credits</u>
English	4
Math	4
Science	4
Social Studies	4
Foreign Language	3
Health & PE	2
Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education	1
Economics & Personal Finance	1
Electives	<u>5</u>
Total	28

^{*}Please refer to the Course Catalog for specific requirements. https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/2286/PC HS/2607769/Copy_of_Course_Catalog_2023__2_.pdf

Verified Credits

Certain classes require an accompanying SOL end-of-course test. A verified credit is earned when a student passes the class and its accompanying SOL test.

Diploma Seals

Students are eligible to receive the following diploma seals:

Governor's Seal ● Board of Education Seal ● Career and Technical Education
 Seal ● Advanced Mathematics and Technology Seal ● Excellence in Civics
 Education ● Governor's STEM Academy Seal ● Seal of Biliteracy

Senior Rank and Average

Final rank and averages are determined by calculations based on 8 complete semesters (grades 9-12). The final rank and average would include the grades taken for high school credit during a student's middle school years. A student must also be enrolled in a minimum of 3 classes for credit for each semester during his/her senior year.

Honor Graduate Status

Senior students who have a 3.6 or better cumulative GPA will be recognized as honor graduates as follows:

3.6-3.79 with Honors (blue tassel & medallion)

3.8 – 3.99 with High Honors (silver tassel & medallion)

4.00-5.00 with Highest Honors (gold tassel & medallion)

*Honor graduate status for the Senior Awards Assembly is determined by using grades through the end of 7th semester.

Graduation Speakers

PCHS traditionally features two student speakers selected by members of the Senior Class and members of the faculty and staff. Students eligible to speak at graduation must have a minimum GPA of 4.0 or be a "Most Valuable Cougar" nominee.

Graduation Regalia Application

This application is available for groups, societies, and clubs wishing to wear regalia items (i.e. tassel, cord, sash, pin) in place of, or in addition to the standard cap, gown and tassel which has been designated by the PCHS Graduation. The Graduation Regalia Application will be made available during the third nine weeks, and completed applications must be submitted to Ms. Alger in the main office by the appointed deadline.

Full-time Student Requirements

All students are required to take 4 classes each semester unless enrolled in a specific program offering early release. Seniors who have met graduation requirements may attend local college classes with Administration Approval.

End-of-Course Testing

In accordance with the Standards of Accreditation for Virginia public schools, Pulaski County High School will administer "End-of-Course" examinations in the following courses:

Social Studies:

- o World History to 1500 AD/World Geography
- o World History 1500 AD to Present/World Geography
- United States History

Science:

- o Earth Science
- o Biology
- o Chemistry

Economics & Personal Finance:

o W!SE – Financial Literacy Exam

Mathematics:

- o Algebra I Part 2
- o Algebra I
- o Algebra II
- o Geometry A

English:

- o Writing Test for English
- o Reading, Literature and Research Test for English

CTE Courses

typically level 2 courses and/or level 3 courses

End-of-Course Testing Remediation

Students unable to pass an End-of-Course test while enrolled in the associated course will be provided remediation during the subsequent testing window if it is determined necessary to meet graduation requirements. This remediation will take place during the school day and may require the student to be pulled from other classes if not already a part of their assigned Extension course.

Scholarship

Grading System

Letter grades used on report cards and permanent records are defined as follows:

```
A (90-100)
```

B (80-89)

C (70-79)

D (60-69)

F (0-59) Fail

INC Incomplete (see Incomplete Grades below)

P Pass

WF Withdrawal Failing

Incomplete Grades

An incomplete is given when a student has not completed work for a grading period. Incompletes must be resolved within 5 weeks from the mailing of report cards. If the unfinished work has not been submitted, the unfinished work will receive a grade of "0" and the teacher should factor in the "0" in determining the final grade minus extenuating circumstances.

Cheating/Plagiarism/Misrepresentation

Students shall not cheat, plagiarize or knowingly make false statements with respect to any assigned schoolwork or test. Attempted completion of any act described above would constitute a violation and may be punishable to the same extent as if the act had been completed. Additional consequences may apply to Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placement courses in accordance with NRCC policy.

Report Cards/Interim Reports

Report cards will be issued four times a year at nine week intervals. It is the responsibility of the student to take this report to his/her parent or guardian. Interim reports will be given to all students at the midpoint of each grading period.

The 4th nine weeks report cards with applicable SOL scores will be mailed home.

Course Adjustment/Withdrawal

Students may request a course adjustment with mandatory written permission from their parent/guardian within the first several days of the semester. Drop/Add requests must be submitted by August 27th. After that date, if administrative approval is granted for a student to withdraw from a class, a grade of WF (withdrawal/failing) will be used in rank-and-average calculations. Administration reserves the right to withdraw a student from class without penalty to rank-and-average calculations.

Promotion to the Next Grade

Promotion from one grade to another occurs at the end of the school year. (The only exception is for students advancing to senior status during the course of the year.) Promotion for grade classification purposes is based on a combination of high school semesters and credits earned.

- Freshman: A student entering high school for the first time.
- **Sophomore:** Completion of two high school semesters with a minimum of six credits earned.
- Junior: Completion of four high school semesters with a minimum of 12 credits earned.
- **Senior:** Completion of six high school semesters with a minimum of 19 credits earned.

Note: Transferable credits earned at a middle school are added to the high school transcript. Summer school credits are added to the previous school's transcript.

Rank and Average Calculation

Rank in class is based on all subjects including withdrawals (WF). A system of ranking establishes the class standing of all 12th grade students. A point value is assigned to final grades of all subjects which are not weighted as follows: A=4; B=3; C=2; D=1, and F=0. Weighted classes (AP, dual enrollment, Governor's School) have the following values: A=5; B=4; C=3; D=1; F=0. The final GPA will include both semesters of the senior year. The rank and average is recorded in the scholastic record and becomes a part of the student's personal file.

Honor Roll and Academic Certificate Criteria

Honor rolls are determined at the end of each 9-weeks grading period and are calculated using 9-weeks averages, not final grades. To qualify, a student must be enrolled in regular courses with at least 3 credits and must not have any grade lower than a "B". To achieve the Superintendent's Honor Roll, the student must have at least a 3.6 grade point average and to achieve the Principal's Honor Roll, the student must have a grade point average between 3.000 and 3.599, inclusive.

Midterm and Final Assessments

Assessment of student learning is an integral and important aspect of the instructional process. Midterm/benchmark assessments, when given, are administered at the conclusion of both first and third nine-weeks grading periods for block courses and at the conclusion of the second nine-weeks grading period for yearlong courses. Midterm and benchmark assessments will not count towards the final grade unless extenuating circumstances exist

(i.e. industry credentials, Advanced Placement courses, dual enrollment courses). Each course will have a final assessment regardless of additional SOL testing or industry credentials requirements. Student requests for a change in assessment date will only be approved for emergency reasons such as a documented medical appointment, court or counseling appointment, or death in the immediate family. Final assessments will comprise 10% of the course final grade.

End of Course Assessment Exam Exemption Policy

To be exempt from exams, students must be enrolled in a semester-long or year-long credit-bearing course. The student must earn an A or B in the course and must have fewer than three absences for a semester-long class or six days for a year-long course. If a student is absent due to a school-sponsored activity (ACT), death in the immediate family, or doctor's appointment (Note-Professional), that day does not count toward absences for exam exemption if proper documentation is turned in to the main office.

Transfers

The school will accept credits from those students attending an accredited public or private institution. The school will accept the credits from a home schooling situation after a review of the student's course of study. The school, however, reserves the right to subject grades to review and the right to make a final determination of their compatibility with the grading structure at Pulaski County High School. To be eligible for the school's academic awards, a student must have completed eight semesters (grades 9-12) at an accredited institution.

Student Activities and Organizations

Student Council Association (SCA)

The SCA serves as an open forum within the school which promotes and sponsors student activities. The SCA is composed of student officers and class representatives. Students selected for positions must remain **in good standing**.

National Honor Society (NHS)

Membership in the National Honor Society is based on scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

To be eligible, a student must:

- be a sophomore, junior, or senior
- have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.6

have been enrolled at PCHS for at least one semester.

To be selected for NHS, eligible students must demonstrate:

- participation in extracurricular activities
- involvement in community activities
- sound character

A faculty committee will nominate candidates for selection to the National Honor Society. Faculty members will be invited to comment on the candidates. A faculty committee will choose the students to be inducted into the National Honor Society. Induction will take place in a public induction ceremony during the second semester.

Membership requires the continued demonstration of scholarship, leadership, service and character.

National Technical Honor Society (NTHS)

National Technical Honor Society honors the achievements of top Career & Technical Education (CTE) students, encourages the pursuit of higher education, and cultivates excellence in today's highly competitive, skilled workforce. Membership in the NTHS recognizes student achievement and leadership in career and technical education, promotes educational excellence, and gives opportunities for scholarships, and enhanced career opportunities.

To be eligible, a student must:

- be a sophomore, junior, or senior enrolled in a CTE program.
- have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- have been enrolled at PCHS for at least one semester
- be nominated by their CTE Instructor

To be selected for NTHS, eligible students must demonstrate:

- Career & Technical Student Organization (CTSO) membership
- consistent attendance
- minimal discipline referrals

Yearbook

The purpose of the yearbook, The Cougar Pinnacle, is to record the events of the school year. The publication is a creative work, both in design and literary aspects by students. Yearbooks will be offered for sale on a yearly basis.

Clubs and Organizations

Students may join clubs through personal interest (extra-curricular) and through class affiliation (co-curricular) at PCHS. Clubs meet approximately seven times per school year. Students may participate in two clubs per school vear.

4-H

African American History Club (AAHC)

Anime Club

Art League

Association of Marketing Students (DECA)

Bowling Club

Book Club

Caving Club

Chess Club

Criminal Justice Club

Champions Together Club w/ Special Olympics

Drama Club

Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)

Foreign Languages Club

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)

Future Farmers of America (FFA)

Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA)

Honor Guard

International Thespians

Jazz Band

Leo Club

Photography Club

Red Cross Club

SkillsUSA

Student Council Association (SCA)

Students for Christ (SFC)

Tri-M Club

TV/Media Club

Young Republicans

PCHS Dances (Homecoming, Prom) and Guests

PCHS student dances are designed for PCHS students deemed In-Good-Standing. However, PCHS students are allowed to invite non-PCHS high school-aged guests. Guests should be, at a minimum 9th grade students (no elementary or middle school students) and, at a maximum, not have attained their 21st birthday on or prior to the event. Additionally, PCHS students and their guests must satisfy the requirements specified on the PCHS Prom/Homecoming Guest Registration form. The PCHS Administration reserves the right to approve/disapprove all guest applicants.

International Trips for Students

Pulaski County High School does not administer, sponsor, or endorse international trips for students without School Board approval. Private touring

companies are not permitted to solicit students and/or faculty/staff participation without written permission from the school principal and superintendent. When working with private touring companies on their personal time, Pulaski County Public School employees should not solicit involvement of students or other school faculty/staff on school groups, via school communication media, or other school related activities/events. Any person who should have questions or concerns related to this policy should contact the building principal or superintendent's office.

Interscholastic Competitions VHSL

The following programs offered at Pulaski County High School are sponsored by the River Ridge District, Class 4 Region D and the Virginia High School League (VHSL). Cheerleading, Cross Country, Golf, Competition Cheer, Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Indoor Track Wrestling, Swimming, Baseball, Softball, Tennis, Outdoor Track, and Soccer.

VHSL Non-Athletic Activities

Yearbook (Cougar Pinnacle)

Theater Festival

Scholastic Bowl (ACE) Academic Competition

Other Competitive Activities

Marching Band Concert Band Symphonic Band Jazz Band

Choir Art
Special Olympics DECA
FFA HOSA
SkillsUSA FBLA

MACC (Academic Subject Area Competition)

Virginia High School League

Pulaski County Public Schools Activities Code of Conduct

Extracurricular activity programs are a privilege and are completely voluntary for students. Students participating in extracurricular programs are considered to be in positions of leadership and represent the school and the community. Students participating in extracurricular activity programs are required to abide by the provisions of the Activities Code of Conduct. Failure to adhere to the specified provisions may result in the loss of the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities at Pulaski County High School. A copy of the Code of Conduct will be distributed at each of the three Parent Information Nights held in conjunction with the start of each sports season.

Attendance by the participating athlete and at least one parent/guardian is required and necessary for participation.

DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) - Marketing

Educators Rising - Teachers for Tomorrow

FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) - Business

FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) - Early Childhood,

Culinary

FFA (Future Farmers of America) - all Ag related classes

HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) - Health/Medical

Skills USA (formerly VICA - Vocational/Industrial Clubs of America) -

trade/industry classes, including Automotive, Carpentry, Cosmetology,

Electricity, Maker Lab, Welding

Red Cross - Health/Medical