



Pirate PRESS

Dear Pirate Community,

Happy New Year Pirates!! First semester exams start Monday with our first period exam. Students have been working hard this week reviewing with their teachers. See the Pirate Press or our website for the exam schedule. On each day of testing the school is in testing mode for approximately the first four hours of the school day. NO student may be dismissed during the four hour testing window and NO notes will be accepted for this. Once all exams are completed we will move students to their review period for the following day. In order to best support the success of all of our students - **ALL students are required to attend the Teacher-led Review Session**, but may leave prior to the Student Study Time (at 2:15) with a documented Parent Note. ALL parent notes must be given to the exam teacher prior to the exam starting. NO notes will be accepted via email or phone call during exam week so that we can ensure a safe and orderly testing and review environment. Parent Notes will be verified for dismissal as needed. If the note cannot be verified it will not be approved. Any student taking a teacher made exam that has met the exam-exemption requirement was notified during school today. If a student exempted an exam, they do not have to attend the corresponding review session, however it will still count as an absence. We do ask that if you are allowing your student to leave school early that you send a separate note each day.

The semester concludes with the fourth period exam on Thursday. We will have community building activities after the exam for students who are not leaving early. Friday 1/18 is our make-up exam day for any student that was absent for an exam earlier in the week. Parents or students should email their teacher if they need to make arrangements to schedule a makeup exam on Friday.

Included in this Pirate Press is information on school announcements, the NC Youth Engineering Summer Camp, Final Exam Study Tips, a Leadership Development Workshop being held in UCPS, pre-Apprenticeship program application information for next year's seniors, a link to search for Senior Scholarships, and upcoming ACT and SAT dates. Our school counselors would like to invite students and parents to a College Information Night for all underclassmen. Information on how to choose a college, admission requirement, ACT and SAT testing, application timeline, and an introduction to scholarships and financial aid will be presented at the College Information Night on Monday, February 4th at 6:00 pm.

Monday 1/21 is a holiday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., leader of the American Civil Rights Movement. Tuesday 1/22 is a teacher workday and there is no school for students. Second semester starts on Wednesday 1/23. Students with an error on their schedule may request schedule corrections for their spring schedule at the link on the school website: <https://goo.gl/forms/lf4XI2lqvRFsWvVz2>. Students must be logged into their school google account to access this. Reasons requests may be considered are listed on the google form.

We hope that you will join us for an upcoming athletic event. **Fri 1/11- Basketball AT Rocky River 6:00; Sat 1/12 - Wrestling AT Piedmont 9:00; Thu 1/17 - Wrestling vs Myers Park SENIOR NIGHT 6:00; Fri 1/18 - Basketball vs Myers Park 6:30; Sat 1/19 - Wrestling AT Parkwood 9:00 AM.**

Please take time to read over this newsletter. These newsletters allow our whole community to know about the great things our children and teachers are doing here at Porter Ridge High School. The Pirate Press, in addition to our website, facebook, and twitter, is the main form of communication from school to home.

Go Pirates!!! Dr. Fisenne



Fall Semester Exam Information 2018-2019

Early Dismissals During Testing Week: NO student may be dismissed during the four hour testing window. NO notes will be accepted for this. In order to best support the success of all of our students - **ALL students are required to attend the Teacher-led Review Session**, but may leave prior to the Student Study Time with a documented Parent Note. ALL parent notes must be given to the exam teacher prior to the exam starting. NO notes will be accepted via email or phone call during exam week. Parent Notes will be verified for dismissal as needed. If the note cannot be verified it will not be approved.

Testing Window: All exam testing must be completed between January 14 and January 18. This is true for ALL types of exams: EOC, NC Final Exams, CTE State Assessments, and Teacher-Made.

Score Results: All high school exams count 25% of a student's grade for the semester.

Friday, January 11

1st period review during class

Monday, January 14

8:00 – 12:30 1st period exams in all classes

12:35 – 2:55 2nd period review**

1st Lunch: 12:40 – 1:05

2nd Lunch: 1:10 – 1:35

3rd Lunch: 1:40 – 2:05

****Exam Reviews 1/14-1/16: Teacher-led Review is required for all students** from 12:35–2:15. This will be followed by Student Study Time from 2:15–2:55. Students wishing to leave prior to Student Study Time must turn in a parent-written note to their exam teacher prior to the start of the exam. See add'l info on dismissals below.

Students exempt from a Teacher-made exam are not required to attend the Review or Exam Session for that course.

Tuesday, January 15

8:00 – 12:30 2nd period exams in all classes

12:35 – 2:55 3rd period review**

1st Lunch: 12:40 – 1:05

2nd Lunch: 1:10 – 1:35

3rd Lunch: 1:40 – 2:05

Wednesday, January 16

8:00 – 12:30 3rd period exams in all classes

12:35 – 2:55 4th period review**

1st Lunch: 12:40 – 1:05

2nd Lunch: 1:10 – 1:35

3rd Lunch: 1:40 – 2:05

Thursday, January 17

8:00 – 12:30 4th period exams in all classes

12:35 – 2:55 Community Building & Lunch

Friday, January 18 is a makeup exam day – students needing to make up an exam should report to school by 8:00 to start.

Type of Exams: We have four types of exams at the end of each semester – EOC, NC Finals, CTE State Assessment, and Teacher-Made. Teachers will address which type of exam their students will take.

Exam Exemptions for Teacher Made Exams ONLY: High School students will not be required to take a teacher-made final exam in a course in the following situations:

- The student has an average of 90 or above the week prior to the administration of the exam and has no more than 3 absences (excused or unexcused) in the class; or
- The student has an average of 80 or above the week prior to the administration of the exam and has no more than 2 absences (excused or unexcused) in the class.

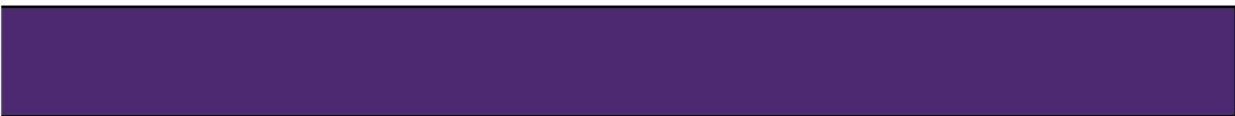
Students will be required to turn in cell phones during testing sessions. If they do not want to do this, they should not bring their cell phone into the school.

Attendance: Attendance during exam days is required for all students, for both exam sessions and review sessions (only students who are excused from exam and review sessions for a course are those who are exempt). Our

normal school hours apply, but the schedule and lunch times are adjusted. **January 18** is an important day for any students who have missed an exam earlier in the week due to illness. We regret that family vacation plans are not excused, and students cannot take exams early. We apologize that any requests for exceptions cannot be honored.

Exam review: All teachers are expected to help students with review during class time and to distribute a review guide to students prior to testing. Students should begin organizing and reviewing material.

Academic Integrity: Please remind students of the need to prepare well for the exams and to make sure that they make ethical decisions when taking exams. The penalty for cheating of any kind is a "0" on a final exam.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

2019

4 workshops
ONE DAY ONLY
YOU
PICK ONE



today's teens are tomorrow's
LEADERS!

Why Attend?

Expand your leadership potential and discover critical tools to use now at home, school, and in your community.

Connect with leaders in your community through Rotary clubs. It is the ultimate networking organization.

Learn about Rotary and Interact service projects locally and around the world.

Meet like-minded student leaders from other schools and form new friendships.

Explore new avenues for community service (especially if needed for school), to help discover your passions.

Interact is both a Service Club and a Leadership Development Club.

Discover how you can qualify for the distinguished leadership award and attend the premier scholarship experience of Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders for 3 nights and 4 days at Wingate University in Summer 2019.



Be a part of
something bigger
than you.



It will be fun!

Choose the workshop most convenient for you ▼

Fri. • Jan 25 • 5-8pm
Sun Valley HS | Monroe

Sat. • Jan 26 • 9am-12pm
Charlotte Country Day School

Sat. • Jan 26 • 9am-12pm
Hickory Ridge HS | Harrisburg

Sat. • Feb 2 • 9am-12pm
Statesville HS | Statesville

SIGN UP AT:
<http://www.bit.ly/InteractLeadership>

Hosted By:

Interact
Rotary Sponsored Club





The health room is in need of supplies. Sign up to donate on the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0845A5A72DAAFF2-suppplies>

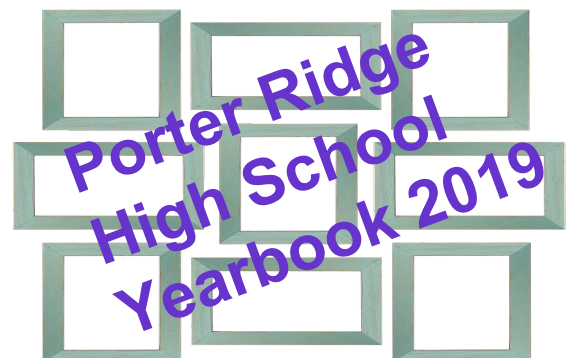
“NC State University’s Youth Engineering Summer Camp”

Are you creative or interested in engineering? If so, NC State University College of Engineering will be running a summer camp in Roger’s Hall at Queens University of Charlotte this summer. Camp registration is now open and will stay open until all spots are filled. To enroll for the camp please visit www.engineeringcampcharlotte.com.

Exam Study Tips: Be on time! Students should be in their testing locations before 7:50 a.m. They will not be admitted to exams once testing has begun. Students are encouraged to sleep well each night (8 hours), and have a healthy breakfast each morning.

- Create a study calendar and stick to it
- Ask your teacher for a study guide and USE IT
- Use your notebook to guide you through a review of the course
- Attend all review sessions offered and go to tutoring for extra support
- Make a study group, assign each person a topic to re-teach, and discuss each topic
- Have your parents ask you questions
- Use diagrams, graphs, pictures, and drawings in your textbook to serve as a talking point for you to review
- Make flashcards on your computer or phone to practice important vocabulary words
- Look at your scores from the semester and identify topics you struggled in – ask your teacher or a friend for help
- Stay after school to study – you may study in the café until 5:00 each day
- Rewrite important points, the act of writing or typing helps some people remember specific information
- Create an acronym, or a funny saying, or song to remember specific information
- Draw a quick sketch to help with definitions or concepts
- Practice math problems

Yearbooks -- \$80. Prices will increase. You can order yearbooks online (www.jostens.com) by clicking below or get an order form from Ms. Watson in G205. **Senior Yearbook Ads are on sale now to be featured in the yearbook.** Order forms are available in the front office, in Ms. Watson's room (G205), and online @ (www.Jostens.com).





“Pre-Apprenticeship Program Applications for 2019-2020”

Attention Rising 12th graders, are you interested in getting paid to go to college while in high school; if so, then you should apply to the Pre-Apprenticeship Program. The Pre-Apprenticeship Program is partnered with Greiner Bio-One, South Piedmont Community College, and Union County Public Schools. If selected for the Pre-Apprenticeship Program; the student will take morning classes at PRHS while their afternoon is split between classes at SPCC and working at Greiner Bio-One, as well as, being paid for approximately 20 hours per week which is a combination of training, attending classes and work. While in the Pre-Apprenticeship Program, students will receive High School Credit for their Community College courses and it provides a potential opportunity to be selected for the Registered Apprenticeship Program, as well as, providing hands on training to develop technical skills. In order to qualify for the Pre-Apprenticeship Program students must be a rising high school senior, have a current GPA of at least a 2.5, with a minimum GPA of 2.8 at Graduation to be considered for the Registered Apprenticeship Program, have enough high school credits to allow community college courses in their senior schedule and be able to attend a 3-4 week summer program. There will be a Pre-Apprentice Information Session held at the SPCC Tyson Family Center for Technology 3509 Old Charlotte Highway Monroe, NC 28110 in the spring. For more information about the Pre-Apprenticeship program, please visit the [UCPS Career Readiness](#) page on the UCPS website under the Departments section or see your Career Development Coordinator, Mrs. Webb in guidance.

**Congratulations to PR Wrestler John Gallagher on his 100th Career Win this weekend!
Way to go John!!**

**Congratulations to senior Anna Cassidy who has been named a semi-finalist for the
Morehead-Cain Scholarship at UNC Chapel Hill!**

- Yearbook cost is \$80. Be sure to grab yours today before prices increase again! Books can be purchased through Jostens.com or by an order form in G205.
- An interest meeting to join Quidditch club will be on January 23rd, at 3:00 pm in Ms. Lukasik's room G211.
- The students from the TTA classes will continue to sell their “made from scratch” Bath Fizzies during all four lunches. Come by and take a sniff at the scented bath Fizzies that vary from lavender, eucalyptus, jasmine, peppermint and now vintage rose for the upcoming valentine's. Purchase a couple and make it into a cute gift set that we can wrap for that special someone.
- If you are interested in traveling America this summer on Teens Westward Bound (TWB) there is a presentation night/information meeting on Thursday January 24 in the PRHS Media center. Presentation begins at 7pm, bring your parents! See Coach Welch in F200 if you have any questions!
- Interested in playing Volleyball this fall? Off season workouts begin Tuesday Feb 5. You must have a current physical and Family ID to participate. See Coach Welch in F200 if you have any questions. Workouts will be every Tuesday/Thursday from 3-5pm.
- Come join us as the Porter Ridge High School Castaways present 12 Angry Jurors on January 25th & 26th at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$7.00 and will be sold at the door



ACT & SAT Dates

ALL Juniors at PRHS will take BOTH the ACT on Feb. 20th and SAT on April 9th during school, for free, this year!!

National SAT Dates - students must register at CollegeBoard.org

- March 9th register by 2/8, with late fee until 2/27
- May 4th register by 4/5, with late fee until 4/24
- June 1st register by 5/3, with late fee until 5/22

National ACT Dates – students must register at ACTstudent.org

- February 9th register by 1/11, with late fee until 1/18
- April 13th register by 3/8, with late fee until 3/25
- June 8th register by 5/3, with late fee until 5/20
- July 13th register by 6/14, with late fee until 6/24

(students who receive free or reduced lunch or have a financial need should see their counselor about a fee waiver)

Ports of Information for Pirates === Follow us on social media...

2018-2019 - weekly electronic newsletter emailed to families and students. Sent through connect-ed, posted on facebook and on our website - The Pirate Press!!

If you need to update your email at school, please send your updated email to arolyn.lawwill@ucps.k12.nc.us

Follow us on Facebook: @PorterRidgeHS.NC

Follow us on Twitter: @PorterRidgeHSNC @PRHSCounseling !

@PRHSCareer @prhs_athletics

Follow us on Instagram: porterridgehs

got Questions?

Introducing Counselor Drop-Ins
We know that college applications can be overwhelming!

No appointment.
No slip.
No email.
Just show up with your questions. A counselor will be available to help you!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
7:30-8:00 James	7:30-8:00 Ponder	7:30-8:00 Burgess	7:30-8:00 Davison
3:00-3:45 Davison	3:00-3:45 Burgess	3:00-3:45 James	3:00-3:45 Ponder

The counselor's name is listed in case you have a counselor preference but you are NOT limited to meeting with your assigned counselor. Drop in any day and get your questions answered by any counselor.



School Counseling

College Information Night for 9th-11th grade

Monday, February 4th at 6pm

PRHS Auditorium

- How to choose a college
- Admission requirements
- ACT/SAT Tests
- Timeline to applying
- Scholarships & Financial Aid

Charlotte National College Fair on Sunday, March 17th

The Park Expo Center in Charlotte

For more information go to <https://www.nacacfairs.org/attend/national-college-fairs/charlotte-college-fair/>

Seniors and Scholarships! Keep researching. Keep applying.

Parents of seniors, here is the presentation counselors gave to your students about scholarships. Your student can view this through their school Google account.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Mt1wSgl8_tUMlrZ_qsnYMHnt1ygEoHdQujl7vEppC_4/edit#slide=id.p

If you have questions, please contact your school counselor. Please let Ms. Ponder in counseling know if you have received a scholarship.

Counselor concerns: Counselors have ongoing concerns about student's vaping and over-using technology. Here are some parent resources on both topics for consideration.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/18/health/vaping-nicotine-teenagers.html>

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/more-feeling/201712/can-t-fight-feeling-technology-and-teen-anxiety>



Huntington Learning Center-Weddington is partnering with UCPS to provide our students with test taking tips and tricks for the ACT and SAT. Students who attend earn participation points toward their school's #UCPSCollegeReady goal!

UCPS will be administering the ACT and SAT to all juniors for free.

- UCPS ACT administration date: February 20, 2019
- UCPS SAT administration date: April 9, 2019

Date	Time	Location	Registration Link	Test(s) Addressed
Saturday, November 17, 2018	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	CATA 600 Brewer Drive Monroe, NC 28112	SOLD OUT	SAT & ACT
Saturday, February 16, 2019	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	CATA 600 Brewer Drive Monroe, NC 28112	http://bit.ly/blitz2-16-19	ACT
Saturday, April 6, 2019	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Porter Ridge High 2839 Ridge Road Indian Trail, NC 28079	http://bit.ly/blitz4-6-19	SAT



Counseling Department

Scholarships- Where to find

- Naviance under Colleges Home – District list of scholarships and scholarship search engine
- Websites of colleges you are applying to
- Parents work or other organizations they may belong to
- Free Search Engines:
 - www.raise.me
 - https://www.cfnc.org/paying/schol/info_schol.jsp
 - www.bestcolleges.com/financial-aid/education-scholarships/
 - www.freecollegescholarships.net
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.finaid.org
 - www.studentawardsearch.com
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
 - www.scholarships.com
 - <https://www.unigo.com>

Seniors- Please make sure you notify Mrs. Ponder of any scholarship you are offered even if you do not plan to attend the college

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Counselor Information

- The counseling office has started 2 groups to support students. One for how to deal with anxiety and a grief & loss group.
- Counselors began academic meetings with students who are struggling to help improve their success in the classroom.
- Each Counselor visited with Senior homerooms to discuss scholarships search information and how to apply for scholarships. These meetings occurred prior to the Winter break.
- Counselors received updated information during a countywide counselor meeting that the Porter Ridge Cluster will be receiving a full-time Social Worker in January to meet the needs of our students.
- Counselors met with any senior that had not ordered cap and gowns to discuss the process and ensure they were ordered. If you have questions or issues with the ordering process please let us know.
- Every Wednesday Ms. Burgess offers a free Yoga class to PRHS Staff to help reduce and manage stress.
- Counselors shared PSAT and Pre-ACT test results with all Sophomores through Pirate Advisory with teachers and explained the importance of each test.



Athletics

Fri 1/11	Basketball AT Rocky River 6:00
Sat 1/12	Wrestling AT Piedmont 9:00
Thu 1/17	Wrestling vs Myers Park SENIOR NIGHT 6:00
Fri 1/18	Basketball vs Myers Park 6:30
Sat 1/19	Wrestling AT Parkwood 9:00 AM
Tue 1/22	Basketball AT Hickory Ridge
Wed 1/23	Basketball AT Monroe 6:00; Wrestling AT Hickory Ridge 6:00
Fri 1/25	Basketball vs East Meck 6:00
Sat 1/26	Indoor Track vs JDL 8:00; Wrestling Conference Tournament 9:00

Pirate Events

Sat 1/12	All District Band Auditions 7:00 AM
Mon 1/14	GSA 3:00 F108
Tue 1/15	Government Studies Club 7:30
Wed 1/16	Spanish Club 3:15 F102
Thu 1/17	Gaming Club 3:00 E102
1/21-1/25	12 Angry Jurors Auditions 3:00-6:00
Wed 1/23	Quidditch Club 3:00 G211; Spanish Club 3:15 F102
Thu 1/24	Gaming Club 3:00 E102; FCCLA Meeting 3:00 D101
Fri 1/25	All District Band Clinics 9:00