



Dear Pirate Community,

As we near the December break we want to take the opportunity to wish all of our families a very happy holiday season. The staff at Porter Ridge High School appreciates the support of our community, our parents, and all of our parent organizations. To the PR Band Booster Club, Athletic Booster Club, and PTO - you are appreciated! To every parent who has worked with our teachers to problem solve and to support our students - you are appreciated. We also appreciate every one of our students for their enthusiasm and hard work each and every day. We do want to remind you that our PRHS School Office will be closed over break and will re-open on Monday January 6, 2020. This means that if you need a Driver's Eligibility form to take to DMV over the break you must get it by 3:30 on Friday, December 20, 2019.

Please remember that school is in session through Friday December 20th. All absence notes for days prior to today must be in by Thursday 12/19 so that we can determine exam exemptions and final recovery requirements for students. In the future we ask that all absence notes are turned in within one week of the absence so that we can keep our students, and your children, on track. All teachers have provided a review guide that will let students know what to expect on their final exam. Finals start on Monday January 13th and continue each day with our makeup exam day for those who missed an exam, on Friday January 17th. Each day we have the exam in the morning and a review session for the next days exam in the afternoon. We do strongly encourage all students to attend all review sessions. Detailed information on the Exam Week is in this Pirate Press.

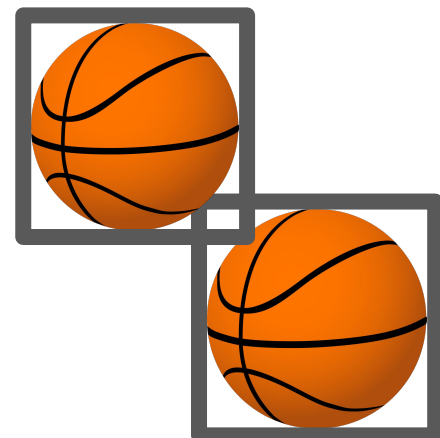
This will be the last Pirate Press of 2019. Please be sure to read over all of the information.

Please take time to read over this newsletter. These newsletters are sent on a weekly basis so that the whole community can read about the great things our children and teachers are doing. The Pirate Press, in addition to our website, will be the main form of communication from school to home.

Go Pirates!!!
Dr. Fisenne



**Varsity Basketball@
PRHS
1213 @ 6:00 Womens &
7:30 Mens
VS. East Meck**



Attendance
EXAM Info & A Message from the PTO
AutoBell Fundraiser
Post-Secondary Planning
Sports Schedules
ACT/SAT Prep
Check it Out
Announcements
School Counseling
CTE Information
Ports of Information



A note about Attendance

Any absence notes for absences occurring prior to 12/13 must be in by Thursday 12/19.

Absence notes will not be accepted after this date. As we try to determine exam exemptions please know that you must turn your absence note in within one week of the absence or we will not be able to process them for exemptions. Please remember that exam exemptions only apply to teacher made final exams of semester courses. When we return to school after the December break we will have one week until exams start on 1/13. Be sure to look over notes and take some time to review over your break.

Students if you have over 8 absences in a class you need to do credit recovery so you do not fail. Attend office hours of the class with more than 7 absences or report to the cafeteria Thursdays from 3-4 with one of the assistant principals. Make sure to fill out the Attendance Recovery Google Form with your teacher.



A Message from the PTO & EXAM INFO

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4ea9a62aa31-teacher>

Teacher Appreciation desserts and drinks
Our Pirate teachers and staff will have their annual Chili Cook Off Wednesday, December 18th. Let's complete their meal with some yummy desserts and drinks! Items can be dropped off in the office that morning, and please label any items containing nuts. Also, let us know who it's from so we know who to thank!

Date: 12/18/2019 (Wed.)

Final Exam Week

Semester Courses (courses run every day August - January) have Final Exams the week of 1/13.

Yearlong Courses (courses are every other day Aug-Jan Aday/Bday) have an exam (NOT a final) during Exam Week. Students will take BOTH their Aday and Bday exam on the same day since it is not a final. There are no exemptions for these exams because they are not final exams.

Semester Exam Policy per PRHS Handbook: First and second semester exams are given to all students in grades 9-12 on designated days in the school calendar. Scores on these exams count 25% of the final semester grade.

- Exams for courses may be state-mandated EOC assessments (Math I and III, Biology, and English II); North Carolina Final Exams; state Career and Technical Education (CTE) exams, or teacher-created assessments.
- Per UCPS Policy, students will not be required to take a teacher-made final exam in a course in the following situations:
 1. The student has an average of 90 or above the week prior to the administration of the exam and has no more than 2 unexcused absences in the class; or
 2. The student has an average of 80 or above the week prior to the administration of the exam and has no more than 1 unexcused absences in the class.
- All exams are to be taken on the assigned day for the class period. Students may not switch exam dates or take an exam early.

Exam Exemption - Students who can exempt an exam will be told by their teacher on Thursday 1/9.

Monday 1/13 - 1st period exam in am; 2nd period review in pm

Tuesday 1/14 - 2nd period exam in am; 3rd period review in pm

Wednesday 1/15 - 3rd period exam in am; 4th period review in pm

Thursday 1/16 - 4th period exam in am. There will be community time in pm for students.

Friday 1/17 - Make up exam day for students who missed an exam earlier in the week.



AutoBell Athletics Fundraiser

See an Athlete by Monday, December 16th

[http://www.porterridgeabc.org/Store/Store.asp?id=8124&n=86631&or
g=porterridgeabc.org](http://www.porterridgeabc.org/Store/Store.asp?id=8124&n=86631&or
g=porterridgeabc.org)

HELP US REACH OUR
FUNDRAISING GOAL
WITH EACH \$20 GIFT CARD

GIFTCARD

\$20



- Choose your favorite wash.
- Gift cards never expire.
- We keep 50% of the sales.



When We Shine, You Shine™



Holiday Gift Ideas!

Winter Sports Teams are Selling Cards.

Check out the PRHS webpage under Athletics for more details.

[Thanks for your support!](#)



Post-Secondary Planning

For your
convenience -
Monday Night
Family
Appointments
Available!



PORTER RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL POST-SECONDARY PLANNING

Counselors are offering evening appointments
to assist parents & students with
post-secondary planning

- Monday's between 4-7pm
- 45 min appointment with a counselor
- Must schedule appointment through the following link:

<https://calendly.com/shari-davison/45min>



UCPS
UNION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WANT A CAREER
AFTER HIGH
SCHOOL?!

NEED TO KNOW MORE
ABOUT WHAT'S AFTER
PRHS?

4-YEAR, 2-YEAR,
TRADE/TECHNICAL
SCHOOL, MILITARY,

WORK?

YOUR COUNSELOR CAN
HELP!

PRHS Counseling Department

Tondra White - Students A-Cou
tondra.white@ucps.k12.nc.us

Carly Patterson - Students Cov-Halk
carly.patterson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Bryan James - Students Hal-Mc
bryan.james@ucps.k12.nc.us

Michaela Boeche - Students Me-Sg
michaela.boeche@ucps.k12.nc.us

Shari Davison - Students Sh-Z
shari.davison@ucps.k12.nc.us



Winter Athletic Schedules

[Full Season Schedules can be found here!](#)

This Week's Sports Schedules !

Basketball

WJV

MJV

WV

MV

12/13	Friday	East Meck	Home	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
12/17	Tuesday	Butler	Away	3:30	4:30	6:00	7:30
12/19	Thursday	Indy	Home	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30

Wrestling

Saturday	12-14	Piedmont Individual Tournament	8:00am	Piedmont
Wednesday	12-18	Hickory Ridge, Independence Tri	6:00pm	Hickory Ridge

Indoor Track

12/16/10	Monday	RR, Butler, Garinger	Providence	6:00
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Swim

12/18	Wednesday	Butler High School	Matthews, NC	4:00
12/21	Saturday	JDL Fast Track (Holiday HS Invite)	Winston Salem, NC	9:00





At PRHS all Juniors have time in Advisory each week to work on ACT prep assignments. ALL PRHS Students can work on ACT and SAT prep at will using Albert!

Prepare for the ACT/SAT with Albert



All UCPS students have access to an Albert account for self-paced ACT and SAT practice.

Click on Albert for a tutorial on accessing a student account.



UCPS
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Growing Possibilities...



Check IT OUT!



Coach Welch recognizes Mrs. Crowell! Mrs. Haas recognizes Mrs. Hoff with the #capturecaptain award!



Mrs. Haas recognizes Mrs. Hoff with the #capturecaptain award!



Mr. Forman recognizes Mr. LaBianca f with the #capturecaptain award!



Culinary academy students taste test different dressings!



Congratulations to Mrs. Sells on her retirement! Mrs. Sells has been at PRHS since 2006!



Students learn about coding in advisory this week!

Dr. Houlihan takes the superintendent's advisory council out to a surprise lunch!





Announcements

The next meeting of the PRHS GSA club will be held on Monday, Dec. 16th from 3:00-3:45pm in room F108. All are welcome. Come help us to promote equality for all.

Attention all singers, auditions for the Pirate Notations will be held after school on December 18, please sign up for an audition time on the chorus room door, A105. Be prepared to sing any song you would like from memory and acapella. If you have any questions please see Mr. Drake.

Philosophy club members, don't forget! There will be a meeting next Monday, December 16th. Make sure you have your \$5 white elephant gift with you!

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) affords accelerated students the opportunity to earn high school course credit by a demonstration of mastery in the course curriculum without requiring the student to complete classroom instruction for 135 hours of seat time. For specific information about CDM (NC DPI Guidelines) please contact Mr. James. The Credit Demonstrated by Mastery application is open. Click on the link to open application <https://ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/5702>. If you are interested please complete the application by December 20, 2019 and turn it in to Mr. James.

Yearbooks are on sale for \$80. Prices will increase at the end of December. Buy yours at Jostens.com today.

Our Winter Chorus concert will be held on December 17, at 6:30 pm in our auditorium. Come out and enjoy some great music!

There will be an interest meeting for Men's Tennis on Wednesday December 18th from 3:00-3:30 in the PE Classroom B107.

"Seniors please make sure to see Mrs. Martinez before or after school in guidance to check the spelling of your name for diplomas. You may also see her in the cafeteria during your lunch."





School Counseling

Follow us on Twitter: @PRHSCounseling

From the Counseling Office

Seniors, as you begin receiving offers of admission from colleges and universities... **Congratulations!** You have been working hard and this is an exciting time for you all. Moving forward you have important decisions to make, and if you have questions about an admissions letter and what it means for you, please see your counselor.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) affords accelerated students the opportunity to earn high school course credit by a demonstration of mastery in the course curriculum without requiring the student to complete classroom instruction for 135 hours of seat time. For specific information about CDM (NC DPI Guidelines) please contact Mr. James. The Credit Demonstrated by Mastery application is open. Click on the link to open application <https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/5702> . **If you are interested please complete the application by December 20, 2019 and turn it in to Mr. James.**

If you receive ANY scholarships or grants, please notify Ms. Patterson with the name of the college or scholarship/grant and the amount. Even if you are not attending that school or accepting the award, please notify Ms. Patterson. You can print the letter and put it in her box in the counseling office or forward the email to carly.patterson@ucps.k12.nc.us.

PRHS Counselors are offering Monday appointments between 4-7pm for parents and students to meet about post secondary planning. Meetings are for 45 minutes. To sign up for a meeting visit <https://calendly.com/shari-davison/45min>.

PRHS families have been given an opportunity to support families in need with weekend food bags. This program is sponsored by "Food for Families" and is provided at no cost to you. The food bags will be given to your student on Friday afternoons to take home for the weekend. **If you would like to benefit from this program, please contact your child's school counselor, Mr. James to sign up.**

Follow us on Twitter: @PRHSCounseling

Follow us on Instagram: prhscounseling

SAT

December 14	February 8 (register by January 10)	April 4 (register by February 28)
June 13 (register by May 8)	July 18 (register by June 19)	

ACT

March 14 (register by February 14)	May 2 (register by April 3)	June 6 (register by May 8)
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School Counseling Information

Scholarships & Opportunities

The **University of North Carolina at Greensboro** is now accepting applications for its next cohort of **Teacher Education Fellows!** The [UNCG Teacher Education Fellows Program](#) awards a **\$20,000.00 scholarship** distributed incrementally over four years of study at UNCG. In addition to scholarships, the UNCG Teacher Education Fellows Program includes a variety of other benefits, including integrated seminars, networking events, community engagement opportunities, and leadership development. Fellows also live in relative proximity to one another as part of the Residential Colleges or Lloyd International Honors College. Additionally, Fellows study abroad during their sophomore year as part of the global focus of the program. Priority will be given to students who **complete the application by January 1, 2020**. Please see Ms. Patterson if you have any questions.

Savannah College of Art & Design Design Distinguished Scholars Award- The SCAD Distinguished Scholars Award is a \$20,000 annually renewable scholarship for students who maintain a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.0. Offering more than 100 degree programs, SCAD champions outstanding students who will go on to shape the future of creative professions. Life at SCAD is engaging within and beyond the classroom, and boasts a university experience that includes programs and activities to promote student interaction, leadership and community service. If you are interested in being nominated for the SCAD Distinguished Scholars Award, complete your resume in Naviance and **see Ms. Patterson no later than January 10, 2020**.

Seniors, check your emails for important information about scholarships and deadlines. Check out our **December Scholarship Newsletter** and look on the PRHS School Counseling Scholarship webpage for more information as well. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KxofqXR_MJkC9oA_4dT6suHOH1Wni634S1gE2yB2JA/edit?usp=sharingn

UNC Asheville is proud to announce the new University Scholars Program. The University Scholars Program provides students the best possible opportunity to acquire the skills, knowledge, and understanding necessary to pursue their goals and take their places as leaders and contributing citizens in a changing society.

Recipients of University Scholars Program awards are chosen through a rigorous selection process. They are competing for scholarship awards up to \$10,000 per year along with additional funding of \$10,000 to support high-impact learning opportunities such as study abroad, undergraduate research, and internships. Selected nominees will be invited to the UNC Asheville campus for interviews with faculty, staff, and student leaders as part of the University Scholars Day. If you are interested in being nominated for this scholarship, complete your resume and see Ms. Patterson no later than **December 20, 2019**.

Meredith College offers an annual **women's leadership conference** for high school juniors who are interested in developing and sharpening their leadership skills. The Meredith College Office of Student Leadership and Service, in conjunction with the Office of Admissions, will be hosting this free conference on Saturday, February 1, 2020. If you are interested and feel you may benefit from this event, you can register [here](#) by the registration deadline - **Friday, January 24, 2020**. A confirmation email with additional details will then be sent.



School Counseling Information

Opportunities for **AP Computer Science** students-- College Board has announced exciting scholarship, internship, and summer program opportunities for students who are taking AP Computer Science. College Board has teamed up with business and industry leaders in computer science—including Amazon, Facebook, and Google—to **send students customized emails with links to opportunities they qualify for**. Students will simply click the links in the emails to apply. If you have taken AP Computer Science or are currently enrolled, check your email regularly for exciting opportunities. If you are interested in taking AP Computer Science and learning more about the scholarships and programs you may be eligible for, please see your counselor.

Students, apply for a FREE trip to Washington, DC. The NC Electric and Union Power Cooperatives will be selecting three High school juniors to receive a one week all-expenses paid trip to Washington DC with 1,800 students from across the nation.

Deadline to apply is December 31, 2019. Find more information at the following link:

<https://union-power.com/youthtour>

The application for the **2020 Martha Guy Summer Institute** opens December 1st, 2019, with all application materials due by February 28th, 2020. The program includes instruction on Appalachian State University's campus in Boone, North Carolina, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Appalachian is the premier public undergraduate institution and boasts the largest business school of the 17 campuses in the University of North Carolina System. We are seeking students who have a **sincere interest in business as a college major** and demonstrate leadership potential. Students who embrace and appreciate new people, opportunities and experiences are ideal for MGSi. If you are interested, **you must apply by February 28**.

For more information: <https://marthaguy.appstate.edu/>

The **Triangle Youth Leadership Conference** is organized by NCSU Student Organization Triangle Youth Leadership Services, and is now in its eleventh year! Every year, they organize the Triangle Youth Leadership Conference, a two-day conference that brings high school students from across the state to NC State's campus for two days of leadership development. The conference includes hands-on workshops designed to hone leadership skills, as well as opportunities to hear from an inspiring keynote speaker and explore NC State's campus. TYLC will immerse students in hands-on workshops, empower them to develop action-focused service projects, and give them a chance to explore NC State's campus and interact with like-minded peers from across North Carolina. Learn more about Triangle Youth Leadership Services and the conference here: triangleleadership.com

TYLC11 will be held January 24th and 25th, 2020 on NC State's campus, [STUDENT APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN NOW!](#)



Career Opportunity



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HIRING!**



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- * Valuable Job Experiences for your Future Career
- * Team Atmosphere
- * Flexible Scheduling and Hours
- * Competitive Wages with Bonus Opportunities
- * Drama Free Work Environment

Requirements Include:

- * Must 16 years or older – (or within 3 Months of 16th Birthday)
- * Possess a Caring Attitude
- * Believe in Teamwork and “GREAT” Customer Service
- * Ability to work responsibly in a family atmosphere

Print application, fill out and drop off at either location:

1. **Bruster's Of Monroe - 2166 Commerce Dr. Monroe NC 28110**
2. **Bruster's Of Indian Trail - 531 Indian Trail Rd. Indian Trail NC 28079**

Link for applications:

<http://brusters.com/brusters-jobs>



Ports of Information for Pirates:

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[@porterridgebandofpirates](#) [@PR_volleyball](#)
[@prhsffa](#) (Future Farmers of America club)

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