

Getting prepared for our first Online Open House, SAT prep for seniors and other news



### **Getting prepared for first Online Open House**

We are so grateful that each year we are able to host an Open House, so that parents and teachers can meet one another and start to develop the healthy relationships we all need to help all our students. Obviously this year will be more than a little different -- and we are still grateful that together we are finding a way to make this work online next Wednesday, September 23 starting at 6:00 p.m. and ending at 7:40 p.m..

On Tuesday you will be receiving an email that will contain a lot of important information, including the schedule for the evening, your son's or daughter's class schedule and teachers, and a tutorial that explains how to access each class online on the night of Open House. In preparation for the event, please connect with your son or daughter, who can walk you through how to access Google Classroom using their credentials, and how to find the Google Meet links for each class. If your daughter or son can attend Open House with you, this would be even better. She or he has a lot of experience working with Google applications, and this could lead to some really good conversations in your family.

Thanks for your patience as we run this new online approach to Open House, together -- it will be great to see you online next Wednesday!

*One last friendly reminder...*

### **Signing your senior up for the SAT, which will be given on Wednesday, October 14**

The deadline to sign up for the SAT is Monday, September 21. As we mentioned in the email last week, we recommend that you sit down with your student and talk about taking the SAT. Then, if you choose to have your student take the SAT, complete the sign-up by going to this link: <https://forms.gle/QL1JWdKQZLkMYeBJA> Your son or daughter needs to use his or her Portage Public Schools email account to access this link. Thanks for considering this!

### **SAT Prep Series for Seniors!**

For those seniors signing up and preparing to take the SAT on October 14th, Ms. Tama Salisbury and other PC staff will be leading in-person SAT refresher and preparation sessions here at school on Fridays. Our first session, *Know the Test to Do Your Best*, is tomorrow, September 18th from 10-11am. Sessions were announced to students this week, and interested Seniors were asked to sign up in advance on the SAT page of the Grade Level Information Center at [www.pcGLIC.com](http://www.pcGLIC.com). It's important we know who is coming in advance so that we can plan for safety and for materials accordingly. On the GLIC, you will learn more about each session to decide which you'd like to attend, and of course, students are welcome to attend all sessions if interested. Each student who attends will receive a printed copy of a full length practice test (with answers) for practice at home and for use at our weekly sessions. Not a senior? We are working on reimagining our SAT preparation program for juniors, so stay tuned! And, remember that Khan Academy has individualized practice for the SAT online at [www.khanacademy.org/sat](http://www.khanacademy.org/sat).

### **A sibling from the student I wrote about last week also tested positive for the virus**

Last week I mentioned one of our students who tested positive after a week-long vacation with the student's father. I explained that the student is doing well, showing little to no symptoms right now, and the father was hit harder but now is doing better. As the family quarantined, a sibling who is also a PC student also tested positive for the virus. The student has shown no symptoms. Again, and as always, we are grateful for the open communication among us as a community, so we can work to keep all our kids safe.

### **We also had our first colleague test positive**

That colleague is doing really well and has never had symptoms. The colleague decided to take the test as a precaution before visiting with family members. The colleague is in quarantine right now and is still teaching students during this time.

### **Portage Central High School is starting a competitive esports team!**

We are planning to field teams in the following games: Fortnite, League of Legends, Valorant, Super Smash Bros, Overwatch, Rocket League, and Smit! If you have a son or daughter who would be interested in joining one of these teams, please have them email Mr. Sura ([csura@portageps.org](mailto:csura@portageps.org)) or Mr. Carrow ([jcarrow@portageps.org](mailto:jcarrow@portageps.org)) by Thursday, September 24.

### **Parents, want to receive our daily announcements and more information?**

On most days, we send out school announcements covering important student information from administration, teachers, counseling, activities, and athletics. We also send out information from our PTO about meeting dates, events, and fundraisers throughout the year. To receive these emails please follow the [link to our school website to sign up](#).

## Looking to see Friday Night Lights online?

Portage Central Athletics is a member of the School Broadcast Program with the NFHS Network for all events that take place at McCamley Field. We have an automated camera -- the Pixellot -- that will live stream all events at McCamley. There is a \$10.99 monthly access fee. Visit [www.nfhsnetwork.com](http://www.nfhsnetwork.com) and search for Portage Central High School to stream all fall events at McCamley field, including Friday night's varsity game against East Lansing at 7 p.m. #OnwardPotage.

**FALL SPECTATOR REMINDERS**

THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOL IS IN PLACE FOR ALL FOOTBALL, SOCCER, AND VOLLEYBALL EVENTS THIS SEASON:

1. THERE IS **NO** GENERAL ADMISSION TO EVENTS.
2. ONLY TWO SPECTATORS PER PARTICIPANT WILL BE ALLOWED ENTRY INTO THE VENUE.
3. SPECTATORS MUST HAVE A PRE-ASSIGNED VOUCHER TO BE ABLE TO ENTER.
  - A. NO VOUCHER = **NO ENTRY**
  - B. VOUCHERS ARE GIVEN TO PLAYERS TO BE GIVEN TO THEIR FAMILIES
4. ALL SPECTATORS WITH A VOUCHER MUST PAY A **\$9** ENTRY FEE UNLESS THEY ARE PPS STAFF WITH A VALID ID AND CURRENT STAFF PASS, OR A PORTAGE SENIOR CITIZEN WITH A **GOLD CARD**.
5. PLEASE TRY TO PAY WITH EXACT CHANGE.
6. ALL SPECTATORS MUST WEAR FACIAL COVERINGS WHILE INSIDE THE VENUE. THIS INCLUDES BOTH OUTDOOR AND INDOOR FACILITIES.
7. THERE WILL BE NO CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE AT ANY EVENT.
8. PLEASE MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING WHILE AT THE EVENT.
9. THERE WILL BE AVAILABLE LIVE STREAMS OF SOME EVENTS. LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION IN UPCOMING DAYS ON SOCIAL MEDIA AT **@PCMUSTANGSPORTS**

#ONWARDPORTAGE

## Attendance Update

If you plan to report an upcoming absence for your daughter or son who is learning from home, please continue to reach out to the student's teachers to give them a heads up. And, when you do, please copy our Attendance Secretary, Ryan Hamet, at [RHamet@portageps.org](mailto:RHamet@portageps.org) If you plan to report an upcoming absence for your son or daughter who is learning from the building, please call our attendance line at 323-5259. In both cases, of course, it is good practice for your son or daughter to reach out to his or her teachers to inquire about makeup work.

## Food service news

Portage Public Schools will be offering FREE breakfast and lunch meals to all in person learners as well as virtual learners! The USDA has authorized that all schools will be able to provide two meals to students each day for free, regardless of benefit status. The free meals offered will be breakfast and lunch. Meals will be at no charge through December 31st or until the grant funding is depleted. To take advantage of the free meals, please take a look at the Secondary Meal Program document here: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QzX1tjhPkE2bwiXoH3jInhrUNcZlFNaynWuQSk\\_AGI/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QzX1tjhPkE2bwiXoH3jInhrUNcZlFNaynWuQSk_AGI/edit)

Or you can go to the Food Service page on the district's website. Thanks!

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