

Homecoming, final exams and host of reminders



For Thursday, March 11

Hit the GLIC!

The [Grade-Level Information Center](#) has information that is relevant for each class.

An archives for this year's weekly [Mustang Minutes](#)

And to make it easier to find things, check out the [Mustang Minutes Index](#).

Our Daily Announcements to our students

[Our website](#)

[Our YouTube channel](#)

Important dates to get on your calendar

- March 12 - Deadline to submit change to face-to-face for the 4th quarter, if desired
- May 4 - Underclassmen Academic Awards (This is a correction from last week's *Mustang Minutes*, our apologies!)

9th Grade Students/New Students attending school Face to Face in the 4th quarter

On Monday, April 5th, our first day back after Spring Break, any 9th grade student or upperclassmen who has never attended PCHS will be given a tour of the building during 1st hour. Please have your student go directly to the Commons/Cafeteria area at the start of school. We will have signs and adults to guide them. Our goal is to help acclimate them to Portage Central, so they know the lay of the land and how to find their classes, etc. Please contact Nikki Smith, Activities Director, at nsmith@portageps.org or 269-323-5265, if you have any questions.

Our plans for students’ final days this semester, final exams

Final exams will not be administered second semester of 20-21. Instead, that week will be used for remediation, make-up work, and where necessary, identifying the essential content for students to complete for summer school. So that teachers may focus on students who are in danger of losing graduation credits, only students who failed one or both marking periods will attend class during the exam periods. Students who pass both marking periods will not attend classes on exam days. Those who fail either marking period will be required to attend those classes during exam week -- even if their semester grade calculates to a passing grade. Students who complete enough work this week will be assigned a “P” (Pass) on their transcript as opposed to a letter grade and will receive graduation credit for the course.

Seniors who pass both marking periods will not be required to attend on Senior Exam Days (May 24 and 25th at PC/PN). Seniors who failed one or both marking periods will be required to attend their regular class schedule and complete work on the exam days in order to attempt to earn credit for the class.

The schedule for exam week

Tuesday June 8th

1st hour	7:40	8:40
2nd hour	8:45	9:45
3rd hour	9:50	10:50
4th hour	10:55	11:50

Thursday June 10th

1st hour	7:40	8:40
2nd hour	8:45	9:45
3rd hour	9:50	10:50
4th hour	10:55	11:50

Wednesday June 9th

5th hour	7:40	8:40
6th hour	8:45	9:45
7th hour	9:50	10:50
Any Class	10:55	11:50

Friday June 11th

5th hour	7:40	8:40
6th hour	8:45	9:45
7th hour	9:50	10:55

Homecoming this Saturday!

Student Council will be hosting a drive-in watch party this Saturday, March 13th, for students to come out and support our Mustang men’s varsity basketball team as they take on the Otsego Bulldogs! The game begins at approximately 7 p.m., but

Outdoor **DRIVE-IN BASKETBALL GAME**

WHEN? SATURDAY, MARCH 13TH
 GAME AT 7:00PM ENTRANCE INTO PARKING LOT AT 6:45PM

WHERE? PCHS STUDENT PARKING LOT

NO ENTRANCE FEE, BUT STUDENT COUNCIL ENCOURAGES YOU TO BUY \$1 RAFFLE TICKETS

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE CHAD TOUGH FOUNDATION

students can enter the student parking lot at 6:45 p.m. to claim their spot.

Also, Student Council will be having a senior-only court this year due to Covid-related restrictions and safety precautions. These six court members will be announced and honored at the drive-in during halftime of the basketball game.

The event will be free of charge, but Student Council encourages that you buy \$1 raffle tickets, and all proceeds will be donated to the Chad Tough Foundation. We hope to see lots of Mustangs there!

From our counseling office...

Scheduling classes for next fall

Starting this week, the high school counselors will be working on scheduling for the next school year. They will finish high school scheduling after Spring Break. Here is a breakdown by grade level:

- Ninth graders start on April 6
- Eighth graders start on March 11
- Tenth graders start on March 22
- Eleventh graders start on March 15

Your child will have a scheduling guideline sent to their school email with all the information needed to schedule their classes.

At the end of April, when the counselors have finished with the student consultations, the parents will be sent a form to confirm their child's course requests and mode of instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.

Be sure to talk to your child about their scheduling decisions for next year. Scheduling information can be found on the [PC Grade Level Information Center](#) that pertains to the grade they will enter in the fall.

The last two weeks have been much better with COVID cases

Like we talked about a couple of weeks ago, we had a number of students test positive and many more who went into quarantine. As I mentioned our kids and parents were incredible: they took the situation seriously, they communicated openly with us and with their doctors, and they were thoughtful about our other kids who were affected. Last night was the first night back for our basketball players, so I stopped in at their practices. After being at home for many days, they were back doing what they love: working, competing, and interacting with one another. It was great to see them.

For these past two weeks things have been far quieter, which is also wonderful. We had a few students test positive, most likely because of interactions with close family members who contracted the virus. And I am particularly grateful for those parents: they kept their kids home while they waited for their test results, stopping the spread before it even had a chance to start. That sort of thoughtfulness will become even more important as we have more students in the building, so thank you for your on-going efforts as we work together to keep all our kids safe.

As always, if you have thoughts or questions, please reach out to me anytime.

Just a reminder...

Making your choice about the 4th quarter

Like we shared last week, we again need and want your feedback for what is best for your son or daughter: finishing the school year learning online or returning to face-to-face instruction here in the building.

Last Thursday parents of students who are currently learning virtually were emailed a decision form. The form was sent to parent emails listed first in Skyward to reduce duplicate submissions. Or if you are a parent of a face-to-face learner and wish to change your student's learning mode for 4th quarter by phone, reach out to us at 323-5200 and we will make the change for you. **You will have until Friday, March 12 at midnight to submit your decision.** If we don't hear back from you, your daughter or son will continue in the same mode that she or he was signed up for in the 3rd quarter.

As you make your decision, please keep in mind that we perceive we will have a large number of students who will choose to return, which is wonderful. We have heard from many parents and students they think it is best for them to re-engage face to face. If many students do return to the building, we just want to be clear that we would not be able to maintain social distancing of six feet between students.

If you have any thoughts or questions, please reach out to me anytime. Thanks for this!

Just a reminder...

AP exam information

AP exams will look a little different this year. They are going to be all online and can be taken at home. The dates have been modified, and our students will be testing later, which gives our teachers and students more time to prepare. Please review the important information linked in the document below. More information will be shared as testing gets closer.



Ever wonder how the magic of yearbook happens?

Ever wanted to be a part of something **truly awesome** and that lives on for all of time?

If you love writing, photography, meeting new people, graphic design, and being part of a team, you're in **LUCK**, and Yearbook might be the class for you.

Fill out an application and email it to Mrs. Alburtus at aalburtus@portageps.org before March 25.

To apply, go to www.pcglic.com and click on the **YEARBOOK** tab under your grade level.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Kui95JyWwJk3HKSQlKGbU72H_9aW9WzQ/view?usp=sharing

Featured Club of the Week: Chess Club

Chess Club was started this year during the pandemic to help kids connect with each other and work on their chess skills. Chess Club provides a platform for students to play chess with each other. Has chess been your passion? Come and show off your moves. Never played before? We have students to teach you the way of the game. Whether they want to learn, improve, or simply have fun, Chess Club is truly for anyone. Chess Club meets VIRTUALLY on Friday's at 3pm. If your student is interested in this club, please contact Mr. Czuk at cczuk@portageps.org.

Happy for the sun and this warm weather... they give me even more hope,

Eric Alburtus

ealburtus@portageps.org

And if you want even more PC news...

[Athletics](#)

[Activities](#)