



## Palmer Ridge High School

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### Palmer Ridge High School Profile 2019-2020

**COMMUNITY:** Palmer Ridge High School is a public and college-oriented high school which officially opened its doors on August 14, 2008. Our current student enrollment for 2019-2020 is approximately 1200 in grades nine through twelve. Palmer Ridge utilizes an alternating block schedule, a daily schedule of four, ninety-two minute periods. Students are limited to taking seven classes per semester.

#### MISSION STATEMENT:

*Ignite, Engage, Encourage, and Expect Excellence*

- IGNITES a passion for learning,
- ENGAGES learners with multiple opportunities,
- ENCOURAGES each student to be challenged in his/her own unique abilities and interests, and
- EXPECTS EXCELLENCE in learning, citizenship, and habits of the mind in a dynamic world.

#### VISION STATEMENT:

**The Staff** of the school is passionate about learning; dedicated lifelong learners; collaborative with each other, focusing on improved student achievement; and firmly committed to a Professional Learning Community that is focused on using student data to improve individual student achievement.

**The Curriculum** and Instruction prepares students for their futures in a dynamic world; is balanced and meaningful; is active and purposeful, utilizing innovative programs that focus on high levels of student achievement and growth; addresses multiple learning styles; and is student-centered, based on the individual student data and goals.

**FACULTY:** The Palmer Ridge staff is well educated and qualified. There are 100 total staff members who work with Palmer Ridge students. All teachers and administrators have Colorado certification as well as many holding a master's degree. One principal, three assistant principals, one Dean of Students and four counselors provide students with support services.

#### DISTRICT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must have 25 credits to graduate.

English	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Mathematics	2 credits
Science	2 credits
Physical Education	1.5 credits
Health	.5 credits

The following minimum course requirements are recommended for students planning on attending a college or university: 4 English credits, 4 math credits, 3 social studies credits, 3 science credits, and 2 world language credits. Included in the above areas are English I, II, III, Algebra, Geometry, Earth Science, Biology, Civics, and American History. PRHS highly recommends that prospective college or university students take additional credits in English IV, Algebra II, Chemistry, and an additional (third) year in world language.

#### GPA and Class Ranking

Grade Point Averages and Class Rank are based on grades 9-12, and calculated using a 4.0 scale. All Advanced Placement courses are weighted on a 5.0 scale. Students must finish the course and take the AP exam to have their grades weighted. Semester grades are used. Please note honors courses are not weighted.

#### GRADING SYSTEM

Grade point averages are often used to determine eligibility for college or university entrance or for standing on the honor roll, principal's list, or minimum graduation standards. Grading system is as follows:

Grading Scale All Classes except AP:	A = 4 points	B = 3 points	C = 2 points	D = 1 point	F = 0 points
AP Grading Scale (if AP exam was taken):	A = 5 points	B = 4 points	C = 3 points	D = 1 point	F = 0 points

## POST GRADUATE PLACEMENT

- In a class of 294 students, 65% of the graduates are attending a 4-year college and 17% are attending a 2-year college.
- Of the college bound students, 59% are attending in state colleges and 40% are attending out-of-state colleges.
- 6% entered the military services

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE OFFERINGS

Palmer Ridge High School participates in the College Board's national Advanced Placement program. PRHS currently offers classes in AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP English Language & Composition, AP Literature & Composition, AP European History, AP U.S. History, AP U.S. Government & Politics, AP Human Geography, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Spanish, AP French, AP Psychology, AP Photo, AP Studio Art: 3D Design and AP Art (Drawing/Painting).

## CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

Eligible students may enroll in college courses through Pikes Peak Community College and/or UCCS with counselor approval. Both high school and college credit is earned through this concurrent enrollment option.

Additionally, certain academic high school courses offered at PRHS are eligible for college credit through the CU-Succeed Program, CCU and PPCC.

## CAREER START PROGRAM

The Career Start Program (formerly AVP) is offered through Pikes Peak Community College and the International Salon and Spa Academy. It provides occupational skill development and training for junior and senior high school students.

## OTHER PROGRAMS OFFERED

LPSD is now offering an Online High School at Palmer Ridge. Students are required to meet with their counselor and complete an application. Once completed, the application will be reviewed and processed.

## HONORS COURSE OFFERINGS

The following honors courses prepare students for the AP exam or are taught at the college level: Honors American History, Honors Civics and Economics, Honors English 1, Honors English 2, Honors Chemistry and Honors Biology. Honors classes are not weighted.

## STANDARDIZED TESTING

Students participate in the following standardized tests: ASVAB, MAPS, PARCC, PSAT, SAT and Advanced Placement exams.

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Palmer Ridge provides a full complement of both boys' and girls' interscholastic sports, special interest clubs and organizations. Student involvement remains a key theme in all of the school's activity programs.

Many of our band and choir students have been selected as all state musicians, and our performing ensembles have consistent superior ratings. The "Bear Necessity Theatre Company" has several productions annually, and has developed an outstanding reputation for its artistry.

## UNIQUE FACTS

- PRHS had the first Boettcher scholar in 2016
- Three National Merit Scholarship Recipients and eight commended students in 2019
- The Class of 2019 had 4 military academy appointments
- PRHS had over \$14 million dollars in scholarship offerings

## PROGRAM AND TEST RESULTS

PSAT 8/9 TEST SCORES				
Year	# of Tests Takers	Evidence Based Reading & Writing (EBRW)	Math	Mean
2019	305	510	497	1007
PSAT 10 TEST SCORES				
Year	# of Tests Takers	Evidence Based Reading & Writing (EBRW)	Math	Mean
2019	263	518	496	1015
SAT SCORES (State Mandated)				
Year	# of Tests Takers	Evidence Based Reading & Writing (EBRW)	Math	Mean
2019	262	575	566	1129
ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS				
Year	408 students took 753 AP exams with 76.9% scoring 3 or above.			

