



Ridge Connection

*"Ignite, Engage, Encourage, and
Expect Excellence"*

December, 2016
Volume 9, Winter Issue

Palmer Ridge High School, 19255 Monument Hill Road, Monument, CO 80132

Phone: 719-867-8600

www.prhs.lewispalmer.org

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

PRHS Community,

Thanksgiving is over and we are moving forward to the next holidays. It's my hope your family had a quality break with some time to relax last month. Fall sports are in the record books and winter sports have already started competitions. Band and choir performances are scheduled so check your calendars and see if you can make it to one of these excellent performances. I hope you had the opportunity to go to our musical production *Starlight Express* last month. It was truly an outstanding show that our students worked countless hours on. I continue to be impressed with how talented our students are in so many different areas.

In a short time our students will begin taking their finals for first semester. I would encourage students and parents to review their current grade in each class through Infinite Campus. This should be done prior to taking the final so that you are informed about the most up to date grade in each class. All students need to have an understanding of how the final exam can and will impact their overall grade in the class. As always, we will not allow students to take finals prior to the official finals scheduled times. Please also be aware that the district high schools have scheduled an extra final day make up on December 21st, 2016 in case there is a delayed start or snow days during the first semester finals week.

It's important to make sure your son or daughter is getting plenty of sleep prior to the exams. Our teachers will continue to cover and review material for the final exam for the first semester. Teachers will have a one hour class review session prior to the final exam; however, it is not possible to review in one class period all the information that will be on the test.

Please mark your calendars for the AP Night and College Course Night at PRHS on January 23, 2017 from 6-8:30 p.m. Again, I truly appreciate the support you continue to provide for our school and community and look forward to our work together in 2017!

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Gabel".

Gary Gabel

"GO BEARS"

Calendar of Upcoming Events

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| December 14-20 | Finals Week |
| December 21 | Teacher workday, No classes |
| December 21-Jan. 5 | Winter Break |
| January 5 | Teachers report, No classes |
| January 9 | Students return |
| January 16 | No Classes, District Closed |
| January 18 | Delayed Start, PLC Day |
| January 23 | AP Night and College Course Night at PRHS/6-8:30 p.m. |
| February 16 | District 38 Spring College Info Night at PRHS/5-8 p.m. |
| February 20 | District Closed, No classes |
| February 23 | 8 th Grade Registration/6-8 p.m. |



Winter



PRHS UPCOMING Tour Dates

BE A BEAR!

Are you considering Palmer Ridge High School for the 2017-2018 school year?

If so, PRHS will be offering tours for you and your student on the following dates and times. Please contact PRHS at 719-867-8600 to sign-up. This tour is meant for out-of-district students wishing to open enroll or for new families moving to our area. Present 8th grade Monument Academy and Lewis-Palmer Middle School students who live within PRHS boundaries will be offered a tour on 8th Grade Registration Night, Thursday, February 23rd.

Friday, January 20th @ 1:30 p.m.

Friday, February 17th @ 1:30 p.m.

The Golden Bear Award

The Golden Bear Award is a monthly award given to an outstanding PRHS staff member who has gone above and beyond the call of duty. Staff members are nominated by their colleagues, and a finalist is chosen by the PRHS administrators. The name of the winner goes on a plaque which is located in the front office.

The following staff members have been chose as Golden Bears: **Lashelle Brown, Jim Williams** and **Peter Gordon** are the most recent recipients of the Golden Bear award.

Lashelle Brown is our health clerk. Lashelle works extremely hard working with our student population when they are sick and healthy. She is a great listener and has a positive influence on our students. Lashelle is a great team player and fills various rolls in the front office.

Jim Williams has been a Social Studies teacher since PRHS opened in 2008. His passion for teaching and building positive relationships with students is amazing. He consistently is recognized and selected by senior classes to be a class herald at graduation. He has served the past 5 years as the faculty rep for our Parent Advisory. He is currently the 9th grade boys' basketball coach.

Peter Gordon has been a Social Studies teacher at PRHS for the past two years. During this time, he has made a tremendous impact with students in the classroom, as a coach for baseball and football. His dedication and commitment to students is remarkable and we are fortunate to have him at PRHS.



Be a BEAR!

D38 Open Enrollment Window NOW OPEN!

It's Time to Join the Tradition of Excellence!

Choice Enrollment is open January 3rd through February 17th, 2017!

This is the time period for in-district and non-resident students to enroll in a school other than their assigned, neighborhood location.

Important information: Students who reside outside the boundaries of Lewis-Palmer School District must complete an application every year in order to remain enrolled in Lewis-Palmer School District (not applicable to Monument Academy since charter school policies differ). Students who were previously choice enrolled from outside the district are "grandfathered" and may finish out the grade levels served by that school. There was no change for students who reside within Lewis-Palmer School District once approved, choice enrollment is valid for the grade levels served by that school.

From the Athletic Director, *Jimmy Porter*

Winter sports are underway and have started their non-league competitions. Conference games and matches will start after the break in our always tough Pike Peak Athletic Conference. You can look up all our schedules on pikespeakathleticconference.org. Enjoy your holidays and family this month and don't forget to get out and support your Bears.

Bear Down,

Jimmy Porter
jporter@lewispalmer.org



Great Music News!

Congratulations to the following band students who have been selected for All City, All City Jazz, All State Jazz, and All State Orchestra.

ALL CITY HONOR BAND: 29 PRHS students, plus 2 alternates (highest total of all schools involved). There were 140 students selected from 23 area schools:

Flute

Shelby Kravchin
Rachel Xu
Renee Smith (flute and piccolo)

Oboe

Rebecca Kopacz (oboe and English horn)
Caitlyn O'Grady 11
Emilee Feve

Clarinet

Jasper Howald - ALT
Alex LaVerde
Zachary Shepherd
Sam Anderson

Bassoon

John Parker/1st chair - top bassoon audition

Saxophone

Bill Jones
Amy Keisling/1st chair- top sax audition
Nathan Kopacz

Trumpet

Adam Teske/1st chair- top trumpet audition)

Horn

Leah Dunphey - ALT
Kirk Lobban
Owen Logsdon

Trombone

Jack Day
Nicholas Welch
Brady Wible

Euphonium

Nathan Adams

Tuba

Nigel Highhouse
David Tarwater

Percussion

Eric Daniel
Kyra Rothwell
Duncan Salmon
Spencer Shook
Holly Young
Maya Liester



ALL STATE ORCHESTRA

John Parker, bassoon (top bassoon audition in the state in all classifications)
Adam Teske, trumpet (top trumpet audition in the state in all classifications)
Maclin Tucker, trumpet
Jack Day, trombone
Nick Welch, trombone

ALL STATE JAZZ BAND

Maclin Tucker, trumpet (top trumpet audition in the state in all classifications)
Jack Day, trombone
Nick Welch, alternate trombone

ALL CITY JAZZ BAND

Jack Day, trombone
Nick Welch, trombone

ATTENDANCE SECRETARY OFFICE NUMBERS

Please call the appropriate attendance secretary to report absences, late arrivals or early dismissals.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Student's Last name A-F | | |
| Sandra Wall | Secretary | 867-8166 |
| Student's Last name G-O | | |
| Patty Matteo | Secretary | 867-8242 |
| Student's Last name P-Z | | |
| Cindy Feil | Secretary | 867-8165 |

Adopt D38 Program

Got the Not Enough Tax Deductions Blues?

It's December and time to get those last deductions in before the end of the year! Please consider making a donation to the Adopt D38 program, a 501(c)3 organization sponsored by the D38 Foundation. The program was developed by a volunteer parent and designed for individuals and businesses to have an easy way to help a school, department or teacher of their choice in a very meaningful way. Research indicates that teachers spend about \$500 out of their own pockets each year for classroom supplies. **All donations directly impact students.**

There are three different adoption levels to choose from and the choice is **YOURS** as to where the money goes. Each adoptee receives a certificate of adoption and is recognized in school newspapers, newsletters, website, sporting event announcement boards and other media.

From the Registrar's Office

Ordering Transcripts for College and Scholarships

Seniors: Do you need a transcript sent to a college? Make sure you add any colleges you are applying to into your Naviance account and request the transcript. Then see Mrs. Motta in the front office to pay the transcript fee. Transcript cost is \$5.00 each. Once you have added your college to Naviance and paid for it, the transcript will be sent.

Do you need a transcript for a scholarship application? You can order this from **Mrs. Motta** and she will either mail it (bring in the address!) or you may pick up to include with your scholarship documents.

Please allow **2 business days** to process transcript requests after paying. It may not be possible to process a transcript the same day of the request. Pay attention to your deadlines so that you allow plenty of time for us to get your transcript sent out in time to meet your deadlines.

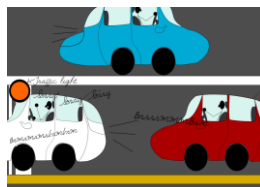
Guidelines:

1. Transcripts will be sent to colleges electronically through Naviance. Log into Naviance and add your college to the **Colleges I'm Applying To** tab. After adding your college, click the **Request Transcript** link.
2. If you are using Common App for your college application, you will also need to complete the Common App matching process in Naviance.
3. Once you have put your college in Naviance, see **Mrs. Motta** to pay for each transcript you are sending.
4. Pay a one-time fee of \$5.00 for your Common App Transcript, which can then be sent to multiple Common App colleges.
5. If required by your college, you may order mid-year transcripts starting 1/10/17, when 1st semester grades will be on the transcript.
6. Paper copies of transcripts for scholarships may also be ordered from **Mrs. Motta** for \$5.00 each.

If you have any questions, you may speak with your counselor or call **Mrs. Motta** at [719-867-8602](tel:719-867-8602).

Student Drop-off and Pick-up

Several parents have contacted our office with concerns about traffic in the drive through lane before and after school. Please be aware that the only lane to pick-up and drop-off students is the lane closest to the curb. The two inside lanes are to be used once a student has been picked-up/dropped-off. These are NOT meant for student pick-up/drop offs! . The congestion is causing dangerous conditions for our students, staff and community. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Speech and Debate Team

Congratulations to **Mrs. Spadinger**, **Ms. Sinkola** and the following PRHS students who competed at **Widelfield's Speech and Debate** meet in October. The competitors received positive feedback and placed well! Way to go!

Public Forum Debate:

Brady Arnold/Parker Johnson/1st Place
Alexis Olmstead/ Kristen Ruggiero/2nd Place
Spencer Shook/ Luke Leonard/6th Place

U.S Extemp:

Joseph Adams/2nd Place
Kyle Ketchell/5th Place

Humorous Interpretation

Braedan O'Neil/4th Place

Interpretation of Drama

Emma Gustavsson/5th Place
Rachel Xu/6th Place



National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists and Commended Students

Congratulations to **Jimmy Gammell**, **Jasper Howald**, **Daniel Klahn** and **Erin Tirpak** who are semi-finalists for National Merit and have applied to become a finalist for the scholarship.

Congratulations to **Jacob Cheesman**, **Celeste Doiron**, **Morgan Edstrom**, **Samantha Jackson**, **Luke Leonard**, **Andrew Lester**, **Kirk Lobban** and **Spencer Shook** who were commended on the National Merit Scholarship program. Way to go!



Harvest of Love Donations

Thanks to your help the Palmer Ridge High School community of parents, students and staff who donated to this year's Harvest of Love. Your dedication to our community will help many families in need this holiday season. PRHS Student Council thanks you all from the bottom of our hearts.

Choir Sings National Anthem



Congratulations to the PRHS Choir who was selected to sing the National Anthem at the Denver Nuggets game on November 30th. Great job, you made us proud!

Breaking News. . . Stock Market Experience Competition

Congratulations to the PRHS team who competed in the Stock Market Experience Competition and won 1st Place in the Pikes Peak Region. The following PRHS seniors competed against over 4,000 students from all schools in Colorado. Way to go BEARS!!!

DECA Kudos!

Congratulations to the following DECA students who displayed exceptional poise and determination at the recent DECA District completion held earlier this month. The following students will be advancing to the State competition in their role play event in February. Good luck BEARS!!!

Congratulations to all the students for a job well done!

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Hayden Lloyd | Buying and Merchandising Team Decision Making |
| Mackenzie Wolfe | Buying and Merchandising Team Decision Making |
| Kaitlyn MacPherson | Financial Consulting |
| Megan Skahill | Food Marketing |
| Luke Mattea | Food Marketing |
| Duncan Everhart | Hotel and Lodging Management |
| Jenna McGann | Hotel and Lodging Management |
| Regan Mukpik | Human Resources Management |
| Alvin Angeles | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Megan Ward | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Bella Converse | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Bailey Rasic | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Olivia Hiser | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Paiton Riggle | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Andrew Blumel | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Abigail Wolfe | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Novella Medina | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Natalie Richter | Hospitality and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Braeden Mukpik | Marketing Communication |
| Katie Doiron | Principles of Business Management and Administration |
| Sam Riesling | Personal Financial Literacy |
| Megan Sievert | Professional Selling Event |
| Sam Jackson | Restaurant and Food Service Management |
| Jillian McGann | Restaurant and Food Service Management |
| Jasmine Sanders | Sports and Entertainment Marketing |
| Sean Rich | Sports and Entertainment Marketing |
| Brooke Barreire | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Mckenzie Siskind | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Nolin Clark | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Cori Dech | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Tucker Rinaldo | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Garrett Ziegler | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Nathan Strickling | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Trevin Terlizzi | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |

Congratulations the following students for receiving the top test score award:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Luke Mattea | Food Marketing |
| Nathan Strickling | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |
| Trevin Terlizzi | Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making |



Counselor Corner

Freshmen/Sophomores

Naviance is becoming more familiar to our underclassmen this semester as counselors worked with study hall classes to help students create and maintain their Individualized Career and Academic Plan. Naviance is the software tool and database that we use across the district to help students with their college and career planning. Recently, freshman took a personality profile to determine their Myers-Briggs personality type, while sophomores furthered their career exploration by taking the career interest profiler within Naviance. Please use these opportunities to discuss your student's results together and how best to guide them toward their goals. Also encourage your student to use their Naviance account. They can review their results at any time as well as start a resume, search colleges/careers, journal about their plans, and record their goals. The counselors will continue to work with both grade levels in the spring. If your student is having trouble with their account, please have them talk with their counselor.

On the personal/social side of things, counselors met with freshmen in study halls to present information on bullying prevention to address concerns of parents and community members about the toll bullying takes on our student population. Counselors also entered the sophomore study halls to deliver information on stress reduction and management. For copies of these presentations, please see the PRHS, Counseling, Personal and Social webpage.

Juniors

This is a very busy and exciting time for our juniors. In October counselors handed back and discussed the Practice SAT results with juniors, and then discussed their junior ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan). This discussion included discussing transcripts, credits, post-secondary plans, using Naviance, financial aid and scholarships. Your junior student should have come home with a folder of valuable information and their Practice ACT results. **Just a reminder that their junior ICAP checklist in Naviance must be completed before their check-out day in May!**

Juniors are beginning to realize their time at Palmer Ridge High School is limited. In January/February they will be picking out courses for their senior year and planning for their post-secondary plans. After registration, counselors will begin meeting individually with students to make sure they are on track to meet their post-secondary goals. If you are curious about your student's transcript, you can find it in Infinite Campus under the Credit Summary tab.

It is a good idea to start working on the application process if one is planning to attend a service academy and look into possibly attending one of the Summer Seminar Camps to see what attendance at a military academy is all about. Girls' and Boys' State is coming up for juniors as well as other scholarship and summer program opportunities.

Seniors

Seniors, this is a busy time of year as many of you are collecting letters of recommendation and submitting college applications! We are very excited for you and look forward to celebrating your acceptance into college! We would like to remind you to be mindful of any upcoming application deadlines. If you need a letter of recommendation or a school report completed by an early January deadline, please notify your counselor, school registrar, or teacher before the winter break. Give your teachers and counselor at least two weeks to work on needed recommendations and plan to get transcripts ordered at least 2-5 days before the end of the semester if you need them to arrive by the first of January. We will all be enjoying Winter Break from December 22nd- January 4th, and many of us may not have access to the various online application portals while away from the school. For example, January 1st is a popular application deadline and many of us will need to submit your information before we leave for the extended break. Thank you for helping us with this process! As students learn of their acceptances to colleges, it is necessary for them to update that information in their Naviance file/account! Keep using Naviance to assist in college and career research and remember to update your application information so we can track where students are applying and being accepted. **Be sure to schedule time with your counselor if you need help with this task.**

Counselor Corner **CONTINUED** . . .

Once 1st semester grades have been finalized, counselors will be going through transcripts again to “catch” any graduation requirement deficiencies, but ultimately it is the students’ responsibility to make sure he/she will have enough credits to graduate in May 2017. If there are any doubts in your mind or questions about meeting requirements, please schedule an appointment with your counselor as soon as possible. **Students with online courses to complete should note that all work, including taking the finals, should be completed by May 1st, 2017.**

Remember to follow-up with common application mid-year transcript requests if your schools require it by paying **Mrs. Motta**, our registrar, the \$5 fee and notify your counselor after you’ve done so, so that we can update the midyear report and send your transcript in Naviance.

Keep checking the Naviance scholarship tab for continually updated postings and double check with the colleges you’ve been admitted to for scholarship opportunities. We will be inviting students to advise us of any/all scholarships earned/won shortly after Spring Break, so be ready! Priority deadlines often fall between March 1 and March 15, so don’t delay in filing your FAFSA for free federal aid. FAFSA is often a requirement for accessing merit as well as need-based scholarships from the colleges. To complete your FAFSA go to www.fafsa.gov.

As always, for the latest information about events and happenings for your students, you can check out the high school website. Go to Departments- Counseling. On this page you will find information including: graduation requirements, weighted grades, tutors, local therapists, the area vocational program, college fairs, etc. It is also important to check the Palmer Ridge website for valuable information regarding College and Career opportunities. Be sure to check the calendar for college representative visits, and have your student sign up for visits on Naviance, and enjoy the Holiday Season!

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS COMING UP:

Attention Juniors – Girls’ and Boys’ State Opportunity

Girls’ & boys’ state materials and application information will be available from **Ms. Merrihew** in neighborhood B starting in January. If you’re a junior and are interested in attending an outstanding leadership conference sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary and American Legion Post this summer, (2017), then this may be for you; this is a real chance to learn how our system of government operates. Some expenses will be paid for you if you’re selected to represent PRHS.

Attention All Students Taking AP Courses

January is coming up quickly and it will be that time to once again to register to take the AP Exams! What are the benefits of taking the AP Exams? Well, three words can answer that question: Confidence, Credit, and College Success. By taking AP Exams students develop good study habits; they improve their writing skills and enhance their problem-solving skills. Students who take AP Exams can receive a weighted grade if they complete the course and take the AP Exam. Additionally, students can receive college credit at a variety of colleges and universities in the United States. Research has shown that students who take AP Courses and the exams feel more prepared for college and are more successful in their college courses.

Registration material, the AP Bulletin, and general information on taking the AP Exams this spring will be handed out in late January/early February. AP Exams will be held at Grace Best Education Center and PRHS, and will run from May 1st-May 12th. When you receive the Bulletin and the registration card from your son/daughter, please review the AP Bulletin for detailed testing information and notify your son/daughter’s AP Teacher or the AP Coordinator Tayler Merrihew if you have any further questions. As a reminder, the registration card and payments will be due on FRIDAY, MARCH 10th.

Counselor Corner **CONTINUED.** . .

Area Vocational Program

It is time for students interested in the Area Vocational Program at Pikes Peak Community College to speak with **Ms. Romeo**. She oversees the program and can assist in answering questions about course offerings, schedule, and commitment involved. Please talk with Ms. Romeo about this fantastic opportunity! The Parent/Student Information Night is scheduled for January 17th 6:00 - 7:30pm in the PRHS Auditorium. AVP visit days will be January 27th and February 3rd; application deadlines will be shared at that point in time.

Concurrent Enrollment

March 1 is the deadline for students interested in participating in the Concurrent Enrollment program for the Fall 2016 semester. This program allows juniors or seniors to take college courses (outside of our AP offerings) for both high school and college credit, depending on the fit. Students/parents can speak with their counselor or **Ms. Brahler** (program facilitator) to learn more about district guidelines and program opportunities.

District 38 College Information Night

The District 38 College Information Night will be held on Thursday, February 16th at Palmer Ridge High School. District counselors will be offering various break-out sessions related to getting into college. There will also be vendors available to talk with families about different programs in the area. The evening will begin at 5:30 and conclude at 8:00. The vendors include Pikes Peak Community College, UCCS, Millennium Financial Group, College Living Experience, various military representatives, and Aviation Education Foundation. We look forward to seeing you there!

Warning Letters Regarding Graduation Concerns

Warning letters from counselors will be sent out to seniors in February and juniors in March who are still deficient on credits for a timely graduation. This is a reminder that timely graduation is **your responsibility; counselors are here to assist you with your plans**. Only students who have completed all graduation requirements are allowed to participate in formal end-of-year graduation exercises. (Per District 38 School Board Policy) Parents and students are reminded of the credit requirements, here:

- 3.0 Language Arts
 - 3.0 Social Studies (Civics and Economics and American History Required)
 - 2.0 Math
 - 2.0 Science
 - 1.5 PE
 - 0.5 Health
- Total Credits need to equal at least 25.0**



Please contact your student's counselor if there are any questions in regards to meeting on-time graduations requirements. *Special congratulations to those students who ARE on-time or have already satisfied minimum graduation requirements!*

The PRHS Counseling Team

Ms. Tayler Merrihew / Last names A – E
tmerrihew@lewispalmer.org

Mrs. Stephanie Kugler / Last names M – R
skugler@lewispalmer.org

Lindsey Romeo / Last names F-L
lromeo@lewispalmer.org

Ms. Gwen Brahler / Last names S – Z
gbrahler@lewispalmer.org

IMPORTANT: ATTENTION Parents!**Student Messages/Drop-off Items**

Students are receiving messages from parents/guardians while school is in session. In consideration of teachers, students, and staff, we are requesting that parents make arrangements with their students for after-school plans before they leave for school. **Please note that when a note is delivered, it not only interrupts your student's learning time but also everyone else's in the class.** Students are expected to be prepared for school on a daily basis. No student to student messages will be taken! Please be aware that when a message or lunch is left for a student, it does not guarantee the student will receive his/her message. Another great way to communicate with your student is by text messaging him/her as students are able to check messages during lunch provided that they are not in the academic wing of the school. There is a courtesy phone located in the front office for student to use for emergencies. The student must request permission from front office personnel prior to using the courtesy phone.

If your student knows something is being dropped off, it is your **student's responsibility** to check with Campus Security and pick up the item(s). Messages will not be sent to students for dropped off items. Thank you for your cooperation.

Student's Reporting to Nurse's Office

If a student is ill, the student must report to class and get a pass from the teacher to visit the nurse's office. The nurse/health clerk will then have the student call home if they're not well enough to stay in school for the day.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

This year attendance is done by student's last name. If you have students in multiple grades who are absent on the same day, your student has the same attendance secretary. Please see below to contact the appropriate attendance secretary:

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Student's Last name A-F</i> | | |
| Sandra Wall | Secretary | 867-8166 |
| <i>Student's Last name G-O</i> | | |
| Patty Matteo | Secretary | 867-8242 |
| <i>Student's Last name P-Z</i> | | |
| Cindy Feil | Secretary | 867-8165 |

Attendance Check-In Procedures

Students returning to the building or arriving during the school day are required to check-in with Campus Security before proceeding to the grade level secretary for a pass to class.

Attendance Check-Out Procedures

When students need to check out during the school day, parents must call or send a note to the appropriate secretary before the time the student is to leave. The student is responsible for picking the pass up from the secretary before the dismissal time. Students then show the pass to the teacher for dismissal and give it to Campus Security when exiting the building.

PLEASE NOTE: Parents need to write a note for early dismissal for appointments during the school day. Students must take that note to the appropriate attendance secretary the morning of their appointment and the secretary will give them a pass to be excused for their appointment. This will ensure that your students will be ready for you when you arrive to pick them up.

Illness of Students: Students who are absent because of illness will be marked "excused" only upon notification by a parent/guardian to the grade level secretary (see above for grade level office to call). Calls can be made 24 hours a day by using the voice mail system. Parents/guardians have two days (48 hours) after an absence to clear or excuse an absence. If contact with the school is not made within two days after the absence, it may remain unexcused. A student who has excessive absences in a class or classes may be required by an administrator to provide documentation to excuse any further absence. Please refer to the PRHS Student Handbook.

Parents may request homework for students who will be absent two (2) or more days by calling the appropriate grade level telephone line.

UPCOMING SCHOOL/DISTRICT MEETINGS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS (Formerly Principal's Coffee)

This is an opportunity for parents/guardians to visit with the principal. The next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2017 in the front office conference room from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

PRHS FOUNDATION MEETING

The Palmer Ridge Foundation would like to invite all interested parents to their monthly meetings. Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. in the PRHS Sunset Multi Purpose room. The scheduled dates for the 2016-17 school year are as follows:

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| February 8, 2017 | April 12, 2017 |
| March 15, 2017 | May 10, 2017 |

PRHS PARENT AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The PRHS Advisory Council will hold their monthly meetings in the PRHS Activities Den room A1212, unless otherwise specified, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Parents/guardians and community members are encouraged to attend. All interested parents and/or community members are invited to attend. Meetings are as scheduled for the 2014-15 school year.

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| January 23, 2017 | March 20, 2017 |
| February 27, 2017 | April 24, 2017 |

DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY COUNCIL MEETING

The District Accountability Council (DAC) usually meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please check the district website for upcoming meeting dates.



Palmer Ridge Fight Song

Palmer Ridge Bears, Palmer Ridge Bears
Excellence in all.
Academics, Sports, and Arts
Let us hear you call! (Rah! Rah! Rah!)
Palmer Ridge Bears, Palmer Ridge Bears
Proudly shout our name
"P-R-H-S GO BEARS!" (*shouted, not sung*)
Let's win today!

