

PCSD College Readiness and Workforce Education Newsletter



September 2024

Elementary- College and Career Awareness

What does College and Career Readiness look like in our Elementary Schools?

- Students in the early grades get introduced to local colleges and universities in our area as well as the language used in college many college settings, such as dorms, syllabus, courses.
- They also become aware of different types of major areas of study in colleges and take part in activities that help them link college majors with their career interests.
- Through Student Interests Surveys, Students in 5th and 4th grade begin exploring their interests using Pathful Junior, a college and career exploration platform available to elementary students to help introduce them to different careers based on student interests. Some classes visited Vassar and Marist for college tours last school year.
- This year, we will continue to engage elementary students in college and career readiness activities to increase awareness and encourage exploration of colleges and careers and help them think about how the work they are doing now in their classrooms is preparing them for a bright future.

How can parent/guardians support our work?

Attendance

- Being present in school every day is a college and career readiness skill.
- Coming to school everyday helps prepare students for college and the world of work and is an invaluable habit to cultivate.
- Coming to school every day prepared to start learning ensures that students are prepared academically for the challenges of college, trade school or work, as they will develop the academic skills to be successful in any post-secondary pathway they choose.



Did you know that Career and Technical Education Courses can start at the Middle School? Here are some of the CTE courses at PMS.

Home and Careers

The home and careers class prepare students for family life, work life and careers by providing opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors needed for success.



Keyboarding for Business Applications

Middle school keyboarding classes can help students develop keyboarding skills and learn how to use computers and learn to use these skills for business applications.



Graphic Design

Graphic design is the art of creating and arranging visual elements to communicate a message effectively.



Technology

Students at the Middle School are learning to become Digital Citizens in this class.

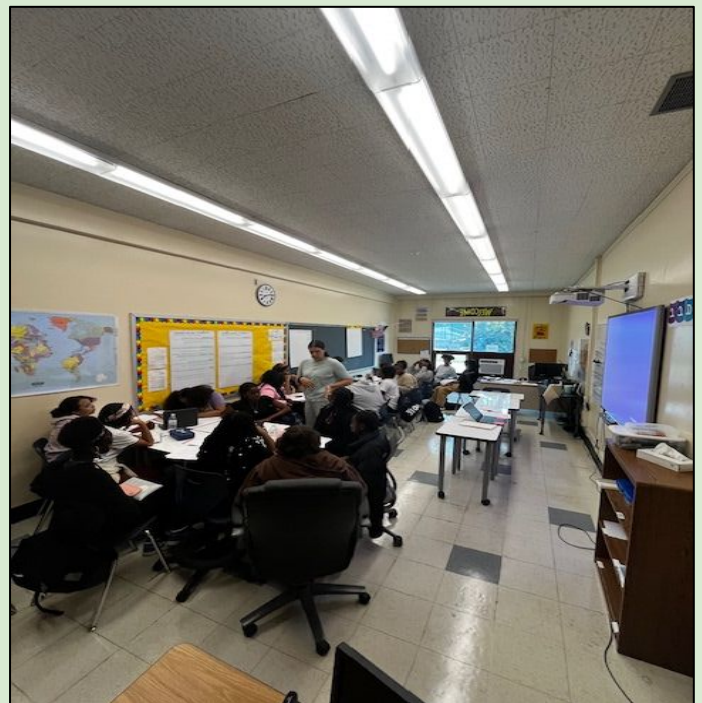


The PHS Career Action Center Youth Entrepreneur Program 2024-25 Kickoff!

The Career Action Center (CAC) is thrilled to continue the Youth Entrepreneur Program (YEP) for 2024! This initiative, a collaboration between the City of Poughkeepsie and the Chamber Foundation, Inc., empowers students of all grades to launch their own businesses with support from CAC mentors and community members. Last year was a great success with 16 PCSD students graduating from the program earning their certificates and receiving a paid stipend for their tremendous efforts.

This September, we welcomed a new cohort of over 25 enthusiastic Poughkeepsie High School students who are diving into the entrepreneurial journey. They are currently busy designing their logos and products as they prepare for their upcoming shark tank presentations. The excitement is building as these young entrepreneurs look forward to finalizing their creations and making their visions a reality.

Stay tuned for updates on their innovative ideas and experiences!



Grade Level Counselor Shifts This Year

We are also very excited to have our very own Nationally Board Certified School Counselor- Mrs. Ann Marie Tucker join our High School Team as the 9th grade Counselor. Mrs. Tucker is one of our most senior counselors. Her data driven practices will serve her students and her team members.



Mrs. Birsner joins our grade level team this year, as the new 6th grade counselor at the Middle School. Mrs. Birsner previous experience at the High School and as a Socioemotional school counselor makes her a perfect fit for our Middle School team as she brings a wealth of knowledge as students transition through the grades.

