

Dear parents and students,

We hope you have all had a restful and fun summer. Congratulations on your hard work for raising our school grade to a C. We have been spending many days and weeks working on a schedule that will fit as many needs and wants as possible for the upcoming school year. We have also been working on what can be implemented to further improve our school culture and help raise our level of success.

Schedule pickup will be on Tuesday, August 8 from 8:30am - 11:30am. Freshmen orientation will also be on this day at 9:00am in the gym. You will be able to go to the classrooms to get an idea of where you will be traveling during the school day. Schedule change requests can only be turned in during the first 5 days of the **semester**. This does not mean that your schedule will change, but it will be considered.

In the interest of safety on our campus, all students will be required to wear an ID badge every day. Students will be given two ID's. Each additional ID will cost \$3 to cover our cost of making the ID's. These ID's must be visible at all times. Hats are not allowed in the building. Hoods may not be worn in the buildings. Cell phones are only allowed to be used in the cafeteria before school, during lunch or after school. Headphones and earbuds are only allowed to be used in the classroom with computers, laptops or chromebooks.

In order to participate in any in-school function (pep rallies) or dance after the first nine weeks, students must have no D's or F's on the report card. The first event that this will affect is the Homecoming Dance on Friday, October 20 that will take place immediately after the Homecoming Game vs Orange Park High School. Tickets will be sold at lunch on game day and students must present their report card in order to purchase a ticket. Tickets will not be sold at the dance.

We have two new programs this year: AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) and Advanced Manufacturing. AVID is for students in the academic middle that need some more support to be successful and attend a four year college after high school. Many of these students have been identified and will be in the AVID elective with Mrs. McNeill. Advanced Manufacturing is a class in partnership with Georgia Pacific that will offer industry certification to help students be ready for the workforce immediately after graduation.

We are excited to begin some new rewards programs this year at PHS. Some students have been identified as Gold or Platinum Panthers and will be receiving a letter in the mail soon. We will also be giving away a t-shirt every week in each grade level to a student that had perfect attendance the previous week (this means no tardies or early checkouts). We will have rewards each nine weeks for attendance (no tardies or absences), no discipline referrals and all A's/B's on the report card.

We are looking forward to a fantastic and exciting school year as we move toward greater success for our students. We believe that all of our students will be successful, but they must choose to be an active participant in their education. Make it a great year or not, the choice is yours. GO PANTHERS!!!