



9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent and Student Information

# Important Facts to Remember

For promotion to the next grade level:

- ☐ **At least 5** credits must be earned for a student to be considered a sophomore.
- ☐ **At least 11** credits must be earned for a student to be considered a junior.
- ☐ **At least 17** credits must be earned for a student to be considered a senior.
- ☐ **At least 23** credits must be earned for a student to **GRADUATE!!!**

A **transcript** is a record of all the classes taken in high school and includes grades and credits for ALL classes, whether pass or fail.

All grades count toward the overall **GPA (Grade Point Average)** and earning credits for graduation.

All academic and world language courses count for the **HOPE/Zell Miller Grade Point Average**. You can continually monitor HOPE/Zell Miller eligibility through [GAfutures.org](http://GAfutures.org).

# Athletic Eligibility

- In order to be eligible for sports, students must be on track with credits & earn at least 2.5 credits the previous semester.
- If you are an athlete and plan to play sports in college, to be eligible for NCAA Division 1 or II college athletics, a student must register with the NCAA Eligibility center. It is the student/parent's responsibility to be sure that all requirements are met. Please refer to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) for more information.
- To be eligible to play college athletics at an NAIA-sanctioned school, a student must register with the NAIA Eligibility Center. It is the student/parent's responsibility to be sure that all requirements are met. Please refer to [www.playnaia.org](http://www.playnaia.org) for more information.
- Both websites can be accessed on the PCHS Counseling webpage.

# Breakdown of Requirements

## 4 English Credits:

- Ninth Lit
- World Lit
- American Literature OR AP Lang
- 1 Additional English Credit: British Lit, Advanced Comp, AP Lit, or DE English)

## 4 Math Credits:

- GSE Algebra I or Algebra: Concepts and Connections
- GSE Geometry or Geometry: Concepts and Connections
- GSE Algebra II or Advanced Algebra: Concepts and Connections
- 1 Additional Math Course: (Pre-Calculus, AP Statistics, AP Calculus, Statistical Reasoning, Advanced Math Decision Making, Advanced Financial Algebra, or DE math course) (Some students took Foundations of Algebra which counts as a math for graduation purposes, but students planning to attend a 4-year college will need additional math.)

## 4 Science Credits

- Biology
- Physics OR Physical Science
- Chemistry, Environmental Science, OR Earth Systems
- 1 Additional Science Course

## 3 Social Studies Credits

- World History
- US History
- Government/Economics (.5 credit each, unless taking AP which are full credits each)

## 3 Credits of CTAE, World Language, or Fine Arts

- 3 credits - Do not have to all be in the same category. Example: Student could have 1 CTAE credit, 1 World Language credit, and 1 Fine Arts credit and meet requirements.
- For admission to a 4-year college or university, 2 credits of the same World Language is required.

## 1 Health/Personal Fitness Credit OR 3 credits of JROTC

**4 Additional Elective Credits** (Examples include: Weight Training, Team Sports, Psychology, Mythology, etc.)

# World Language Courses:

**Taking a World Language course is NOT required for graduation, but students who wish to gain admission to a college/university must complete two (2) units of the same World (foreign) Language.**



**Like CTAE and Fine Arts, students may be a pathway completer if 3 sequential World Language courses are completed.**

## Plan of Study

### Being a Pathway Completer

All students are strongly encouraged to select a Plan of Study/Pathway and complete a sequence of **3 courses** in one of the following areas:

- ☐ CTAE
- ☐ Advanced Academics
- ☐ Fine Arts
- ☐ World Language

# How are Advanced Placement/Honors classes beneficial to the student's GPA?



Honors courses are weighted. With successful completion of the course, an average of 70 or above BEFORE weights are added, earns a student five (5) points onto the final course average.



Honors weight is not factored into HOPE GPA.



For example: Student earns an 80 in Honors American Literature – the report card and transcript will reflect an 85 as the weighted points are added to the final average.



Advanced Placement courses add 10 points to the final grade, if a 70 or above has been earned.



For HOPE, an extra .5 weight is added to unweighted AP grade.

# Academic Plan

- Students will be viewing their IGP (Individual Graduation Plan) in advisement in the winter, parents will then be allowed to go into IC to view student's plans and to sign off on them. The IGP (Individual Graduation Plan) is in the IC Student Portal
- The academic courses listed (blue) are recommended by subject area teachers. The electives (green) are selected by the student.
- All requests for schedule changes for both semesters of next year must be made during the first five days Fall semester. No schedule requests will be made after this time.

20-21 Paulding County High School (2552) 1297 Villa Rica Highway, Dallas, GA 30157 Generated on 10/07/2020 08:13:41 AM Page 1 of 1		Course Plan Report Grade: 09 Student Number: Program: IGP - Fine Arts Regular (Graduation) Counselor: Approved by parent/legal guardian:	
Grade: 09 8.0 / 6.0	Grade: 10 8.0 / 6.0	Grade: 11 8.0 / 6.0	Grade: 12 8.0 / 5.0
<b>ENGLISH (4.0 / 4.0)</b>			
10:110 23.0610000 NINTH LIT/COMP - 1.0	10:110 23.0630000 WORLD LIT/COMP - 1.0	10:110 23.0510000 AMERICAN LIT/COMP - 1.0	10:110 23.0340000 ADVANCED COMPOSITION - 1.0
<b>MATHEMATICS (4.0 / 4.0)</b>			
10:110 27.0900000 GSE ALGEBRA I - 1.0	10:110 27.0991000 GSE GEOMETRY - 1.0	10:110 27.0992000 GSE ALGEBRA II - 1.0	10:110 27.0974000 GSE PRE-CALCULUS - 1.0
<b>SCIENCE (4.0 / 4.0)</b>			
10:110 26.0120000 BIOLOGY - 1.0	10:110 40.0110000 PHYSICAL SCIENCE - 1.0	10:110 26.0610000 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE - 1.0	10:110 26.0710000 ZOOLOGY - 1.0
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES (3.0 / 3.0)</b>			
00:100 45.0630000 WORLD HISTORY - 1.0	10:110 45.0810000 US HISTORY - 1.0	10:110 45.0570001 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT/CIVICS - 0.5	10:110 45.0610001 ECONOMICS/BUS-FREE ENTER - 0.5
<b>HEALTH/PERSONAL FITNESS (1.0 / 1.0)</b>			
10:110 17.0110001 HEALTH - 0.5	00:100 36.0610001 PERSONAL FITNESS - 0.5	00:100	00:100
<b>CAREER TECH &amp; AG ED (0.5 / 0.5)</b>			
20:100 20.5310000 INTRO TO CULINARY ARTS - 1.0	10:100 25.4400000 ESSENTIALS OF HEALTHCARE - 1.0	10:100 25.4490000 SPORTS MEDICINE - 1.0	10:100 25.4300000 PATIENT CARE FUNDAMENTALS - 1.0
<b>FINE/PERFORMING ARTS (3.0 / 3.0)</b>			
20:110 53.0711000 BEG CHORAL ENSEMBLE I - 1.0	20:110 53.0712000 BEG CHORAL ENSEMBLE II - 1.0	20:110 53.0721000 INTERM CHORAL ENSEMBLE I - 1.0	20:110 53.0722000 INTERM CHORAL ENSEMBLE II - 1.0
54.0211000 BEGINNING CHORUS I - 1.0	54.0212000 BEGINNING CHORUS II - 1.0	54.0213000 BEGINNING CHORUS III - 1.0	54.0217000 BEGINNING CHORUS IV - 1.0
<b>WORLD LANGUAGE (0.0 / 0.0)</b>			
00:100	10:100 60.0710000 SPANISH I - 1.0	10:100 60.0720000 SPANISH II - 1.0	00:100
<b>ELECTIVE (13.0 / 4.0)</b>			
20:110	00:110	00:110	10:110 36.0120000 GEN PHYSICAL EDUCATION II - 1.0



# YouScience

An aptitude assessment. Uses a series of 9 science-based brain games and an interest survey to uncover a students' aptitudes and interests.

Each students YouScience profile:

- Is a scientific measurement of natural aptitudes and interests as a basis for career recommendations
- Is a comprehensive profile including aptitude, interest, and personality assessments, extensive personal feedback, and career and educational recommendations

Answers these questions:

- What do you do well?
- What do you enjoy?
- How to prepare?
- What are the market needs in terms of careers?



# PSAT

- The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test provides a standardized view of a student's scholastic skills, and helps students compare themselves with other college-bound students nationwide.
- The State of Georgia pays for all first-time Sophomores with the opportunity to take the PSAT at no cost to the student.
- This test is taken in October of the students Sophomore year during the school day. This year the test will be given online and will be administered over five days the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Detailed information if forthcoming.
- The PSAT/NMSQT can qualify you for the National Merit Scholarship program and other scholarships.



# SAT & ACT



If you are planning to attend a four-year college/university, you may need to take the ACT or SAT for acceptance. Many Georgia colleges are waiving test requirements based on a student's Grade Point Average. Please research your schools carefully.



Testing dates and other information concerning the SAT can be found on the following slide and at [sat.org](https://sat.org). Testing dates and other information concerning the ACT can be found on the following slide and at [act.org](https://act.org)



If you qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch and have completed the application for this year, you are eligible for SAT and ACT fee waivers which allow you to take both test two times for free (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders only). Please see Mrs. Trice in the guidance office for a waiver.

# SAT & ACT test dates and registration deadlines

2023-24 SAT & ACT Test Dates			
SAT <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a>		ACT <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a>	
Test Date	Deadline	Test Date	Deadline
August 26, 2023	July 28, 2023	September 9, 2023	August 4, 2023
October 7, 2023	September 7, 2023	October 28, 2023	September 22, 2023
November 4, 2023	October 5, 2023	December 9, 2023	November 3, 2023
December 2, 2023	November 2, 2023	February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024
May 4, 2024	April 19, 2024	June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024
June 1, 2024	May 17, 2024	July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024

# FREE SAT Practice from Khan Academy

Receive personalized  
SAT Practice

<https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>



# KHAN ACADEMY

Other Tests you  
may need:  
ASVAB

- Aptitude exam required for entrance into the military that determines your eligibility for military jobs.
- Will be given at PCHS during both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.
- **October 26<sup>th</sup> and March 28<sup>th</sup>.**
- JROTC instructors will be posting QR codes to register the week prior to the test.
- Be on the lookout-military recruiters often make lunchroom visits to speak with interested students.



Provides money to assist with the education costs of attending a HOPE eligible postsecondary institution in GA

Determined by the calculation of all academic core courses that the student has taken and completed (grades 9-12).

Students must have a HOPE GPA of 3.0

Students must have 4 “rigorous” academic courses to qualify for the HOPE Scholarship.

Courses taken during middle school do not count.

Both passing and failing grades in the core courses count.

Changes in the eligibility guidelines are posted and updated on the GAfutures website.

Remember to monitor your HOPE GPA throughout high school via your My GAfutures account.

ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP - 3.7 HOPE GPA, 4 rigorous courses, AND minimum score of 1200 on SAT or 26 on ACT

# HOPE Scholarship

If a student does not have these three key fields correct in our Student Information System as well as in their GAFutures Profile, there will be no eligibility for the HOPE Program:

- Legal name that is on birth certificate
- Social Security Number
- Birth Date

All of the above items must match on

- Infinite Campus
- GAFutures
- FAFSA
- College Admissions Documents
- SAT or ACT Testing Documents



# GAfutures.org

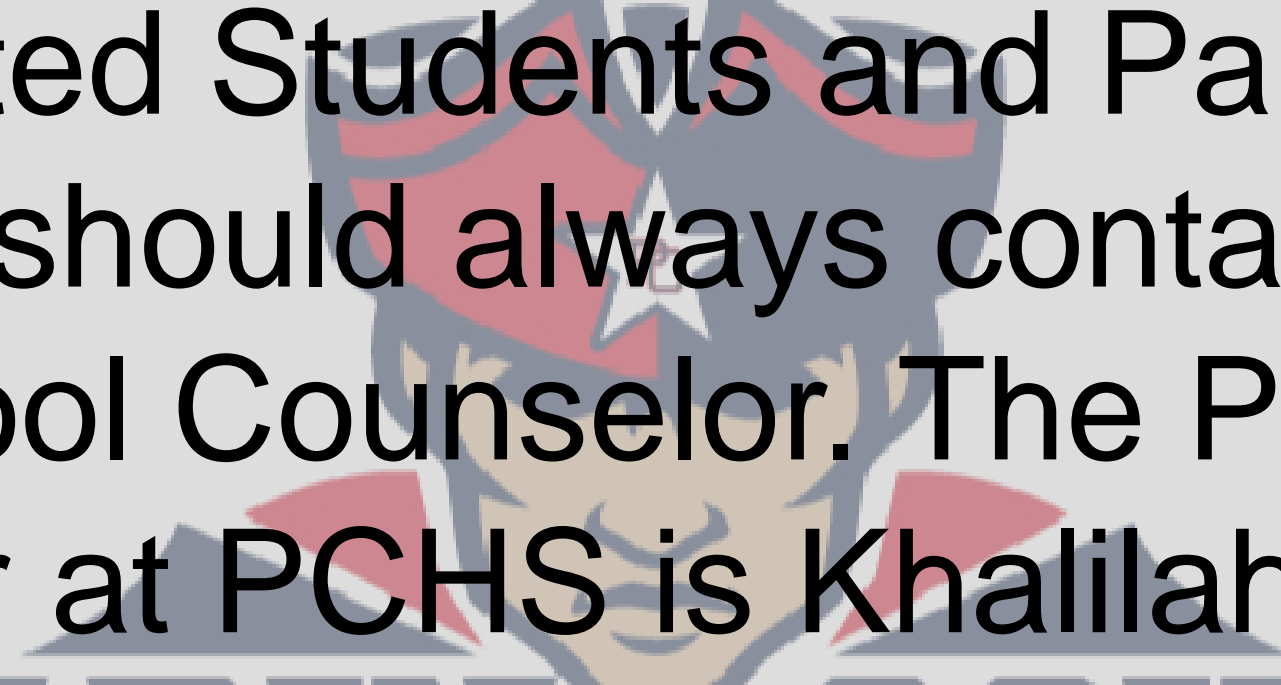
- Familiarize yourself with GAfutures. If you have not already created an account, do so. There is a lot of valuable information listed on this website.
- This is the website that you will visit to check your HOPE GPA (remember this is different than the school GPA that is posted on your transcript), and GAfutures is the only place to check this. See informational HOPE GPA video [here](#). If you cannot see your HOPE GPA, you will need to make sure your SSN and date of birth are correct in your Profile in GAfutures.
- GAfutures also has information about scholarships and state aid programs, FAFSA and Financial Aid, career exploration, and many more valuable resources. Next year, you can also apply to some in-state colleges/universities and request that your transcripts be sent to in-state colleges through GAfutures.
- Senior year, you can also apply to some in-state colleges and request that your transcripts be sent to in-state colleges through GAfutures.

Pathways Available  
Through the  
Paulding College  
and Career  
Academy (PCCA)

## Paulding College and Career Academy(PCCA)

1. Healthcare
  - Patient Care Tech
2. Energy
  - Energy & Power: Generation, Transmission, and Distribution
3. Advanced Manufacturing
  - Mechatronics
4. Information Technology
  - Cybersecurity





Interested Students and Parents in  
PCCA should always contact their  
School Counselor. The PCCA  
counselor at PCHS is Khalilah Williams  
[kwilliams@paulding.k12.ga.us](mailto:kwilliams@paulding.k12.ga.us)

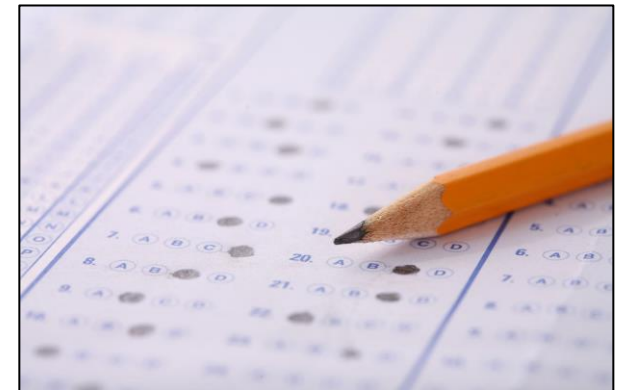
**PAULDING COUNTY**  
HIGH SCHOOL

## End-of-Course Assessments

For 2023-24, EOC Assessments count 20% of the final grade for the course. EOC tests are given at the end of each semester for courses taken.

Courses with an EOC:

- GSE Algebra I
- Biology
- American Literature
- United States History



# Work-Based Learning (WBL)

- WBL gives students the opportunity to earn school credit in a career area during Junior and Senior year.
- Students must have a job and apply for work-based learning.
- Students may participate in one or two blocks.
- Mrs. Parker is the work-based learning coordinator and can be reached at [kparker@paulding.k12.ga.us](mailto:kparker@paulding.k12.ga.us)
- <http://pcwbl.weebly.com/> is the WBL website

# Minimum Day (SENIORS ONLY)

- **Students who have met the following can apply for Minimum Day**
  - **Students must have earned enough credits to have senior status by the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade year.**
  - **Students must have passed or be enrolled in the specified courses for high school graduation recorded on the transcript audit and the Senior Letter requirement page.**
  - **Students must have participated in an advisement conference with the school counselor to discuss important topics/opportunities such as, but not limited to Dual Enrollment, Work-Based Learning, the importance of rigorous courses including full time student and admission requirement topics, Academic, CTAE, Fine Arts and World Language pathways and pathway completion information, HOPE scholarship eligibility, etc.**
  - **Students may be released for one (1) BLOCK class period per day (Either 1<sup>st</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> block). Students cannot be DE or WBL students and take advantage of Minimum Day.**

**Applications will be available Spring Semester of Students Junior Year!**

# Activities, Clubs, Sports

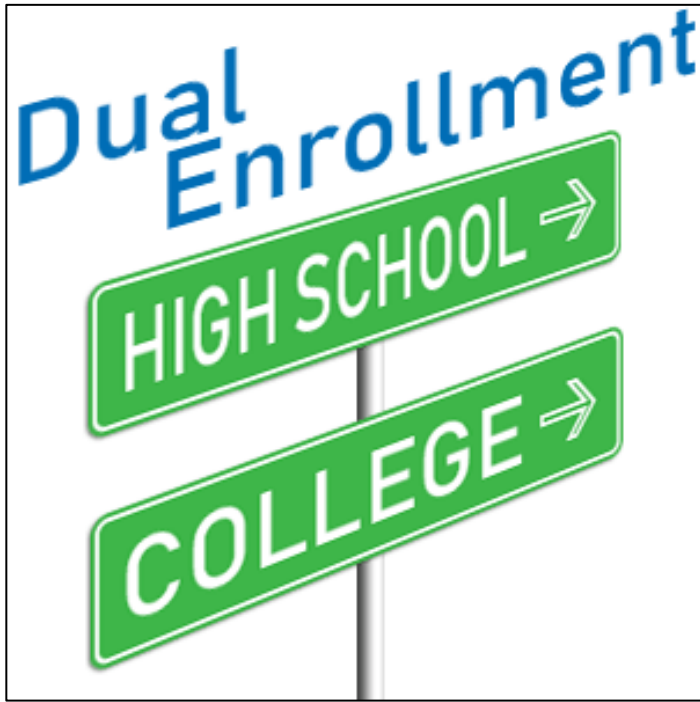


Get involved!



You can visit the PCHS [homepage](#) and click on “Activities” at the top for a list of clubs and sports that we offer.

# Dual Enrollment



- A process by which high school students take courses from a state public or private postsecondary institution while still enrolled as a high school student and receive credit both at the high school and at the postsecondary institution.
- Students are eligible for CTAE courses (example: welding) beginning in 10<sup>th</sup> grade and College Core Courses (example: ENGL 1101) in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade.



Interested Students and Parents in  
Dual Enrollment should always contact  
their School Counselor.



**PAULDING COUNTY**  
HIGH SCHOOL

# Considerations for College

- **Make a list of potential schools**
- **Compare your profile to the school's freshman profile**
- **Review each school's application:**
  - **Online application (preferred)**
  - **Required test scores**
  - **Transcript**
  - **Application fees**
  - **Recommendations**  
(if needed allow a minimum of ten days)
    - **Counselor Recommendations**
    - **Teacher Recommendations**

## Probe Fair

# Probe College Fair

Paulding County High School

Craton Gym

Tuesday, October 3rd

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm



Meet with college and  
university representatives  
from around the world.

**RegisterProbe.com**

There is no charge to attend;  
however, pre-registration is required



## FAFSA: Primary Application for Financial Aid

- ▶ FAFSA- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (must be completed to qualify for any type of Federal Student Aid).
- ▶ The FAFSA can also be used to apply for the HOPE scholarship, as well as all other state aid.
- ▶ You must have tax information.
- ▶ Fill out the application senior year. It opens on October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ▶ Apply online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
- ▶ Getting started FAFSA link with resources on GAfutures <https://www.gafutures.org/federal-aid-scholarships/fafsa/>.



## Types of Aid

- **GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS-** Do NOT have to be repaid and are based on specific requirements.
- **WORK-STUDY PROGRAMS-** Student has a job on campus, money earned helps pay for college.
- **LOANS-** Need to be repaid after college



Local scholarships are available for Seniors through the Paulding Education Foundation.



Scholarship search engines can be found on the counseling website under “scholarships” [here](#)

## Scholarships

# For More Information

- Please visit our PCHS Guidance [website](#). We have a wealth of information, resources, and tools there for both parents and students.
  - From the PCHS homepage, click on the “counseling” tab.



- We also have a monthly newsletter that we email to parents and post on canvas that highlights important dates and information that impact our students and community.
- Social Media
  - Follow PCHS on Facebook at [Paulding County High School](#) and on Instagram at [pchs.news](#) to keep up to date with important school events, student highlights, clubs and activities, sports, etc.!



# PCHS Counseling News

September 2023

## Advisement

September 13th

## Dual Enrollment Summit

September 18th

## Parent Night

September 19th  
Grades 9 - 11 @6pm  
Grade 12 @ 7pm

## Fall Break - No School

September 25th - 29th

## Probe College Fair

October 3rd  
6pm - 8pm

## Digital Learning Day

October 6th

## Parent Conferences - 2 hour Early Release

October 9th & 10th

## Digital Learning Day

November 7th

## Senior Financial Aid Night

November 13th  
Media Center @6pm



## Attention Patriot

# PARENTS!

### 2023 - 2024 Parent Nights

Paulding County High School will be hosting Parent Nights at PCHS on September 19th! Parents of students in Grades 9-11 will be meeting at 6pm and then parents of students in Grade 12 will be meeting at 7pm.

Come to the Auditorium on September 19th and learn more about what it takes to be a successful Patriot! Counselors will be on hand to answer questions before and after the presentation.

PCHS offers over 35 clubs and organizations for students to get involved. Encourage your student to find a place to meet students with similar interests. Information about all PCHS clubs and organizations for the 2023 - 2024 School Year can be found [here](#).



Get  
Involved

### At Paulding County High School, We Are Sources of Strength!!!

We are a group of diverse students and adults from many different corners and cultures of our school and community. We believe that life has ups and downs, that all of us will go through good times and tough times. Our mission is to ensure that during the rough times no one gets so overwhelmed or hopeless that they want to give up.

Our mission is to spread Hope, Help, and Strength into every corner of our community.

Our mission is to help students and staff turn to their strengths and their supports that are all around. We are Connectors to Help and Strength.

Our mission recognizes that our voice has great power and we use it to BREAK the SILENCE when someone is struggling, and to connect them to the help they need and deserve.

## I AM STRONGER

We Spread Hope by focusing on stories of

# Counseling Newsletter



# Counselors are here to guide students with future plans!

## Who is my Counselor?

Last Names A-C	Amber Akomolede	aakomolede@paulding.k12.ga.us
Last Names D-I	Jessica Leatherwood	jleatherwood@paulding.k12.ga.us
Last Names J-O	Chris Wilkinson	cwilkinson@paulding.k12.ga.us
Last Names P-S	Thomas Meunier	tmeunier@paulding.k12.ga.us
Last Names T-Z	Khalilah Williams	kwilliams@paulding.k12.ga.us
Counseling Clerk	Janice Trice	jtrice@paulding.k12.ga.us

## PCHS Counseling Contact Information

**Hours: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Phone: 770-443-8008**

**Fax: 770-443-7307**



# Questions??

