

Jaguar Journal

**Pembroke Pines
Charter Schools at
Academic Village
Campus**

Administrative Team

Principal

Peter Bayer

Assistant Principal

Robin Battle
Alma Llanos
Cindhia Velez

Behavior Specialists

Steve Bruns
Dan Capiro

Our MISSION

The Pembroke Pines Charter Community will provide a challenging educational foundation to prepare students for college success and responsible citizenship.

Our VISION

Pembroke Pines Charter Schools in collaboration with students, parents, and the community, endeavor to create a challenging and supportive organization of lifelong learners. It is our vision to actively engage in a continuous process of intellectual, emotional and social growth that is unified in direction, yet diverse in approach and instruction.

A SACS/CASI Accredited District

February 2025 Volume 24, Issue 3

College • Citizenship • Community

Spring Testing Windows

SAT School Day: March 12th

All Juniors have been pre-registered to take a FREE SAT exam during the school day. Test schedule and room assignments will be sent via email.

PSAT: March 19th

Grades 8-9

BEST Writing Assessment: April 2nd & 3rd

Grades 9-10

FCLE Exam: April 15th & 16th

12th Grade
Government
Students

**FAST, Algebra 1 EOC, Biology EOC,
Geometry EOC, US History EOC**

Check online
calendar for specific
grades and dates

Senior Final Exams: May 20th-22nd

12th Grade

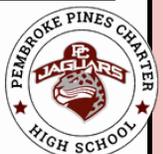
Underclassmen Final Exams: May 29th - June 2

Grades 9-10



Testing Schedule

See Calendar posted on website for
[Spring Testing Schedule](#)



Empowering Students for the Possibilities of Tomorrow!

Important High School Announcements

Absences/Tardies

When a student is absent, a parent must send an email to: hsattendance@pinescharter.net within 2 (two) school days of absences. Email must specify the student's full name, grade, and date of absence(s), and a valid reason for absences and or tardiness must always be provided. Valid reasons can be found on the [2024-2025 Parent and Student Handbook Policies and Procedures](#). Failure to do so within 2 (two) days will result in an unexcused absence.

To excuse a tardy, your email must be received within 24 hours. Please note when emailing to excuse a student's tardiness, the student must have arrived on campus.

In the event the student will be absent for three (3) or more days or attending a special event, the parent must fill out an Absence Request Form. Please fill out the form and include "REQUEST OF ABSENCE FORM" and the Student's Name in the subject line. Email it back to the Attendance Secretary for administration approval at hsattendance@pinescharter.net.

- **SIGN OUT TIME:** Parents may pick up their children no later than 1:30PM; this is 30 minutes before dismissal time. The person(s) picking up the student **MUST** come to the front office window and **MUST** be on the Emergency Contact Card and have a picture ID.
- If a student needs to be excused for early sign-out to leave campus independently, please remember to include "Early Sign-Out" in the subject line to: hsattendance@pinescharter.net. Please include:
 - Student's First and Last Name
 - Reason,
 - Date and Time of Release-Include Forms of Transportation (student driver, etc.)
 - Contact Number where parent/guardian can be reached
- Once the email is sent, the student will need to come to the front office in between classes (Office will not be calling students out of class) to verify with the Attendance Secretary that the email has been received and verified before they are permitted to leave campus. **ONLY 3 EARLY SIGN OUTS VIA EMAIL ARE PERMITTED PER SEMESTER.** Once the 3 Early Sign Outs via email are reached, the parent or guardian will need to come to the front office window to physically sign out the student.

Information on tardy policy can be found in the Proactive Discipline Plan.

Makeup work for credit is allowed for all excused absences. Students have 2 class days to make-up work for each class day absent. Previously assigned work is due the day of return.

It is the student's responsibility to reschedule missed quizzes/tests within the allotted period for make up work.

Parent Advisory Meetings

Our parent advisory meetings are held at 6:00 PM on the second Monday of each month. Parent volunteer hours are given for attending the parent advisory meetings. See page 12 for dates. Mark your calendars!

Uniforms

In order to maintain a safe and orderly campus, all students must be in proper uniform. On-Campus Supervision On-campus adult supervision is provided from 6:45 AM-2:30 PM.

Parent Volunteer Hours

It is the parent's responsibility to keep track of their hours. Please note the following dates for your records: The commitment of 30 parent hours must be completed by May 30, 2025 for parents grades 9-12. Senior students whose parents have not completed the volunteer commitment will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony. In the event the parent volunteer commitment is not completed, your son/daughter will not be registered for the 2025-2026 school year.

Drop-Off Policy

Parents are responsible for contacting their children and ensuring students know to pick up all items during their lunch time or between classes. Office personnel will NOT contact students as this disrupts the learning environment.

School Hours

School hours are from 7:15AM-2:00PM. Students must be in their classrooms before 7:15AM. Any tardy students must report to the front office. Students will NOT be able to sign out after 1:30PM.

Late Policy

Maximizing instructional time is critical for student success. As such students must arrive to school on time as well as arrive to each class on time.

The Broward County Code Book for Student Conduct & Discipline Matrix is available on:

<https://www.browardschools.com/codeofconduct>.

For additional information about PPCHS policies and procedures, please review our Parent and Student Handbook: Parent & Student Handbook 2024-2025

Teacher of the Year and Non-Instructional Employee of the Year

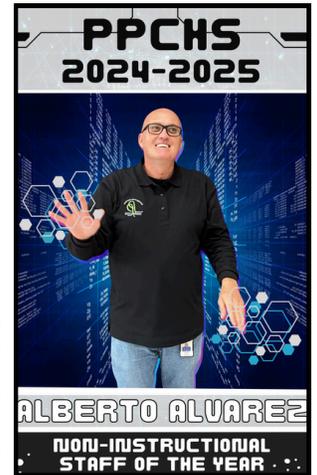


Doina Lutchi,
PPCHS Teacher of the Year 2025

Doina unwavering passion and dedication to helping students pass the ELA graduation requirement exemplify her commitment to education and her profound care for her students' success. She inspires not only her students but also her colleagues through her tireless efforts and genuine love for teaching.

Alberto Alvarez,
PPCHS Non-Instructional Staff of the Year 2025

He is the epitome of teamwork and dedication, always quick to respond to the needs of those around him. Whether it's ensuring that technology is up-to-date or troubleshooting issues at a moment's notice, he is always ready to help. Friendly, approachable, and genuinely invested in the success of both teachers and students, Alberto goes above and beyond without hesitation. His positive attitude and willingness to support others make him an invaluable asset to the team.



High School Counseling Department

- **National School Counseling Week:** February 3-7. We thank our wonderful school counselors for being the heart of our school. Thank you for your outstanding hard work and support to our students and families: Ms. Harris, Ms. Maycock, Ms. Plaskett, Ms. Scott, Ms. Perez, and Ms. Moses.
- **Course selections** for the 2025-2026 school year will begin in February 27th. Teacher recommendations and student selections will be made via Focus.
- Please visit the **PPCHS SCHOOL COUNSELING 9-12 CANVAS COURSE** and click on the course selection icon for all information pertaining to selecting classes for next year. A copy of the course selection card and course descriptions will be available on this portal. No paper copies will be distributed this year.



School Counseling Department

- Gianna Scott-Grade 9
- Lissette Plaskett-Grade 10
- Krystle Maycock-Grade 11
- Marie Harris-Grade 12
- BRACE Advisor: Idania Perez
- Dana Ostendorf-ESE
- Pearl Moses-
School Counseling Director

SPAR
The 2023-2024 School Accountability Report can be found by visiting <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/>



Powered by a group of talented student writers, the CHAT newspaper is back for another new year! Editors, staff writers, and contributors from all across the Charter campus have chimed in and spoken up to make these new updates possible. Visit now on ppchsnews.com to catch bi-weekly updates on school and community news, with even more on the way.

Stay safe, Jags!
-CHAT staff

High School Athletics Department



Date	Sport	Day	Time From	Opponent/Title
02/12/2024	Tennis	Mon	4:00 PM	Cardinal Gibbons (Fort Lauderdale)
02/20/2024	Flag Football	Tue	4:30 PM	South Broward (Hollywood)
02/20/2024	Softball	Tue	6:30 PM	Somerset Academy (Pembroke Pines)
02/23/2024	Tennis	Fri	4:00 PM	Dillard (Fort Lauderdale)
02/23/2024	Softball	Fri	6:30 PM	South Plantation
02/28/2024	Softball	Wed	6:30 PM	Hallandale



Athletics Dept.
Steve Bruns,
Athletic Director
 954.538.3725
 sbruns@pinescharter.net

A Season to Remember: Basketball and Soccer Teams Shine

Congratulations to our basketball and soccer teams for another outstanding season!

The girls' basketball team made an impressive run, advancing to the district finals, while the boys' team captured the district championship. The boys continued their success into the state regional finals, where they fought hard in a thrilling game that went down to the wire, ultimately falling to the eventual state champions.

Our soccer teams also had a phenomenal season. Both the boys' and girls' teams claimed district titles and advanced to regional tournaments. The boys' team went even further, winning regionals and making an incredible run at the state tournament, where they secured an impressive third-place finish in the state.

The boys' soccer team also earned well-deserved recognition from the Sun Sentinel. Head Coach Marc Lue Young was honored as Coach of the Year, while Logan Hall received the prestigious Player of the Year title. Additionally, Simon Samudio, Justin Treasure, and Mateo Valencia were named to the First Team All-County, highlighting their exceptional contributions on the field.

Congratulations to all our athletes and coaches for their dedication, teamwork, and success this season!



Scholarship Search Engines



- Scholly Search App:** <https://myscholly.com>
- Going Merry:** <https://goingmerry.com>
- Fast Web:** <https://www.fastweb.com>
- College Board Big Future:** <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>
- Appily:** <https://www.appily.com/scholarships>
- Scholarship Owl:** <https://scholarshipowl.com/>
- General Scholarship Search Niche:** <https://www.niche.com/colleges/scholarships/>
- Scholarship.com** <https://www.scholarships.com/>

Scholarship Guide for Black Students: <https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/minority-scholarships/scholarships-for-black-students>

Scholarship Guide for Hispanic Students: <https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/minority-scholarships/hispanic-scholarships>

Scholarship Guide for Asian-American Students: <https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/minority-scholarships/asian-pacific-islander-scholarships>

High School Club & Campus News

National English Honor Society

After our successful Recite Night in November, Poetry Slam in January, and various Literary Fair contests, the National English Honor Society is very excited to announce PPCHS's Literary contest winners, who will each receive a \$10 gift card from NEHS and represent the school in their respective category at this year's Broward County Literary Fair:

CINQUAIN: Nikolas Di Corpo

EKPHRASTIC: Ariana Bonilla

FREE VERSE: Orwen Taleon

HAIKU: Leah Miragliotta

ODE: Amaya Jorge

PARODY POEM: Mikayla Hines

POEM FOR TWO VOICES: Ainsley O'Donovan

RHYMED VERSE: Emmanuel Baptiste

SESTINA: Lorelei Santos

SHRINKLIT: Aarush Wadhwa

SONNET: Loraine Sanchez-Figueroa

VILLANELLE: Zoe Cooper

SHORT STORY: Khushi Kadecha

PERSONAL NARRATIVE: Adrianna Rodas

INFORMAL ESSAY: Gabriella Perez

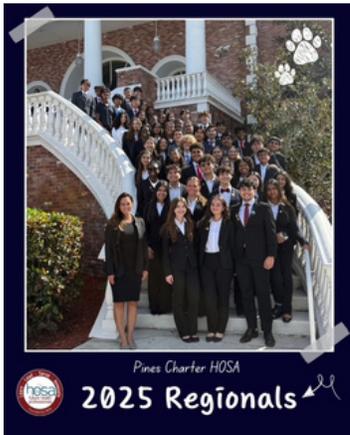
FORMAL ESSAY: Sofia Peralta

CHILDREN'S BOOK: Elyssa Mitts

In addition, after two rounds of competition, this year's PPCHS Poetry Out Loud Recitation Contest Champion is Faith Banossian! Faith will receive \$100 from NEHS and go on to compete in the POL state competition at the USF St. Petersburg campus on March 15th.

We're so proud of all of our talented students!

HOSA Makes History!



On Saturday, February 8, 2025, our HOSA members competed at the Winter Leadership Conference at American Heritage. Starting the day off early, each competitor participated in a variety of events. From testing their dentistry knowledge to their speaking skills, to creating medical innovations, everyone was well prepared and proud of the hard work they put in. This year, a total of 37 out of 62 students competing placed in the top 5! But to make matters even better, 31 of them placed in the top 3 and will be advancing on to the State Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida in April. This is a first for Charter as it is an increase from last year SLC qualifiers. We are so incredibly proud of each of our members, regardless of placement. We can't wait to see what everyone accomplishes next at SLC!"

Annabelle Acevedo, Hannah Flores, Ashley Hoadley
1st. Medical Innovation

Nusaybah Arif, Danny Kim, Umer Quershi,
Alejandro Agudelo, Alexander Vermilion
1st. Public Health

Fabrizio Cioffi
1st. Physical Therapy

Isabella Serrano
1st. Prepared Speaking

Reyna Kannan
1st. Dental Terminology

Sophia Flores
1st. Extemporaneous Writing

Alisha Lenka
1st. Family Medicine Physician

Rt̄ihvik Dhara
1st. Medical Spelling

HOSA REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

Logan Chiong, Laura Liu,
Gregory Scalia Jr, Nithin Mathew
2nd. HOSA Bowl

Alejandra Delgado, Yogitha Adusumili
2nd. Forensic Science

Kayla Agudelo, Brianna Lamy
2nd. Creative Problem Solving

Meghan Chin
2nd. Nursing Assisting

Inioluwa Fatmlehin
2nd. Healthy Living

Sneha Matthews
2nd. Pharmacology

SECOND PLACE WINNERS

Miles Fishman
3rd. Biotechnology

María Estrada, Lucas Aronson,
Santiago Delgado, Elijah Louks
3rd. Creative Problem Solving

Chinedu Okpala
3rd. Medical Math

THIRD PLACE WINNERS

Nyree McFarland
4th. Medical Assisting

Giya Varghese
4th. Family Medicine Physician

Carter Chen
4th. Medical Math

Martin Pereira
4th. Sports Medicine

Eshal Farhatullah
4th. Medical Terminology

Zachary Samuels
5th. Sports Medicine

4TH & 5TH PLACE WINNERS

More High School Club & Campus News

Robotics wins Amaze

Our 9th grade and 10th grade robotics teams competed at Dillard High School and our 9th graders brought home the Amaze Award and our 10th graders brought home the Judges Award

Yesterday, our 10th graders competed in Boca Raton and landed in first place in the qualification matches. They then went on to win the top award.. the Excellence Award which now qualifies them for the State Championship



Science Olympiad

On February 1st and 2nd, our most advanced Science Olympiad team competed at Harvard against some of the best teams in the nation. I am excited to report that out of 69 schools competing, our Jags came in 15th place. It was a tough competition but our olympians learned so much and are that much more prepared for our February 22 regional tournament. I am happy to report that the following students won 3rd place medals: Dylan Chiong and Chinedu Opkala and the following students won 4th place medals: Mia Fu and Sarah Zhang. I am so proud of all of these amazing scientists!



Senior Corner

Class of 2025 Sponsors

Nancy Altimore

Ryan Anglani

954.538.3700

naltimore@pinescharter.net
ranglani@pinescharter.net

Congratulations, Seniors! PPCHS is behind the scenes finding ways to commemorate this awesome achievement during this unique time. In the meantime, please note the following:

- Prom: Prom will be held May 17, 2025 at the Fort Lauderdale Marriot. Our theme is 'A Starry Night'.
- Grad Bash: Grad Bash will be Saturday, April 5th.
 - Senior Dinner:

• Graduation Assessment Fee: ALL Seniors (12th graders) are assigned a Graduation Assessment Fee. This fee assessment is used in an effort to defray some of the cost of the graduation arrangements and the printing costs of diplomas. ♦ The assessment fee is \$40.00. Seniors can pay this fee via their MyPaymentsPlus account (www.mypaymentsplus.com/welcome) under "Events & Activities".

♦ The deadline to submit your payment is April 1, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Capiro at Dcapiro@pinescharter.net. Thank you for your continued support!

☒ Cap & Gown: It is time for you to order your official Cap & Gown and Class of 2024 merchandise for Pembroke Pines Charter High School Graduation! Start browsing our digital catalog at www.Jostens.com and order today. Students will receive their Cap, Gown, Tassel, Custom Graduation Medallion and Diploma Plaque the week of graduation. You will retain all items including the gown. Graduation announcements will be delivered approximately 1 month before graduation. Please contact Jostens at www.Jostens.com if you have any ordering questions.

<h1>SAVE</h1>	<h2>GRAD BASH</h2> <hr/> <p>APRIL 5, 2025</p>
<h2>PROM</h2> <hr/> <p>MAY 17, 2025</p>	<h1>THE</h1>
<h1>DATE</h1>	<h2>GRADUATION</h2> <hr/> <p>MAY 30, 2025</p>
	CHECK THE CLASS OF 2025 CANVAS PAGE FOR UP-TO-DATE SENIOR EVENTS AND DEADLINES





High School Calendar Important Dates



February

- 01 - Report Cards Issued
- 12 - Parent Advisory (6:00 PM)
- 13 - Interim Reports Issued
- 14 - Early Release/Day of Service (Dismissal at 11:45 AM)
- 19 - Holiday: President's Day (No School)

March

- 07 - Charter Study Day (Dismissal at 10:30AM)
- 11 - Parent Advisory (6:00PM)
- 21 - Early Release (Dismissal at 11:45 AM)
- 22 - Teacher Planning (No School)
- 25 - 1st Day of Spring Break

April

- 01 - Spring Break Ends - 1st Day Back
- 08 - Parent Advisory (6:00 PM)
- 10- No School
- 16 - Report Cards Issued

May

- 07 - Interim Reports Issued
- 13 - Parent Advisory (6:00 PM)
- 24 - Early Release (Dismissal at 11:45 AM)
- 27 - Memorial Day (No School)

June

- 03- Parent Advisory (6:00 PM)
- 10 - Early Release (Dismissal at 11:45 AM)
- 11 - Teacher Planning (No School)
- 28 - Report Cards Issued

Faculty Members Broaden Their Areas of Expertise

All of our professional teachers are continuously upgrading their skills and developing increased levels on content expertise. We would like to recognize those teachers at Pembroke Pines Charter Schools at Academic Village Campus who are expanding their expertise beyond their current certification by pursuing college work and/or training sessions to become certified in another subject. While completing this work, they will be teaching those subjects to students. They have been approved by the School Board of Broward County to teach out of field.

The following teachers are out of field for the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year: Alyssa Benitez (certified Social Science 6-12) Out-of-field for English and ESOL, Bianca Carbone (certified in English 6-12) Out-of-field for ESOL, Luz Gil (certified Social Science 5-9) Out-of-field for Dance, Patricia Jackson (certified in English 6-12) Out-of-field for ESOL, Heather James (certified in Social Science 6-12) Out-of-field for English and ESOL, Rebecca Lewis (certified English 6-12 & ESOL/Reading/Gifted Endorsements) Out-of-field for Computer Science, Lisette Ponce (certified Elementary Education K-6) Out-of-field for ESOL, and Sabahat Shareef (certified Business Education 6-12) Out-of-field for Biology.

Pembroke Pines Charter Schools at Academic Village Campus

Home of the Jags!

17189 Sheridan Street
Pembroke Pines, FL



School Website: hs.pinescharter.net

Main Phone Line: 954-538-3700

Main Fax: 954-538-3715

Governing Board Members

Angelo Castillo, Mayor

Michael Hernandez, Vice Mayor

Thomas Good, Jr., Commissioner

Maria Rodriguez, Commissioner

Jay D. Schwartz, Commissioner

Jonathan Bonilla, Pines Charter School Liaison and Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Charles Dodge, City Manager & Superintendent of Schools

Peter Bayer, Principal

