

# Palisade High School

## March 2019

Daniel Bollinger, Principal

Jackie Anderson, Asst. Principal

Jennifer Smyth, Asst. Principal

Gregg Hawkins, Athletics/Asst. Principal

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### **March 2nd**

Saturday School  
174 DR 8Am-11AM

#### **March 8th**

Last Day of 3rd  
Quarter

#### **March 11th**

No School-Teacher  
Work Day

#### **March 16th**

Saturday School  
174 DR 8AM-11AM

#### **March 18th-22nd**

Spring Break



### A Message From Principal Dan Bollinger

As we start into the month of March, the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter nears and marks the mid-term. Fourth quarter begins March 12<sup>th</sup>, and before we know it, the 2018-2019 school year will be over.

While our school board continues to evaluate calendars for next year, it is nice to see that this year's calendar has fewer disruptions/days off in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, a time when students participate in State/National standardized testing. Please be reminded that the results of those tests are used to help us make improvements to our school and to help students show proficiency for graduation in reading, writing, and math. I strongly encourage you to emphasize to your students the importance of doing their best on when testing.

The testing schedule is included in the newsletter as well as the school website. I encourage you to review the schedule as there are days when only certain grade levels are expected to attend. As I described in the last newsletter, since proficiency on a state test is a graduation requirement, students need to attempt proficiency by testing their 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade years in order to be eligible for the next level badge in our tiered badge-privileges system.

The week of April 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, we will once again host our "Live Above the Influence" week at PHS. For the last 9 years, this week of events has been facilitated by-students-for-students. It always occurs the week prior to Prom. There will be several activities and speakers to encourage our teenagers to make good choices.

Our counselors are working with your students to plan for next year. All 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will soon be completing their schedules for next year, and as you discuss that with them, please encourage your students to challenge themselves in preparation for their post-secondary plans.



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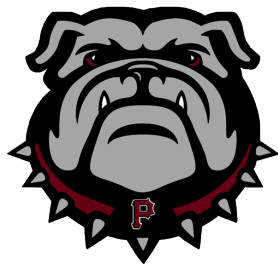
Before I write in the newsletter, I often read what I wrote last year, and this time last year I wrote of officiating the state wrestling tournament and sometimes hearing this announced overhead: "Deduct 1 team point from a team for unsportsmanlike conduct." It makes me think about how, in life, we sometimes receive bad calls or have to deal with just consequences. It also gives me an opportunity to pond this question: "What is the purpose of athletics in high school?" If we can't agree that it is to prepare them for their future, we are missing the whole purpose of high school.

Very rarely are we preparing students for careers as professional athletes. So what is the purpose? It is to push through the difficult times and learn good sportsmanship, win or lose; it's persevering in tough practices and making adjustments when something is not working; it's getting benched for messing up and getting better the next go-round; it's overcoming those bad calls!

Within the walls of Palisade High School, we essentially operate as a mirror of society, albeit a much safer, more protected version of it. But it's still a place where students can and should have an opportunity to learn all those lessons I just named. Help us to coach your child through situations of perceived conflict- conflict within themselves, with other students, or their teachers. They need to learn to handle those situations, and practice is key. As they get older, the situations don't go away; in fact, sometimes they intensify. As adults, we know they'll have to navigate a co-worker 'being mean' or a boss that they 'don't get along with.' This is a time for your child to learn to navigate and work through similar situations, so let's not miss the opportunity to grow your child!

Dan





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## Counselor's Corner

Dear Parents:

The School of Choice window for the 2019/2020 school year will open on March 4, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. and it will close on March 15, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Please watch for the information letter to parents, as it will be coming to you electronically. You will also be able to find the information letter on your ParentVue, Peach Jar, District 51 Home Page, Social Media, etc. The letter will be available in both English and Spanish the week of February 18, 2019.

Contact Jo Pifer (970-254-5323) or your school office with any questions.

### 2019/2020 SCHEDULING

Class scheduling for the 2019/2020 school year will take place in April. Students will receive their scheduling information and will attend a scheduling information session in the Auditorium. They are encouraged to discuss their scheduling options with the folks at home before their scheduling date. Once their schedules have been checked by a counselor, students register themselves for next year's courses on-line. Counselors review the schedules and students receive their finalized schedules at Check-In at the end of summer.

Pre-DP and DP students' scheduling will follow a different timeline and they will meet with their counselor in their literacy and/or TOK classes.

Packets Given to Students	Student Scheduling in the Library	Make-Up Scheduling in Library
To-Be Seniors Monday, April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Thursday, April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, April 5 <sup>th</sup>
To-Be Juniors Tuesday, April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, April 18 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, April 19 <sup>th</sup>
To-Be Sophomores Monday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday, April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, April 26 <sup>th</sup>

### ALL STUDENTS

Log on to your Naviance account to make sure that your current email and phone number listings are correct. Check your Naviance account regularly for information on upcoming college visits. If you add colleges you are thinking about to your Naviance list, you will get an automatic invitation to meet with that college's rep when/if they visit PHS. If your email is up-to-date, you will receive several notifications throughout the year about scholarships and college information.

To get started, go to the PHS home page at <http://phs.mesa.k12.co.us/>. Click on the counseling tab then go to "Naviance Student" at the bottom. Students: Use your Student Vue username and password to log on. Parents who want to be added to their students account can have one set up by emailing [MaryJane.Seriani@d51schools.org](mailto:MaryJane.Seriani@d51schools.org).



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## DECEMBER EARLY COMPLETERS

We encourage all seniors who completed their coursework in December to keep in touch with the Counseling Office and/or the Class of 2019 Facebook page/Instagram for information on senior meetings, graduation practice, and important deadlines!

## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Naviance is kept current and is an excellent source for scholarship information. **Make sure you check your email for scholarship alerts.**

Students should check Naviance frequently. Go to the college tab, scroll to the bottom of the page for scholarship list and search.

Check with the college you plan on attending for scholarships they offer.

## Scholarship Brochure

Seniors, please bring a copy of any scholarships awarded or offered from ALL colleges (even if you do not plan on attending that school) to the counseling office before the April 19<sup>th</sup> deadline.

## SENIOR PARENTS

If your student is planning to attend college next year, you will need to help him or her fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA.gov). It is important to complete the FAFSA as soon as you can, since many colleges are already processing financial aid packages. Make sure you go to the correct website, [www.FAFSA.gov](http://www.FAFSA.gov) and NOT [www.FAFSA.com](http://www.FAFSA.com). Filling out the FAFSA is free! Also make sure you select that correct college semester: Fall 2019. You will need your 2017 tax forms in order to complete the FAFSA.

## ATTENTION ACCEPTED SENIORS

Colleges communicate important information with you through your student online portal (ie: MavZone @ CMU or MyCUBoulder @ UC Boulder). Don't miss out on scholarships, housing information, class registration or important dates and activities. Check your portal at least once a week!

"Suzanne's class helped me learn a simpler way to study correctly and manage my time when taking the test. My score increased 220 points!" Isabelle, Fruita Monument High School

### ACT/SAT Prep

**SAT & ACT Prep Workshops Start Soon!**  
\$340 for four 2-hour sessions  
(book included)

For more information or to reserve a space, call or text  
Suzanne Bergen, (970)433-3473.

The Official SAT Study Guide

OFFICIAL ACT PREP GUIDE



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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TESTING

Dear Students and Parents/Families,

Each Spring our students participate in standardized testing. The tests include the PSAT for freshman and sophomores and SAT and CMAS Science for juniors. Seniors will not take a standardized test. These tests are important to you-the student and they're important to PHS. They're important because all students need to show testing proficiency for graduation and because PHS teachers and staff need to know how students are performing so they can better meet students' needs and help prepare students for their futures.

Even while PSAT is thought to be "only a practice test," it's important because it is high-stakes for the school and a valuable opportunity to practice for the SAT, which is high-stakes for students. Research shows students do much better on the SAT when they've had multiple opportunities to practice. Lastly, testing is important because the results reflect what's working at PHS and where we might make improvements. When students participate in testing and do their best, we have better data and therefore make better goals.

Because testing is so important for students and the school, we closely monitor attendance and will pull-in students for make-up testing in the event a student misses the first exam. Please do not schedule your student for appointments on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

Additionally, if students do not attempt to demonstrate proficiency on our standardized tests- a graduation requirement- they will not be eligible for their next tiered badge until they attempt to demonstrate proficiency (the next opportunity won't be until Fall of next year).

Parents and families retain the right to opt students out of testing, and, if that is something you'd like to know more about, please contact PHS administration. Otherwise, opt-out forms can be found on the District website. If opting out your student, please complete and return the form in person to a PHS administrator prior to testing.

Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors, please bring:

Calculator

Picture ID

Pencil – not mechanical

Water, Snack

DO NOT bring a cellphone or smartwatch

Sophomores and Juniors Only:

You have the option to complete a student questionnaire which has no impact on your actual test score. Why? To share your educational goals and general information with colleges or scholarship companies who might want to offer you support or recruit you for their programs. You can take this questionnaire on the day of the test – but ONLY IF YOU COMPLETE A CONSENT FORM. Consent forms are available in the counseling office and must be returned by March 8<sup>th</sup>. Please note: the questionnaire takes approximately one hour to complete and will extend the length of your testing session on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you,

PHS Administration





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## 2019 April Test Schedule: SAT/ PSAT/CMAS

### Monday, April 8: Regular School Day

- Regular Early-Release Monday Schedule
  - All Students expected to attend

### Tuesday, April 9: SAT 11 and PSAT 10

- SAT Testing beginning at 7:25 – Grade 11
- PSAT 10 Testing beginning at 7:25 – Grade 10

*Students should bring a calculator, ID, and #2 pencils (no mechanical pencils)*

### Wednesday, April 10: PSAT 9 and CMAS Science 11\*

- PSAT 9 Testing beginning at 7:25 – Grade 9
  - Bring a calculator, ID, and #2 pencils (no mechanical pencils)*
- CMAS Science Testing beginning at 7:25 – Grade 11
  - Bring your ID*

### Thursday and Friday, April 11, 12: Regular School Days

- Regular School Schedule
  - All students expected to attend
- Students may be pulled from class for make-up testing

### Test Schedule by Grade

- Grade 9:** Report to school every day but Tuesday, April 9
- Grade 10:** Report to school every day but Wednesday, April 10
- Grade 11:** Report to school on *all* days
- Grade 12:** Report to school on Monday, Thursday, and Friday

***School begins at the same, regular time all week.***

***Buses will run on their regular schedule all week.***

***Career Center and Valley will NOT be in session on April 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>.***

***WCCC expects students to attend when they are not testing.***

\*Juniors who attend Valley will take CMAS Science at Valley on a day other than April 10; 11<sup>th</sup> grade Valley students need not take the CMAS Science test at PHS on April 10.



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## PHS Booster Club

**SAVE THE DATE**

**COMING  
UP**

### Club Meetings

This month's Booster Club  
meeting will be held on

**March 6th at 6:00 p.m.**

at the Dos Hombres in Clifton.

### Dining at Dos

There will not be a Dining at Dos Night for the month of March where proceeds from that evening benefit any PHS organizations. However, the Booster Club meeting will still be held at the Dos Hombres restaurant in Clifton on March 6th.





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## PALISADE FOOTBALL LAWN AERATION



**SATURDAY  
APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

### PHS Football Lawn Aeration Fundraiser

The Palisade High School Football team will be aerating lawns for their spring fundraising project on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. If you would like your lawn aerated by the PHS football team [click here](https://goo.gl/forms/DqVrJi0LK1YY8ba53) (<https://goo.gl/forms/DqVrJi0LK1YY8ba53>) to sign up on our webpage or email Coach Steele at [patrick.steele@d51schools.org](mailto:patrick.steele@d51schools.org). We greatly appreciate your support and we look forward to seeing you on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Go Bulldogs!



**Want a healthy  
green lawn for the  
summer?**

**Get needed  
nutrients and air to  
the roots of your  
grass.**

**Support the  
Palisade High  
School Football  
Team**

**Get your lawn  
aerated by the PHS  
Football players!**

**Please contact us to  
get on the schedule.**

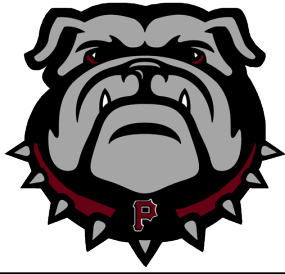
### PALISADE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Contact:

Coach Steele at  
[Patrick.steele@d51schools.org](mailto:Patrick.steele@d51schools.org)

Palisade High School  
254-4800





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## Swing Dance



Featuring  
Palisade High School  
**JAZZ BANDS**

**SATURDAY**  
**MARCH 9th**

Palisade High School Gymnasium

**DANCE LESSONS**

7:00 PM

**LIVE MUSIC**

7:30 PM

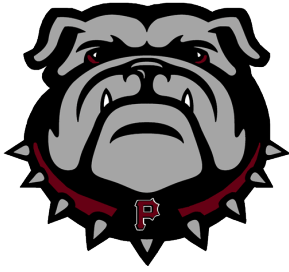
**\$10**

(Advance ticket and at the door)

Dance lessons included with the purchase of a ticket

Advance tickets available at the PHS Accounting Office  
or from a PHS Jazz Student

Photo Opportunities and Light Concessions  
Available for Purchase



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## WE GIVE A DIME

### Change starts with you.

Whether you're passionate about arts, education, environment or beyond, small change makes a big difference. Each time you use your debit card, Alpine Bank donates 10 cents to local causes. Last year, Alpine Bank donated nearly \$1 million, one dime at a time. Help spark change in your community by getting your card today.



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