

## Attachment 34:Academic/Exit Standards

To graduate, students at PCC must demonstrate that they are on a college trajectory or vocational career path and that they are prepared to be service-oriented leaders who can address complex academic and community issues. In addition to demonstrating a minimum of 75% proficiency in their cumulative grade for English Language Arts and Math, students graduating from 8<sup>th</sup> grade must complete the following projects as part of their graduation requirements. PCC will not include the Delaware Comprehension Assessment System (DCAS) as a requirement for promotion or retention. It is noted that a charter modification may be required if the board decides to make this a requirement in the future.

Content	Sample 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Exit Standards
<b>English Language Arts and Social Studies</b>	<b>Capstone Research Paper</b> <b>PCC 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will complete and receive a passing grade on an 8---page research paper on a topic related to their Capstone Service Project. The paper will</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Clearly communicate a research topic or thesis with supporting evidence</b></li> <li>• <b>Be clearly organized and logically sequenced with each paragraph including a main idea and supporting evidence</b></li> <li>• <b>Use research from multiple credible sources (including newspaper articles, internet journals, books, primary resources and interviews.)</b></li> <li>• <b>Include a works cited</b></li> <li>• <b>Visual representations</b></li> </ul>
<b>Math</b>	<b>PCC 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will pass a rigorous algebra exam aligned to the Delaware Common Core Standards that will demonstrate that they are prepared for math course in a college---preparatory high school program.</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>Professional Scientific Report</b> <b>PCC 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will complete and receive a passing grade on an original scientific project focused on health and/or fitness. Students will define a question related to their topic and collect and analyze data. The report will be presented to an audience that includes board members, teachers, community members, students and parents. PCC staff members will give feedback that will be incorporated into the final grade.</b>
<b>Physical Education/Health</b>	<b>Final Project</b> <b>PCC 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will complete and receive a passing grade on a</b>

<p><b>and Nutrition</b></p>	<p><b>three---part project related to Physical Education. The project will include:</b>  <b>Part A: Interview a community member about their physical activity levels and create a 6 month activity plan for them to increase their physical activity.</b>  <b>Part B: Conduct a statistical study of their fitness over the course of 6<sup>th</sup>---8<sup>th</sup> grade.</b>  <b>Part C: Study a sports team of your choice and revise their team strategy for success.</b></p>
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**Capstone Service Project:** During their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, PCC students are expected to design, plan and lead a service project at school or in the broader community. Students will work in a team to identify an area of need in the community and propose a project to address it. Once their Crew Advisor approves the proposal, students will be responsible for organizing, implementing the project and recruiting 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders to help carry it out. Student teams will give an oral presentation about their work, reflecting on growth in leadership and commitment to service.

**Student Success Plan:** At the beginning of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, students will begin to develop the Delaware required Student Success Plan. The success plan for Pike Creek Charter students will be a six-year plan, which includes 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades (high school) and one year beyond high school. The plan will be developed and updated annually by the student, students’ crew mentor, an additional staff member and their parents(s) and/or guardian(s) through the Student Success Plan online portal. The plan will include courses needed for entry into the workforce or post secondary education. In addition to courses, the plan will include support services necessary to prepare the student to graduate from high school. The students’ crew mentor will actively monitor the plan for progress at the end of each trimester. Support services will be provided to students who are failing, in danger of failing or not making progress toward their plan’s goals. The student success plan will be transferred to their high school of choice at the end of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year to continue their plan.

In addition to the requirements of the Delaware Student Success Plan, students will also complete a path to college plan or vocational plan. Starting in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students at PCC will attend 2-5 college visits and complete a path to college project. The project will include their students’ success plan along with descriptions of either Option 1 or Option 2.

**Option 1 – College Track**

A list of collages they would like to attend and their criteria for selecting them. Students will also include a description of the high school they plan to attend and the course they will need to take to ensure that they will gain admission into a selective college (also included in the student success plan). In addition, students will conduct and present research on the costs of college, the types of funding available and the ways in which students can access these resources.

Option 2 – Vocational Track

Students will identify a vocational area of training that they are interested in pursuing. They will list the criteria for selecting the training as well as the requirements that the training necessitates. Students will also include a description of the high school they plan to attend and the courses they will need to take to ensure that they will acquire the necessary skills to be successful in their profession. In addition, students will conduct and present research on the training needed, as well as the skills and experience required of their career path.