

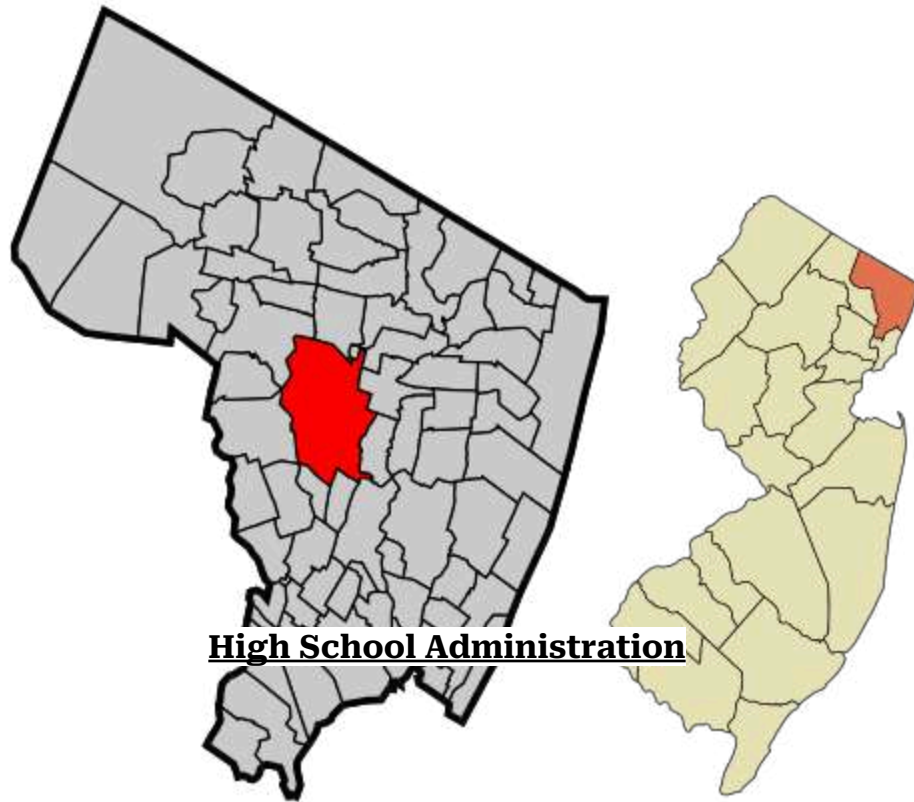
Paramus High School Student Handbook 2024-2025



[PHS Website With Links to All Documents, Policies, Regulations](#)

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High School Administration

Principal
 Vice Principal
 Vice Principal
 Athletic Director

Mr. Dominick Miller
 Ms. Alicia Angione
 Mr. Thomas Montuori
 Mr. Derek England

District Administration

Superintendent
 Assistant Superintendent
 Business Administrator
 Assistant Business Administrator
 Director of Curriculum, Supervision, and Accountability
 Director of Student Personnel Services
 Director of Technology & Innovation
 Director of Buildings & Grounds
 Assistant Director of Buildings & Grounds
 Director of Community Relations
 Supervisor of Science and Physical Education/Health (K-12)
 Supervisor of Special Services
 Supervisor of Student Support and Mental Health Services
 Supervisor of English Language Arts and ESL (K-12)
 Supervisor of Mathematics (K-12)
 Supervisor of Social Studies and World Languages (K-12)
 Supervisor of Visual and Performing Arts and 21st Century Life/Careers (K-12)
 Supervisor of School Counseling

Mr. Sean Adams
 Mr. Timothy Donohue
 Ms. Brooke Bartley
 Ms. Mattea Field
 Ms. Carla Alvarez
 Ms. Tiffany Goodson
 Mr. Peter Cook
 Mr. Nick Naturile
 Mr. Salvatore Lazzara
 Ms. Tara Hopfenspirger
 Ms. Christine Diaz

 Ms. Jenna Esdale
 Ms. Jara Beagelman
 Ms. Dara Carr
 Mr. Robert Lehmann
 Mr. David Allocco
 Ms. Lisa Vartanian

 Mr. Anthony Vecchione

| <u>School Counselors, Child Study Team, Student Assistance Counselor</u> | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|---|
| School Counselor | Ms. Shannon Moran | Psychologists | Ms. Melissa Meyers Ms. Juliana Barbaro Ms. Amy O’Gorman |
| School Counselor | Ms. Daura Schucker | | |
| School Counselor | Ms. Sandra Vanderzee | LDTC | Ms. Gina Mariano |
| School Counselor | Ms. Nicole Ives | Social Worker | Ms. Heather Russo |
| School Counselor | Ms. Ashwini Reddy | Student Assistance Coordinator | Mr. Joseph Traina |
| School Counselor | Mr. Joseph Gencarelli | SAGE Thrive Alliance CarePlus of NJ | Ms. Krista Seabrook Ms. Abigail Carlino Ms. Diane Wirth |

PHS Mission Statement

The mission of Paramus Public Schools is to develop all students as open-minded lifelong learners who pursue their dreams and add value to the world.

Core Values

We believe that all individuals have intrinsic value and are defined by their character.

We believe that respect for diversity enriches the community.

We believe that all individuals can contribute to strengthening the community.

We believe that a community thrives when it protects, nurtures, and educates all its members.

We believe that a family, in all its forms, is a critical element in shaping an individual.

Alma Mater

***Hail Paramus blue and white
for posterity
Sons and daughters, sing for praise
Till Eternity
Raise the chorus, Speed it onward
Let our watchword be
Hail all hail good fellowship
Paramus we love thee.***

STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2024-2025

| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Class of 2025</u> <u><i>Mr. Jenkins, Advisor</i></u></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Class of 2026</u> <u><i>Ms. Hay, Advisor</i></u></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Class of 2027</u> <u><i>Ms. Napolitano, Advisor</i></u></p> |
|---|---|--|
| <p>President: Silvio Fernandes Vice President: Tiffany Kostopoulos Secretary: Danny Campbell Treasurer: Natesh Garg</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>Senators</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcos Guinazu • Christen Lee • Giuseppe Monteleone • Rayaan Naqvi • Prince Patel | <p>President: Krish Mahtani Vice President: Xavier Santana Secretary: Vajra Venkitesh Treasurer: Claire Su</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>Senators</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mikayla Beraun • Victoria Gil • Mina Kavrakis • Zoe Mok | <p>President: Paul Ryan Lang Vice President: Aidan Brundage Secretary: Leela Bera Treasurer: Sam Sarkies</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>Senators</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amartya Blanch • Olivia John • Mihika Nair • Michaela Petrullo |



ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE:

Teachers will be available to assist students Tuesday through Thursday from 2:31 p.m. – 3:01 p.m. Peer Tutors, available through the Counseling Office, also offer assistance as arranged based on students' schedules.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

The purpose of education is to develop students who are lifelong learners; dishonesty undermines and inhibits this process. As a result, plagiarism or any form of cheating is unacceptable. Representing someone else's work as one's own, using commercially prepared work (including the use of AI or ChatGPT-generated work) in any form when none is permitted, collaborating with others when individual effort is required (copying homework, cheating on tests/ quizzes, plagiarizing papers or reports), or the resubmission of one's own work if it was originally written and submitted for a previous class or assignment are a disservice to one's own educational progress as well as that of others.

Along with input from subject Supervisors and building Administrators, the classroom teacher will determine whether or not cheating has occurred. Incidents of plagiarism must be judged by the teacher in light of what has been taught and what the teacher expects the student to know. The teacher will confiscate the materials and report all instances of cheating to the appropriate department supervisor. A referral will be sent to the student's Vice Principal. The minimum penalty for cheating, plagiarism, or recycling is a zero for the submitted work. This applies to any and all students involved. After a review, a confirmed case of cheating, plagiarism, or recycling also excludes academically eligible students from the National Honor Society (NHS) and will result in removal from the NHS for a current member (refer to "National Honor Society" for additional information).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Requests for announcements are made through a staff member, class or club advisor. The staff member sends an electronic correspondence to the Main Office for consideration. Emailed requests are due by 2:00 p.m. on the day prior to the announcement.

ATHLETICS

- ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR PARTICIPATION:

REGULATIONS by the NJSIAA and the NJDOE

MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY

Only one sports medical examination is required for each school year. This medical examination is valid for 365 days. The New Jersey Department of Education Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation form must be completed by the athlete and his/her parents AS WELL AS the student's physician. A health history form (c), completed by the parent or guardian, is required

if the physical exam is completed more than 90 days prior to the first practice and for each subsequent sports season. All forms can be found in Genesis under the parents portal.

The Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation form must be completed by your physician. The physician will keep the physical exam and a single document called the pre-participation physical evaluation form is returned to the nurse's office or athletic trainer. It is advised that all athletes keep a copy of the completed paperwork for his/her records. HOWEVER, physical exams are not accepted by school personnel any longer.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

All student-athletes grades 9-12 should be familiar with the eligibility rules required by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA). Copies of all regulations are available in the Athletic Director's office as well as the NJSIAA's website: www.njsiaa.org

Academic eligibility is an integral part of the entire eligibility process and a student-athlete must meet the standards set forth by the NJSIAA before participation is granted. The regulations are contained within the NJSIAA handbook in the athletic office and must be verified for each student-athlete by the Guidance Department each season.

Below are some of the main points in regards to academic eligibility. For a complete list of guidelines pertaining to athletic eligibility please visit: www.njsiaa.org

1. To be eligible for the 1st semester (from September 1 to January 31): A student in 10th grade or above must accumulate a minimum of 30 credits from the previous school year, including make-up work during the summer. (Note that all incoming 9th graders are declared academically eligible to participate in fall and winter sports)
2. To be eligible for the 2nd semester (from February 1 to the end of the school year): A student from 9th grade or above must accumulate a minimum of 15 credits from the first semester. *A student declared academically ineligible for the start of spring sports (failed to earn the minimum 15 credits necessary during the first semester) may regain their eligibility as of May 1st if they have earned a minimum of 22.5 credits (the equivalent of the minimum of 30 credits required for the year) by that time. (approved by NJSIAA in December 2011).*
3. A student may not have reached the age of 19 prior to September 1.
4. Students may only participate in athletics for 8 consecutive semesters following the student's enrollment in ninth grade.
5. Students who become ineligible because of semester grades may finish the current athletic season.

PARAMUS GUIDELINES:

To be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic and intramural athletics, a student must be in good disciplinary and academic standing. Regarding good disciplinary standing, a pupil is NOT eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity while serving detention or suspension of any kind. Also, pupils who demonstrate consistent and willful negative behaviors will be subject to Admin. review in regard to participation in any / all extracurricular activities.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that program changes (including class "drops") do not cause the student to fall below the necessary credit requirements set by the state.

For students planning on entering a Division I institution directly after graduating high school, students must present evidence of graduation from high school. All student-athletes who are interested in participating in Division I athletics at the university level are encouraged to check with the athletic director, their coach or their School Counselor for the most up-to-date NCAA requirements. Athletes who are listed as absent from school will NOT be eligible to participate in practice sessions or athletic contests on that day. **Any exceptions to this rule will be made by the Athletic Director or by the Principal.**

ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

On the day(s) of absence from school, a parent/guardian must log into the [Genesis Parent Portal](#) to report their student absent.

If you have any questions or concerns, please see the contact numbers listed below:

- The Attendance Office for Freshmen and Juniors: ext. 3072
- The Attendance Office for Sophomores and Seniors: ext. 3070

Regular attendance is a requisite for success in school. New Jersey State law requires that students attend school regularly and that it is the parents' responsibility to see that their children attend school on the days/hours that public schools are in session in the school district. (N.J. 18:A 3825, 26). In order to maximize students' chances for success, it is necessary that the school and home collaborate to ensure that students attend their classes daily.

Regulations: The limit set on the number of absences which may be accumulated before a student may lose course credit and/or may be retained provides for normal illness and emergencies. It should not be perceived that students should accrue the maximum number of absences for a course.

All students in grades 9-12 are expected to attend all assigned classes regularly and are not to exceed a set number of absences as designated below. Students exceeding the absence limit will be considered excessively absent and will lose credit in the course, receiving a grade of NC (No Credit) on their transcript.

Maximum number of allowable absences as per BOE Policy not to exceed

- 3 for a Quarter Class
- 6 for a Semester Class
- 9 for PE (3MP)
- 12 for a FY Class.

The teacher's role is to record accurate attendance on a regular basis. This will ensure the accountability of student whereabouts.

Absences fall into two categories. The two categories of absences are (1) those that count against the total allowed and (2) those that do not count against the total allowed before a student loses credit for a course. The two categories are:

Unexcused Absences toward established limits include but are not limited to:

1. Illness beyond **9 days** without proper documentation from a medical professional
2. College visits beyond the 3 permitted by the state (students in grade eleven and twelve only)

Excused absences toward established limits include but are not limited to:

1. The first **9 absences** (equivalent to 5% of the school year) due to student illness will be excused with a written notification from the parent in the student information system or supported by a written notification from the parent prior to the student's return to school. Any additional absences due to illness beyond 5% of the school year will require a doctor's note for each subsequent absence. Without a valid doctor's note, these additional absences will be recorded as "unexcused".
2. Death in family
3. Observance of state-recognized religious holiday
4. Medical/dental appointment with confirmed note / documentation from a medical professional
5. School-sponsored or approved event or activity (field trip, guidance appointment, scheduled music lesson, early dismissal for athletic event, speech therapy, Nurse's Office visit)
6. Driver's license test (documented)
7. Suspension from school or placement in SAP
8. Court appearance (documented)
9. College visit(s), up to three days per school year for students in grades eleven and twelve (documented) or Mandatory college visitation for interview or placement testing (documented)
10. Military obligation
11. Administrative Decision

Truancy is defined as 10 or more cumulative unexcused absences. For further information, please refer to the [state statute](#).

Notification Procedures: The Principal or his/her designee, upon receipt of information from the teachers or attendance personnel, will have the responsibility for all notification to parents.

★ All students and parents will be notified annually at the beginning of the school year of the attendance policy.

★ In addition to orientation sessions for incoming ninth-grade students, the administration will hold an orientation meeting for all interested parents to discuss various school rules including the attendance policy, much the same as the policies that are explained to the students.

★ As per BOE's expectation, parents are asked to notify the school through the Genesis when their child is absent indicating the reason for the child's absence. If notification is not received, the administration will contact the parents to be certain that they are aware of their child's absence from the high school.

★ Notifications from students, even if they have reached the age of 18, are not accepted as long as the student is living in a household with a parent. Only parental notifications are accepted.

★ Parents will be notified at a minimum by the grade-level Vice-Principal via an attendance letter on your child's Genesis Parent Resource page in regards to attendance concerns on a regular basis.

★ Parents will likewise be notified upon their student's loss of credit due to excessive absences

Returning from an absence for one or more periods:

- If a tardy student reports to school during any portion of the first block, the student should go directly to class. If they arrive more than 10 minutes late, they will be marked ABSENT-TARDY (AT).
- If a tardy student reports to school after the first block, they should report to their Vice Principal's office in order to confirm their absence/lateness with a parent.

Leaving School During the Day: Students who wish to leave school during the day must (1) sign out from the Nurse's Office if ill or (2) present a note from home to their Vice Principal's Office or ask the Vice Principal's secretary to call home in advance of leaving. Absences resulting from leaving school without signing out from a school office will be considered an unexcused absence.

Forged Notes: Students are not to sign the name of a parent/guardian or faculty member to any note of excuse. Such action is forgery. When a forged note is used to excuse an absence, the absence will be considered unexcused with resultant penalties. Parents/guardians will be notified and the student will be assigned up to three (3) extended detentions as decided by the Vice Principal. In those cases where a staff member's signature has been forged, or in multiple instances of forgery, the student will serve an all-day, in-school detention.

Extended Absence Policy: Classroom participation is the most crucial ingredient of the total educational experience. Absence from school for vacation purposes other than during the regular scheduled holiday breaks creates a serious interruption in the student's educational experience and are unexcused absences that count toward truancy and the loss of course credit. Therefore, parents are strongly urged to refrain from planning vacations when school is in session.

In the event that a student needs to be out of school due to extenuating circumstances, it is the district's policy that all tests and homework must be made up. In such cases, parents must notify teachers and grade level Vice Principal in writing at least two weeks in advance of the projected extended absence. The teacher or the Vice Principal may extend the time limit if extenuating circumstances are present. It is the student's responsibility to meet with his or her teachers to determine what work needs to be made up because of absence.

Homework Requests: Students must contact their teachers directly when they need to make up missed classwork, homework, and/or assessments due to excused absences. If students are unable to connect with their teacher, they should contact their school counselor for assistance.

Class Cuts: Class cuts are disruptive to the educational process. The goal of the attendance policy is to keep students actively engaged in each of their subject classes. As such, each cut from class will accumulate one unexcused class absence under the attendance policy and will additionally be treated as a disciplinary infraction. The offending student forfeits the ability to make up assessments or submit work that was due during the period they cut.

Attendance Appeal Process: Students who lose credit due to excessive unexcused absences may appeal their withdrawal from class as follows: The student must continue to attend class; the student must write a statement explaining why he/she believes there are compelling reasons or extenuating circumstances and a waiver from the Board of Education policy is justified; an appointment is made with the Attendance Appeals Committee.

Unassigned Study Hall Eligibility: Unassigned study halls are an earned PRIVILEGE reserved for Grades 11 & 12 students. To be considered for an unassigned study hall, the student must be "in good standing" with the school. If and when a student demonstrates an inability to autonomously utilize an unassigned study hall responsibly, an administrative decision may be made to place that student in an assigned study hall.

Athletics, Extra-curricular Activities and Attendance: Participants in extra-curricular activities who are listed as absent from school or who arrive late after the midpoint of the school day will not be eligible to participate in practice sessions, activities or athletic contests on that day. Participation in extracurricular activities after the school day requires that a student be present in class for at least half of the instructional blocks.

CELL PHONES:

Cell phones can be disruptive. Students who use cell phones without permission when classes are in session can have their devices confiscated by any staff member and turned in to the Assistant Principal. A parent or guardian may be asked to pick up the confiscated device. In the case of a second offense, students may additionally receive detention time. For third or subsequent offenses, students will receive further disciplinary consequences. Failure to turn a cell phone or electronic device over to a staff member when asked to do so will be considered insubordination and will result in disciplinary consequences.

Please note the practical guidelines for student devices at PHS:

- ★ *Students are using their devices in a non-disruptive & responsible way.*
- ★ *Students are not using their devices for videos or pictures (this includes APPS that use these features) unless under the direct supervision of a staff member.*
- ★ *Students are using devices in an academically honest way (not copying homework, texting answers).*
- ★ *Using headphones and talking on phones is not permitted as this is a safety concern. Phone calls can be made from an administrator's office.*
- ★ *Teachers can ask students to put away their devices and/or confiscate them if the device is not being used responsibly in the classroom and / or the hallways. Students are expected to respectfully comply.*
- ★ *Students must adhere to teachers' classroom rules for cell phone use. Teachers may confiscate cell phones that are not being used according to class rules.*
- ★ *When required by staff, students are to place their cell phones in wall holders located in the classroom when entering the classroom so as to minimize distractions.*

CHROMEBOOKS AND GMAIL:

Every student will be issued a district-owned Chromebook and their own Gmail account. It is strongly suggested that you obtain a cover for your Chromebook. In addition, please check your Gmail on a regular basis - this is the preferred method of communication between your teachers and peers on all academic and school-related issues.

- **COMPUTER USE - GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTABLE USE:** Access to telecommunications will allow students to explore databases, libraries, internet sites, bulletin boards, and the like which can be used to enhance the educational process. The Board of Education supports access by pupils to these information sources and the potential they have to enhance students' educational experiences. Use of the school's computer network/computers and/or other websites used by the school district, however, is expressly limited to educational purposes. No students will be allowed to use the district-provided computer network unless they have filed a consent form with the Principal. Consent forms are available in the Office of the Vice Principals. Any violation of District policy and rules may result in disciplinary action (detentions, suspension or expulsion) loss of privileges and, when applicable, legal action.

- **CHROMEBOOK ISSUE:** Any issues with your Chromebook can be resolved by our Technology department.
- **Submit an [IT ticket request](#)**

[SCROLL TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS DOCUMENT FOR THE CHROMEBOOK STUDENT HANDBOOK.](#)

CLOSED CAMPUS POLICY:

PHS operates as a closed campus school, meaning that students are not permitted to leave the campus during the school day unless they have been granted Junior/Senior Privileges. These privileges allow eligible students to leave the campus during designated study hall or lunch periods.

It is essential that all students who are granted this privilege return to school promptly and be on time for their scheduled classes. Any misuse or abuse of this privilege will result in disciplinary action and may lead to the revocation of the privilege to leave the building for lunch.

CLOSING SCHOOL:

In the event of severe weather conditions or other emergencies necessitating the closing of schools or the delayed opening of schools, an automated phone system call will be made. In addition, information will be posted on the district website. Under the Paramus delayed-opening plan, all schedules are delayed two (2) hours. Parents/guardians are responsible for updating their information in Honeywell, the system used for emergency reports. Instructions for Honeywell are posted on the Paramus District website.

CREDIT ATTAINMENT/ GRADE PROMOTION:

All students must successfully complete 120 credits to graduate from Paramus High School. Each year the 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students must attempt 35 credits and 12th grade students must attempt 32.5 credits (30 credits only with parental permission with 15 credits scheduled per semester). Students who fall below these levels will be assigned a study hall.

In order to be considered a tenth grader, a student must earn a minimum of 30 high school credits. In order to be considered an eleventh grader, a student must earn a minimum of 60 high school credits. In order to be considered a twelfth grader, a student must earn a minimum of 90 high school credits and be eligible to graduate in June or August of the twelfth grade year with a minimum total of 120 credits.

At the end of each school year students will be placed in the appropriate grade level based on credit status.

DISCIPLINE CODE:

The Code of Conduct for Paramus High School is designed to fulfill several purposes. It is designed to foster the health, safety, and social and emotional well-being of all students. The Code of Conduct establishes and maintains a civil, safe, secure, supportive, and disciplined school environment that is conducive to learning. It promotes the achievement of high academic standards and seeks to prevent the occurrence of problem behaviors.

As such, responses to student violations of the Code of Conduct are progressive in nature based on the offense committed and the severity of that violation of the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct will intervene and remediate and can include a range of disciplinary responses such as restrictions, Admin. and extended detentions, loss of privileges, in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions as well as counseling.

Paramus High School Code of Conduct Quick Reference Guide

All discipline consequences are subject to review and implementation by the PHS administration and are in accordance with Paramus BOE [policy 5131](#).

| Infraction | Traditional Consequence |
|--|---|
| Abusive Language / Profanity | Admin. or Extended Detention / ISS / OSS |
| Abusive Language / Profanity Towards Staff Member | 2-5 Days OSS, Parent Conference |
| Assault on Staff Member | 10 Days OSS, Board Hearing, Police Notified |
| Assault on Student | 10 Days OSS, Board Hearing, Police Notified |
| Bus Misconduct | Warning, Admin. or Extended Detention, ISS, OSS, Bus Privilege Review / Revoked |
| Cutting | 1 st Offense – Admin. Detention, Parents Notified 2 nd Offense – Extended Detention, Parents Notified Continued Offense – Admin. Review for Consequences |
| Dress Code | 1 st Offense – Warning, Parents Notified, Student Changes Clothes 2 nd Offense – After School Detention, Parents Notified Continued Offenses – Admin. Review for Consequences |
| Disruptive/ Inappropriate Behavior | Warning, Admin. Detention, ISS, OSS, Parents Notified |
| Drug and Alcohol Offenses | 5-10 Days OSS, Mandatory Screening, Police Notified |
| Electronic Device offense (Cellphone/headphones/ earbuds) | Confiscated by Staff 1 st Offense – Parent Pick Up or Admin. Detention 2 nd Offense – Parent Pick Up and Admin. Detention Continued Offense – Admin. Review for Consequences |
| Failure to Serve Teacher Detention | Admin. Detention |
| Fighting | 3 Days OSS – 10 Days OSS Continued Offense – Admin. Review for Consequences |
| Harassment / HIB Violation | Admin. Review for Consequences, Parents Notified |
| Insubordination (<i>failure to follow instructions, identify yourself, relinquish items, etc.</i>) | 2-5 Days ISS / OSS |
| Insubordination (<i>safety risk</i>) | 2-10 Days OSS |
| Lateness to Class/School | Administrative or Extended Detention, Parent Notified, Administrative Review for Further Consequences |
| Leaving Class Without Permission | 1 st Offense – Teacher Detention, Parents Notified 2 nd Offense – Admin. Detention, Parents Notified Continued Offense – Admin. Review for Consequences |
| Leaving School Grounds | 1 st Offense – Admin. Detention, Parents Notified 2 nd Offense – Extended Detention, Parents Notified Continued Offense – Admin. Review for Consequences |
| Parking Violation | 1st Offense – Admin. Detention, Move Car, Parents Notified 2nd Offense – Extended Detention, Move Car, Parents Notified |

| | |
|--|--|
| | Continued Offense – Privilege Reviewed / Revoked |
| Plagiarism | Admin. Detention, Academic Consequence, Deny/Revoke NHS, Parent Notified |
| Security Breach (propping doors, false calls to school/ rooms, etc.) | Warning, Admin. or Extended Detention, ISS, OSS, Parents Notified |
| Vaping or Possession of Device / Charger/Smoking | 2-5 Days OSS, Parents Notified, Police Summons Issued |
| Theft / Vandalism / Unauthorized Area | 2-10 Days OSS, Police Notified, Restitution Due, Parents Notified |
| Unauthorized Use of Genesis Parent Portal | 1–5 Days ISS / OSS |
| Verbal Assault / Threat to Staff Member | 2-10 Days OSS, Police Notified, Parents Notified, CST Risk Assessment, Possible Additional Review |
| Verbal Assault / Threat to Student | 2-10 Days ISS /OSS, Police Notified, Parents Notified, CST Risk Assessment, Possible Additional Review |
| Weapons | Immediate OSS, BOE Hearing, Police Notified, Parents Notified |

DRESS CODE:

Everyone entering Paramus High School is expected to dress in an appropriate manner. However, some forms of dress are simply inappropriate in the school environment where safe, distraction-free learning is the primary goal. [The specific details of the dress code are posted on the school's website](#) as well as in the school itself.

DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Paramus High School students can enroll in a Behind-the-Wheel Driver Education Program Offered by the Paramus Community School. 201-261-7800, ext. 3038.

DRIVER'S LICENSE:

On the day of your driving test, you must email your grade level Vice-Principal and inform your teachers ahead of time. You will be expected to return to school after you take the test. If your appointment for the test is in the afternoon, present a note from your parents before school on the day of the driving test.

EMERGENCY DRILLS:

When the emergency alarm rings, students should line up quietly in their classrooms and, at the teacher's direction, proceed silently to the exit designated on the drill instruction card posted in each classroom. Students must remain with their class and teacher during the drill. Teachers will take attendance once students are safely out of the building. In the event the alarm is sounded during the changing of classes, students must leave the building by the nearest exit. No one should use the elevator during an emergency drill. All drill procedures will be reviewed with students each year.

EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES AND EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES FOR HANDICAPPED STUDENTS: It is the policy of the Paramus Public Schools not to discriminate in its education programs, activities,

employment practices, or admissions policies and practices on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap.

Regulation No. 86.34 states that an institution or agency may not provide any course or otherwise carry out any of its education programs or activities separately on the basis of sex, or require or refuse participation therein by any of its students on such basis, including health, physical education, industrial arts, business, vocational, home economics, music, and adult education courses.

Inquiries regarding affirmative action, employment practices, Title IX or educational practices may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Tim Donohue, at (201) 261-7800 ext. 3000. Inquiries regarding compliance with the rules and regulations affecting the handicapped should be directed to the District 504 officer, Ms. Tiffany Goodson, Director of Student Personal Services, at (201) 261-7800 ext. 3000.

A copy of the Board of Education's affirmative action policy, goals, and grievance procedure is available in the Principal's Office at any one of the district schools or in the Superintendent's Office at 145 Spring Valley Road, Paramus, NJ 07652.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Paramus believes that the educational goals and objectives of the district are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside of the regular classroom program. Extra-curricular activities are those activities that are sponsored or approved by the Board of Education but are not offered for credit toward graduation. Such activities shall generally be conducted outside the regular school day, available to pupils who voluntarily elect to participate, marked by pupil participation in the process of initiation, planning, organizing and execution and shall ordinarily include band, clubs, dramatic or musical presentations as well as intramural and interscholastic sports.

All pupils in good disciplinary and academic standing shall have equal access to extracurricular activities. As noted earlier in the section under athletics, a student must maintain good disciplinary and academic standing to retain eligibility in the extracurricular program as well as the athletic program. A club fair is held each fall to introduce students to the many co-curricular opportunities at PHS. A description of each club will be available online. Students who leave school due to illness are not eligible to participate in co-curricular activities that day.

FIELD TRIPS:

When appropriate, your teacher or club advisor will inform you of any potential field trip opportunities and the procedures and expectations for participation.

GENESIS SYSTEM:

Any questions about or problems with setting up and maintaining the parent portal to monitor student academic progress can be directed to your child's Vice Principal Office. Office staff will respond to any question in a timely manner.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE: The procedure for registering complaints or grievances regarding penalties or grades that the student feels are unjust or unwarranted is as follows:

- 1. Discuss / Email the issue with your Teacher.*
- 2. Discuss / Email the issue with your School Counselor or with the Department Area Supervisor.*
- 3. Discuss / Email the issue with your Vice Principal.*

If the problem is not resolved at this point, you may make an appointment to speak with the Principal.

HALL LOCKERS:

STUDENTS WILL BE ASSIGNED LOCKERS on a requested basis. If you wish to have an assigned locker, please see your grade level VP.

HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION & BULLYING:

It is the policy of the Board of Education to maintain a learning environment that is free from harassment, including sexual harassment, intimidation and bullying. No student shall be subjected to harassment by other students, staff members, visitors, volunteers or outside vendors.

Sexual harassment may include but is not limited to the unwelcome exposure to physical contact, pornography, sexual jokes, pressure for sexual activity, remarks with sexual or demeaning implications, violent threatening or cruel verbal or written remarks or gestures, offensive jokes or cartoons, and using one's position of authority along with implied or explicit threats to secure sexual favors.

More generally, harassment, intimidation or bullying means any gesture, written communication, verbal or cyber communication or physical action that takes place on school property or any school-sponsored and/or related function or activity or on a school bus that (1) is motivated by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or a mental, physical, or sensory disability; or (2) by any other distinguishing characteristics; and, (3) a reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, that the act will have the effect of harming a student or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; or (4) has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students in such a way as to cause substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Any student who feels that he or she may be the target of harassment, intimidation or bullying, is encouraged to report his/her allegation to his/her School Counselor, Vice Principal, the Student Assistance Counselor, or the school's EEO officer that same day or complete the [Reporting Form](#). Disciplinary action may range from a documented conference and/or recommendation for counseling to detention and/or suspension. Repeated incidents of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by the same student toward the same or different students will result in-school suspension and possible criminal charges.

As required by New Jersey State law, Paramus High School has established a School Safety Team with the objective of addressing any and all issues of harassment, bullying or hazing. That team is made up of the Principal, the Student Assistance Counselor, a parent and a teacher representative. The Student Assistance Counselor, Mr. Joseph Traina, is also designated as the Anti-Bullying Specialist for the high school.

HAZING:

Paramus High School requires all students, staff and visitors to demonstrate mutual respect in all their interactions. As a result, the high school has a strict policy against hazing or initiations of any kind. Hazing is a form of harassment or bullying. Any interaction among students which is considered hazing will result in suspension from school and interscholastic competition.

HEADPHONES/EARBUDS:

Due to safety regulations students must remove their headphones and/or earbuds when entering the building. Wearing headphones or earbuds could prevent a student from hearing an emergency announcement and what emergency procedures to follow and compromises our student safety plan. Headphones/ earbuds are not permitted to be worn during the school day in class or in the hallways. If students are wearing headphones they will be confiscated and receive consequences. (refer to the code of conduct under electronic devices)

HOMEWORK:

HOMEWORK GUIDELINES: HW GUIDELINES WILL BE CLEARLY DEFINED BY INDIVIDUAL TEACHERS IN BOTH WRITTEN AND VERBAL FORM.

Every teacher knows that effective classroom participation and learning by students is a result of clear motivation and interest in the subject. One method of assisting with motivation and learning is through the assignment of homework and/or reinforcement exercises that either prepare students for new work or reinforce skills already acquired. At Paramus High School, homework is assigned on a regular and systematic basis. Teachers will assign both long and short-term activities. Homework has as its goals the development of skills, the reinforcement of previously mastered material, or the enrichment of classroom experience. The length and format of homework assignments will vary according to the subject. Homework grades will be factored into a student's quarterly average. Homework and long-range assignments can be accessed through Genesis or through e-mailing the specific teacher.

HONOR ROLL:

High achieving academic students will be placed on the high honor roll if they attain “A’s” in all subjects. Students will be placed on the honor roll if they attain a minimum of three “A’s” and no remaining grades lower than a B-minus in all subjects. Grades for all subjects will be used in computing honor roll status. Students would be ruled ineligible for both honor rolls if they had any unexcused absences or school suspensions for that marking period.

ID BADGES FOR STUDENTS:

For safety purposes, students will be required to carry their identification badges at all times while they are on school grounds. Students will be expected to show their ID when requested by any school employee. Students may be required to show their ID badge to board a school bus. With the advance of technology, ID badges have become an integral part of a student’s life. These badges are now used to enter the school’s exterior doors, the Library Media Center and lavatories. In addition, ID badges can be used as a debit card for purchasing food at lunchtime in the cafeteria. For more information on the use of ID cards in the cafeteria, please visit www.payforit.com.

INSUBORDINATION:

Paramus High School encourages mutual respect of all who study, work in or visit the building. Staff members are requested to be aware of students’ rights and feelings and treat students with appropriate dignity. Students are asked to recognize that the staff at PHS has a variety of duties, some of which include the direction of students. Staff members who request a student’s name, who question a student’s behavior, who direct students to move to a different location or do not permit students to leave a certain location, or who ask students to turn over items that are not allowed in school are fulfilling their responsibilities. In this regard, students in both action and attitude must give staff members their cooperation. This applies to the classroom, all areas of the building and campus, sporting events, and all other school-sponsored activities. Students are expected to follow the directions of adult supervisors. This includes teachers, administrators, secretaries, custodians, cafeteria workers and any other adults employed at PHS. Students not willing to do so will be considered insubordinate and subject to school discipline.

INSURANCE:

The Board of Education will make available to students and their families the opportunity to participate in the student accident insurance program. Application forms and information are available on the PHS website.

LANGUAGE, UNACCEPTABLE USE OF Expressions that are obscene, offensive, degrading or insulting are not tolerated at Paramus High School or at school-related activities. Please be aware that the use of unacceptable language will result in discipline penalties. Unacceptable

language directed at a staff member will result in suspension. Such language can also be viewed as a means of harassing, hazing or bullying another individual or group.

LOST AND FOUND:

Articles of value found by students should be taken to the Security Office, or the Vice Principal's Offices in room 417 or the Commons Office. Inquiries regarding lost articles should also be made in the same locations. **Students are encouraged not to leave any of their possessions unattended in the school building.** Students who wish to store items that do not fit in their locker or that are of significant value may do so in their Vice Principal's Office.

LUNCHROOM CONDUCT:

The lunchroom is considered an extension of the classroom environment; thus, it is imperative that students demonstrate proper behavior and adhere to established etiquette while there. All eligible students will be granted Junior/Senior privileges, contingent upon the completion and submission of the required parent permission form via the Genesis system.

MAKE-UP WORK PROCEDURES: *(due to school-sponsored activities or events or verified absences)*

Students who are absent from school because of school-sponsored activities or events and/or verified absences have the right to make up any missed work including tests and quizzes. Arrangements to complete makeup work will be decided upon by the teacher in consultation with the student. These arrangements should be based on fairness and common sense affording the student a reasonable amount of time to complete any and all missed work. If a conflict arises between a student and a teacher regarding makeup arrangements, the student may appeal to the Department Supervisor, Vice Principal, School Counselor, and, finally, to the Principal to resolve a scheduling conflict. It is the student's responsibility to obtain class work missed due to absence. Parents and students can use the parental portal of the Genesis academic record system to ascertain what has been missed.

MARKING PERIODS/MARKING SYSTEM

Unleveled courses such as P.E./Health and most Creative Arts courses will be given the same weight as CP courses.

A student will receive a floor grade of a "50" for one out of four quarters in a year-long course and one out of two quarters in a semester course. A "floor grade" will not apply to the fourth marking period in a year-long course or to the second of two marking periods in a semester course.

A grade of "F" represents a score of less than 65 points. No credit is awarded for failing a course.

The following system exists for grades and GPAs:

| GRADE | PERCENTAGE | STANDARD | HONORS | AP |
|-----------|------------|----------|--------|------|
| A+ | 97-100 | 4.33 | 5.08 | 5.83 |
| A | 93-96 | 4.00 | 4.75 | 5.50 |
| A- | 90-92 | 3.66 | 4.41 | 5.16 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 3.33 | 4.08 | 4.83 |
| B | 83-86 | 3.00 | 3.75 | 4.50 |
| B- | 80-82 | 2.66 | 3.41 | 4.16 |
| C+ | 77-79 | 2.33 | 3.08 | 3.83 |
| C | 73-76 | 2.00 | 2.75 | 3.50 |
| C- | 70-72 | 1.66 | 2.41 | 3.16 |
| D+ | 67-69 | 1.33 | 2.08 | 2.83 |
| D | 65-66 | 1.00 | 1.75 | 2.50 |

In an effort to make colleges examine the whole student instead of just his/her rank in class, a student's class rank will only be calculated when asked by a college to do so. Otherwise, students will simply be told what their grade point average is. This is an average which reflects the grades they have earned and the difficulty (weight) of the courses they have taken.

When a student is doing poorly, a warning notice will be posted at the midpoint of the quarter or at any point during the marking period using the Genesis system. Parents may access this information using their computer. The marking period dates for the 2024-25 school year are as follows:

| MARKING PERIODS | | | INTERIM REPORTS | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | Starts | Ends | | Parent Portal Opens |
| MP1 | Sept 03 | Nov 06 | IR1 | Oct 02 |
| MP2 | Nov 11 | Jan 24 | IR2 | Dec 13 |
| MP3 | Jan 27 | April 1 | IR3 | Feb 28 |
| MP4 | April 2 | June 19 | IR4 | May 09 |

MEDICAL SERVICES:

Examinations - New students are not permitted to enroll in school until proof of all state-required immunizations is provided to our medical staff.

- ★ All new students are required to submit a medical examination within thirty days and shall not be allowed to participate in physical education classes until such a medical examination is filed with the school nurse.
- ★ Medical examinations are required for all ninth graders. A medical examination for any sport will meet the requirement for ninth grade or new student medical examination.

It is strongly recommended that the family physician who best knows the student's medical history complete the medical examination.

Medications:

Nurses are not permitted by state law to administer any medication unless a form signed by the parent and their doctor is on file. Contact the school nurse for more information. Medication must be properly labeled with the student's name, the dosage, and times the medication is to be administered. All medication must be deposited with the School Nurse for safekeeping in the Nurse's Office.

Procedures for Return-to-School:

Readmission after emergency or urgent care treatment, surgery or hospitalization: A student who is treated in an emergency room or convenient care clinic MUST present a physician's release to the Nurse's Office upon return to school. Likewise, a student who has been hospitalized for any length of time or had surgery MUST present a physician's release to the Nurse's Office upon return to school. This providing of information to the Nurse is IN ADDITION to the documentation provided to the Vice Principal's Office for re-admission and absence explanation/excuse.

Readmission after homebound instruction related to illness, injury or surgery: The district may request updated medical orders for students who return to school following homebound instruction related to illness, injury or surgery. These orders may include but are not limited to medication orders and dietary expectations. A **physician's release MUST be given to the Nurse's Office** upon return to school in addition to the documentation provided to the Vice Principal's Office.

Students recovering from a communicable disease: Such students shall be readmitted to school according to the isolation/exclusion requirements in the Rules and Regulations for the Control of Communicable Diseases published by the New Jersey Department of Health.

Additional reasons for a physician's note:

- ★ a student returns to school with a cast, crutches or stitches;
- ★ a student must have a restricted physical education program or exemption for a set period of time.

Official medical notes must include the physician's name, physician's signature, office phone number and specific dates to be applied for attendance/participation. Medical notes can be submitted digitally or can be brought to the Nurse's Office and the Vice Principal's Office BEFORE the student may report to class.

Elevator Keys:

Such keys will be distributed by the Nurse's office ONLY. A physician's order is required for an elevator key. The need for an elevator key will be reviewed by the Nurse's Office personnel on a monthly basis and additional medical orders may be requested.

Medical Excuses for Physical Education Class:

To receive a medical exemption from Physical Education, a doctor's note must be presented to the Nurse who will then make the necessary arrangements. Parental notes can be used but are valid only for up to two days of PE. Students must continue to attend the PE class until a study hall is officially assigned. Alternate work will be assigned by the Physical Education teacher so as to allow the student to earn credit for Physical Education.

Nurse Visitation:

In cases of emergency, the student should inform the nearest adult who will assist. If the student becomes ill during school hours and wishes to see the Nurse, they must inform an adult and obtain an escort to the nurse's office. Students must sign in and out of the Nurse's Office. Only in the case of emergency should the student report directly to the Nurse's Office. Students can be sent home for sickness only after the Nurse speaks with a parent or any other responsible adult listed on the student's emergency card. Students may NOT leave school without properly signing out.

All accidents resulting in any type of injury to the student must be reported to the School Nurse as soon as possible (within 24 hours). An accident report will then be completed by the Nurse, the Coach or the Athletic Trainer.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY:

Click on the links below for information related to membership eligibility, selection process, obligations of membership, etc.

[NHS Bylaws for Class of 2023-2027](#)

[NHS Bylaws for Class of 2028+](#)

OUT-OF-SCHOOL AND EVENING ACTIVITIES:

School rules apply at all school-sponsored functions including those held in the evening and/or off school grounds. Limits on when students may enter such events, restrictions on leaving and entering, and restrictions on non-PHS students attending these events may be put into place in order to ensure the safety and enjoyment of participants. For permission to leave a school-sponsored event prior to the scheduled dismissal time, students must see their coach or teacher in charge of the event. Only in extenuating circumstances will students be permitted to leave a school-sponsored event with a parent.

PARKING:

Seniors and juniors with parking privileges are permitted to park only in the Student Lot on Century Road between the tennis courts and George Hodgins Stadium. This is the only approved site for student parking. Reserved areas for “Disabled” and/or “Visitor Parking,” regardless of their location on the campus, must be observed. Students who park on school property are required to register their vehicles with the Security Office and obtain a parking decal to be displayed for safety purposes. Any violation of the provisions of the policy for student parking and motor vehicle operation may result in disciplinary action that could include parental notification, extended detentions, suspension and/or loss of privileges. Finally, students are advised that the school reserves the right to conduct searches of any vehicle parked on school property based on reasonable suspicion.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION LOCKERS AND ATTIRE WILL BE OPTIONAL FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATION. STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN P.E. IN THE ABSENCE OF CHANGING THEIR ATTIRE.

POSTERS/POSTINGS: If any student wishes to hang a poster or sign anywhere in the school building, he/she must first speak to a Vice Principal and have the poster initiated by a Vice principal. All posters must be removed by the students the day after the advertised activity.

SCHOOL COUNSELING & COUNSELING SERVICES:

Counselor's Role: The school counselors at Paramus High School are committed to facilitating student development in the areas of academic, personal/social, and college/career planning. Our counselors provide personalized support with a focus on addressing each student's individual needs and providing guidance to promote student wellness and success. Connecting students and parents with the information and resources needed to make informed decisions is our priority.

Counseling Program: School counselors meet with students individually and in small groups to share information, facilitate discussions and provide support as needed. These meetings may occur in person or virtually. Recorded information sessions will be shared with students and parents to support postsecondary planning.

College and Career Planning Software: Paramus High School utilizes Scoir, a web-based college and career resource. Students are given access to a personal Scoir account in their freshman year. To access Scoir, please visit app.scoir.com

Counseling Office Visits:

- **If a student wishes to schedule an appointment with their school counselor**, students must select an appointment time through the counselor's Google Calendar. Access the counselor's calendar link on the [School Counseling Webpage](#). The student should report to the Counseling Office at the designated time, after showing the teacher the email confirmation or Google Calendar entry on their Chromebook.
- **If an appointment is scheduled by the school counselor**, a notification will be generated via email and added to the student's Google Calendar. On the day of the appointment, students must show the appointment to their teacher before reporting to the Counseling Office.

Students must always seek permission from the classroom teacher before reporting to the Counseling Office during class time. It is at the teacher's discretion whether the student will be permitted to leave class. Signing in and out of the Counseling Office is required. When returning to class, the teacher will verify the sign-in/sign-out times via Genesis. With the exception of an emergency, students may not sign into the office without an appointment.

Independent Study: A student may request an Independent Study for a course offered in the Program of Studies when a scheduling conflict arises. The student requesting the Independent Study must first meet with his/her teacher to discuss the proposal. The student then meets with the school counselor to complete the appropriate forms. Approval by the High School Principal and appropriate Department Supervisor is required. Students completing the Independent Study must meet all of the course requirements within the regular school grading format and timeframe.

Grade Reporting Procedures: Parents and students are encouraged to use Genesis to monitor student progress, and to email the teacher or counselor with any questions or concerns. PHS is "paperless" for interim progress reports and report cards. No progress reports or traditional report cards will be mailed home. If you cannot access Genesis, please contact your grade administrator. Please note that access will be blocked if there are any unfulfilled obligations.

Interim Reports: Student progress is reported at the midpoint of each marking period by an interim report. However, at the discretion of the teacher, supplementary reports may be provided during the marking period. **Students in danger of failing the course for the marking period and/or year MUST receive an interim report or timely, subsequent communication from the teacher to that effect, otherwise the student cannot receive a failing grade.** In addition, Parents will be alerted through Genesis of a possible failure for the marking period. Interim Reports will be posted at the midpoint of each quarter. If the failure concern emerges subsequent to that point, a notification will be posted with at least 2 weeks remaining in the marking period. Teachers may also notify parents by email, again with ample notice (2 weeks) to address the concern.

1. **Incomplete Grades:** Students may receive an incomplete grade on their report card due to an illness or extenuating circumstance that prevents them from completing the work by the end of the marking period. **All incomplete grades must be resolved within two weeks of the close of the marking period.** Students who fail to complete work within this timeframe will receive the grade they have earned at that point.
2. **Report Cards:** Student academic progress is reported quarterly. Grades are posted in Genesis four times per year. All questions regarding grades should be directed first to the classroom teacher.

Dropped Courses: Students must have approval from a parent/guardian to drop a course. As per Board Policy, seniors are required to carry a minimum of 32.5 credits (30 credits with written parent permission). All other students are required to carry a minimum of 35 credits. Students will not be permitted to drop a course unless they will be able to meet these minimum credit requirements. No more than two study halls per semester will be permitted. The following dates apply to the recording of a dropped course on a student's transcript:

Schedule Changes: No changes after the first five (5) days of class:

| GRADE | PERCENTAGE | STANDARD | HONORS | AP |
|-------|------------|----------|--------|------|
| A+ | 97-100 | 4.33 | 5.08 | 5.83 |
| A | 93-96 | 4.00 | 4.75 | 5.50 |
| A- | 90-92 | 3.66 | 4.41 | 5.16 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 3.33 | 4.08 | 4.83 |
| B | 83-86 | 3.00 | 3.75 | 4.50 |
| B- | 80-82 | 2.66 | 3.41 | 4.16 |
| C+ | 77-79 | 2.33 | 3.08 | 3.83 |
| C | 73-76 | 2.00 | 2.75 | 3.50 |
| C- | 70-72 | 1.66 | 2.41 | 3.16 |
| D+ | 67-69 | 1.33 | 2.08 | 2.83 |
| D | 65-66 | 1.00 | 1.75 | 2.50 |

| SCHEDULE CHANGES | |
|---|--|
| Full Year & Semester 1 Courses: 5th Day of Class <i>September 9, 2024</i> | Semester 2 Courses: 5th Day of Class <i>January 31, 2025</i> |
| LEVEL DOWN REQUEST | |
| October 2, 2024 | |

| COURSE DROP | | | |
|---------------------|--|---|---|
| | FY COURSE | SEM 1 COURSE | SEM 2 COURSE |
| No Record | Dropped by Nov 6 (End of MP1) | Dropped by Oct 2 (Midpoint of MP1) | Dropped by Feb 28 (Midpoint of MP3) |
| WF or WP | Dropped between Nov 11 - Apr 1 (Duration of MP2 & MP3) | Dropped between Oct 2- Dec 13 (Through midpoint of MP2) | Dropped between Mar 3 - May 9 (Through midpoint of MP4) |
| Grade of "F" | Dropped after Apr 1 (After the close of MP3) | Dropped after Dec 13 (After midpoint of MP2) | Dropped after May 9 (After midpoint of MP4) |

SMOKING/USE OF/POSSESSION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND RELATED ELECTRONIC DEVICES/ VAPING:

Smoking and/or use and/or possession of tobacco products is/are not permitted in the school building or on school grounds. Any students smoking or using tobacco products in the building or on school grounds will serve a suspension and receive a summons. In addition, a complaint will be signed with the town of Paramus. Parents will be required to meet with an administrator. Students will be offered an opportunity to participate in a smoking/tobacco-use cessation program. The possession of any tobacco products including smokeless tobacco by any student inside the school building or on school grounds while school is in session or while any school activity is taking place is prohibited. Likewise, any use or possession of an electronic "e" cigarette or other such electronic delivery device, whether or not it contains a fluid containing the highly addictive chemical, nicotine, is prohibited in school, on school grounds or at a school-related event at any time.

First Offense: 2 Day Suspension

Second Offense: 5 Day Suspension

Third Offense: Additional Suspension to be decided upon administrative review, board hearing to be determined upon review.

If the student must go out for drug testing and they do not report to testing center this will be a violation of Code B and an additional 5 day suspension.

If the student must go out for drug testing and the student received a positive test result the child will receive an additional suspension of 5 days

STUDENT GOVERNMENT:

The Student Government is the representative government voice of the PHS student body. It takes action on the students' behalf in all areas of their educational and social experience at Paramus High School, and is the organization through which the student body can take collective action on any matter of general concern. All PHS students are eligible to submit petitions and run for Student Senate and Class Officer positions. Elections take place in the spring. Elections for the Freshman Class Officer and Senate positions will be in the fall.

STUDENTS' RIGHT OF PRIVACY/SEARCH/SEIZURE:

The US Supreme Court ruled that "a student may be searched if there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated either the law or rules of the school." Student belongings are also subject to search by school officials. Belongings may include automobiles on school property. The school owns **district issued Chromebooks**, student lockers, desks, and other such property; therefore, school officials are empowered to conduct reasonable searches and seizures in the interest of school safety, sanitation, discipline, and enforcement of school regulations. A student should not expect privacy regarding items placed in school property because items placed in school property are subject to search at any time by school officials.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

Consistent with New Jersey State law and School Board policy, Paramus High School is a drug-free, alcohol-free, and tobacco-free campus. The rules which apply in the case of substance abuse on campus apply to any and all events associated with the high school including field trips, athletic events and other school-sponsored activities. In addition to traditional consequences for such behavior such as suspension, students who engage in such behavior also risk the loss of privileges associated with the high school such as, but not limited to, unassigned study hall, junior/senior privilege and senior activities. All are subject to revocation at Admin. discretion.

SUSPENSION:

During all-day detention or in-school suspension, students are required to (1) work quietly on school-related items (2) listen to the direction of the teacher-in-charge and (3) leave school grounds immediately upon school dismissal. Students may not (1) use musical listening devices/electronic communication (2) talk to others (3) sleep (4) eat (except during lunch) and (5) leave the detention room unsupervised. Students who fail to comply with the above guidelines may be subject to further disciplinary action. Out-of-school suspension is recognized as the most severe form of disciplinary action with the exception of expulsion. It should be considered as such by the entire school community. During out-of-school suspension, students are not allowed on school grounds. Students found on school grounds will be considered trespassers and may be subject to further disciplinary or police action.

Suspended students are allowed to make up all class work without penalty. In addition, absences due to suspension do not count toward the total number of absences allowed for the year.

TARDINESS TO SCHOOL DUE TO A LATE BUS:

When a bus is delayed causing students to arrive after the 7:45 a.m. bell, an announcement will be made giving the number of the late bus. Students who ride the bus will not be counted late.

TEXTBOOKS, CHROMEBOOKS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES:

All students are responsible for the textbooks, equipment and supplies that they are issued. Fines will be assessed for lost, damaged or stolen school property. **Students should write their name and their teacher's name in each textbook on the day the book is issued.** If a book is found, it can then be returned to the student without delay. Also see "Unfulfilled Commitments."

THREATENING STATEMENTS (WRITTEN OR VERBAL):

Statements threatening the health, safety or well-being of staff or other students are taken very seriously and can subject the student making such statements to detention, suspension, psychological evaluation and police notification.

UNFULFILLED COMMITMENTS:

Students must settle all unfulfilled commitments (fines, books owed to teachers, the library, uniforms, calculators, etc.) prior to the end of the marking period, semester, and/or year. Students who do not do so will not receive the results of exams or their report cards and no records will be sent to schools and/or colleges unless cleared within a designated time frame. In addition, access to the parental portal in Genesis will be disabled for the student with an unfulfilled commitment. Unfulfilled commitments are resolved in your Vice Principal's office.

VISITORS TO THE BUILDING:

Visitors to the building require appointments and administrative permission. If your parents / guardians wish to come to PHS for any reason, please have them contact the appropriate person with whom they wish to meet with. (VP, School Counselor, Teacher, Etc)

WEAPONS:

Everyone has a right to feel safe at Paramus High School. To that end and consistent with NJ State law, possession of any kind of weapon or look-alike weapon on the campus of Paramus High School or at a Paramus High School event is strictly prohibited. Violation of this prohibition will result in extended out-of-school suspension from school, involvement with the police department and referral to the Superintendent of Schools.

WORKING PAPERS:

Students needing working papers should go directly to myworkingpapers.nj.gov to obtain the documentation. The child labor laws of the State of New Jersey indicate that no minor under the age of 18 years shall be employed, permitted or suffered to work in, about or in connection with any gainful occupation more than six consecutive days in any one week, or more than eight hours in any one day; nor should any minor under 16 years of age be so employed, permitted or suffered to work before 7 o'clock in the morning or after 6 o'clock in the evening of any day; nor shall any minor between 16-18 years of age be so employed, permitted or suffered to work before 6 o'clock in the morning or after 11 o'clock in the evening of any day. The law requires that when applying for working papers, a student must have his or her personal Social Security number. The telephone number for all Social Security offices is 800-234-5772.



Paramus High School

Chromebook Student Handbook 2023-2024

Paramus High School has implemented a 1:1 Chromebook student computing program in grades 9-12 to facilitate 21st century teaching and learning. The individual use of Chromebooks is a way to empower students to learn at their full potential, to communicate and collaborate on analytical thinking and problem solving, and to prepare them for college and the workplace. As web-based devices, Chromebooks provide students with instant access to resources and information for student learning, online, anywhere, at any time. Chromebooks are intended for use each school day. Therefore, students are responsible for charging the Chromebook battery before the start of each school day and bringing their Chromebooks to all of their classes. Students should read the following handbook information and policies carefully to understand and follow best practices regarding care for, and use of, the Chromebook.

Components of the Handbook:

Part I: Chromebook Logistics

- Accessing and Using the Chromebook
- Returning the Chromebook

Part II: Google for Education Features

- Google for Education - G Suite Products
- Apps and Extensions
- Gmail

Part III: Student Responsibilities

- Responsibilities/Digital Citizenship
- Electronic Recording Capabilities

Part IV: Chromebook Care

- Appropriate Care and Precautions
- Chromebook Screen Care
- Damage/Repairs

Important Notification:

Damage to district Chromebooks will result in a deductible being charged, regardless of cause and excepting known issues, by the student assigned to the Chromebook as follows:

- **A \$25 deductible** will be charged for damage per incident. A list of known issues, which are exempt from this fee, is available on the district technology website.
- Families may apply for discounts or waivers if they qualify for other financial aid, including the federal free and reduced lunch program.
- Lost chargers will be replaced at the cost of the charger or \$25, whichever is lower.
- Current information regarding Chromebook repairs and the deductible, including coverage and fees, can be found on the district technology website.

- If it is found that, upon investigation, the damage was the direct result of another student, the deductible can be assigned to the student having caused said damage, subject to the discretion of the investigating administrator.
- Repeat violations may, at the discretion of the investigating administrator or district, require payment of the full repair or replacement cost of the device.
- Students will not be charged for “borrowing” a device; however, both parents/guardians and building administration will be notified and the privilege of borrowing a device may be revoked for repeat offenses at the discretion of building administration.

In addition to using the information in this handbook, students should consult the online [Chromebook Training Orientation](#) that Google provides. This orientation is particularly helpful in getting to know the nuances of the Chromebook keyboard, including shortcuts. Follow Internet safety guidelines in accordance with the [Paramus High School Technology Agreement](#)
