



The Hornet Herald

August 2018 Edition

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Dear Hornet Students, Parents, and Guardians:

It is hard to believe that we have just four short weeks until all of our approximately 550 students return to start the 2018-19 academic year.

This summer, as with most, has been a busy one for all of us here at Plattsburgh High School. I have been working with our school counselors on creating the master schedule for the past three weeks. For the most part, we have finished our preliminary work. Our counselors are now working on trying to make sure each student's schedule reflects courses chosen and that the number of students in each section of a course are comparable. Although there are still changes that will be forthcoming, such as the scheduling of student in AIS, we will be releasing schedules to you all by the end of the week.

As we prepare to do this, we ask that you keep in mind that we will be continuing to re-arrange schedules in order to make course sections as balanced as possible. Lunches, study halls, and homerooms are usually not added to the schedules until later in August. The same is true for locker assignments. Check regularly on SchoolTool for scheduling updates, since changes will be on-going through the first day of school.

We also ask that you keep in mind that when students choose courses, they are not selecting the teachers. The school counselors have been directed by me to only make schedule changes based on the following reasons:

- A student is in the wrong class.
- A student does not have a lunch.
- A student is missing a class.
- A student would like to add a class in order to get out of a study hall.

We do not change schedules for these reasons:

- A student wants a different teacher.
- A student wants the same classes as his/her friends.
- A student wants a lunch with his/her friends.

As we finish our preparations for the new school year, we are excited to welcome all of our students and parents back to PHS. Many students will be arriving this week for sports clearances. We hope that our

new students, including 9th graders and transfer students (along with their parents and guardians) will join us for our annual Freshman/New Student Orientation on Thursday, August 23rd. This annual event will take place in the PHS auditorium from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Students, parents, and guardians will have an opportunity to learn about the school, look at updated schedules, and tour the building before a quick question and answer session.

The first day of school for students will be Wednesday, September 5th. This year, we will be taking the time to cover school-wide expectations of behavior throughout the building in the morning. It is our goal to ensure that all members of the Hornet community understand what it means to be respectful, be responsible, and be safe at PHS, no matter the setting.

This will be followed by the return of a long-standing tradition here at Plattsburgh High School – the PHS-tival! We are currently working with our Student Association members to finish planning a variety of events to allow students to get to know one another and learn more about opportunities at the school during the second half of the day. We'll return to regular academics on the second day of school, Thursday, September 6th.

We look forward to everyone's return and to having another wonderful school year at Plattsburgh High School!

Sincerely,

Glenn M. Hurlock, Principal





One of the best ways to ensure that the high school experience is enjoyable for both students and parents is to get involved in the school through clubs, sports, or volunteer experiences. Plattsburgh High School has more opportunities for involvement at the school than any other school in our region. Moreover, it's a great way to make long-lasting friendships, gain leadership experience, and build your resume for job and college applications. We hope that you'll get involved in some of the wonderful opportunities listed below:

Clubs at Plattsburgh High School:

- +Adventure Club
- +College For Every Student
- +Drama Club
- +French Club
- +German American Partnership Program
- +Key Club
- +Multicultural Club
- +Peer Mentoring Club
- +Quidditch Club
- +Spanish Club
- +Yearbook
- +Amnesty International
- +Creative Arts Club
- +Foosball Club
- +Future Business Leaders of America
- +Journalism Club
- +Model United Nations
- +National Honor Society
- +Plattsburgh High School Green Team
- +Science Club
- +Student Association

Sports at Plattsburgh High School:

Fall Sports:

- Cheerleading
- Cross Country
- Football
- Girls Swim
- Gymnastics
- Soccer
- Volleyball

Winter Sports:

- Basketball
- Bowling
- Boys Swim
- Cheerleading
- Hockey
- Indoor Track

Spring Sports

- Baseball
- Boys Lacrosse
- Golf
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track & Field

We are always looking for parents to participate in our Community-School Organization (CSO). Even if you can't attend our monthly meetings, we are always looking for volunteers. Additionally, we are looking for parent representatives for our District-Wide Educational Improvement Committee and our School Improvement Plan team.

The PHS Community-School Organization (CSO): A Great Way to Get Involved at Your Child's School

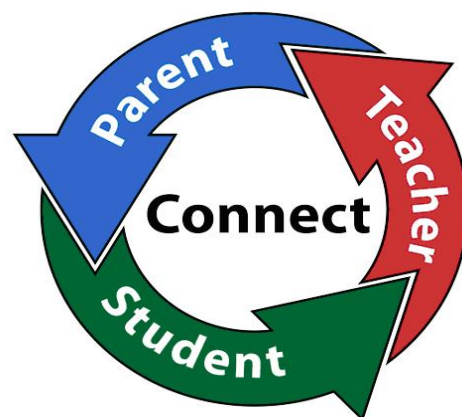
Educational research has shown time and again that there is a direct correlation between a student's success in high school and the level of involvement of both the parent and the student in organizations at the school. One of the best organizations to get involved with, as a parent, is our school's CSO. This group of parents works throughout the year to raise money to provide needed funding for a variety of clubs and programs at PHS. The CSO also participates in a variety of school-wide events such as the Open House, a variety of Homecoming events (ie, CSO Barbecue and the Homecoming Dance), and providing a luncheon for our faculty and staff in order to recognize their efforts throughout the year. They also raise money for a variety of scholarships that benefit PHS graduates every year.

While this long list of activities would be enough for the CSO to earn recognition at the school, their involvement at PHS goes much further than that. The CSO has organized forums for parents to learn about topics relating to school and to express opinions that are used by both our school-level and district-level administrators. In the past, forums have dealt with the following topics:

- Scheduling Options at PHS
- The Co-Curricular Code of Conduct
- AP and CAP Courses
- State Funding for Schools
- Internet Safety Awareness
- The PHS Dress Code
- Mental Health Services
- Common Core Testing

We, as administrators, seek the opinions of the CSO members because they are key stakeholders in the PHS community. Additionally, CSO parent representatives participate in decision-making through our school's School Improvement Plan (SIP) committee and the district's District-Wide Educational Improvement Committee (DWEIC).

If you are interested in participating in a variety of school-wide events or learning more about what really is happening at PHS, then think about joining the PHS Community-School Organization. You can learn more by contacting the CSO President, Courtney Khristiansen. Courtney will be available at both our Freshman/New Student Orientation on August 23rd and at our annual Open House on September 11th.





PHS SPORTS UPDATES:

The Plattsburgh City School District offers a wide array of opportunities for students at the secondary level. These efforts are led by our Athletic Director, Jim Manchester, and our Athletic Coordinator, Chris Hartmann.

Sports clearances for the Fall Sports season will begin this week in the PHS Nurse's Office, located across from the library. These clearances will take place at the following dates and times:

Wednesday, August 8th:

- 8:00-9:00: Varsity Boys Soccer
- 9:00-10:00 JV Boys Soccer
- 10:00-11:00 Varsity Girls Soccer
- 11:00-12:00 JV Girls Soccer

Thursday, August 10th:

- 8:00-9:00: Varsity Volleyball
- 9:00-10:00 JV Volleyball
- 10:00-11:00 Gymnastics
- 11:00-12:00 Cross Country
- 1:00-2:30 Girls Swim
- 2:30-3:30 Cheerleading

Friday, August 11th:

- 8:00-9:30 Varsity Football
- 9:30-11:00 JV Football
- 1:00-3:00 Physical Exams By Appointment Only

All Varsity and JV sports will start this year on Monday, August 13th, and students must have their medical clearances completed in order to play. Modified sports will begin on Monday, August 20th.

New Medical Requirements For Seniors:

Starting with September 2016, New York State is requiring that all students entering the 12th grade have the meningococcal vaccine in order to attend school. The PHS school nurse, Ms. Cheryl Maggy, must have confirmation of these vaccinations and we ask that you contact your doctor in order to have them notify us via fax that this vaccine has been administered. The school’s fax number is below:

(518) 561-1895

If you have any questions about this fairly new requirement for 12th graders, please contact Ms. Maggy at (518) 561-7500, extension 5031.

Changes to Senior Privileges for Late Arrival and Early Release:

Last year, the PHS School Improvement Plan team decided to make changes to senior privileges. The team is a representative group of stakeholders from within the PHS community and includes representation from students, parents, staff, faculty, and administration. This past year, they decided that senior privileges for late arrival and early release will only apply to first or ninth periods in order to encourage more students to take advantage of course offerings at PHS and to better prepare students for the next step in their lives, whether that be the world of work or post-graduation educational opportunities.

Contact Information for Class Advisors:

As students progress through each year of high school, there are a variety of events that apply to each grade such as getting one’s class ring as a sophomore, preparing for the Junior Prom as a junior, or planning for graduation and other important events as a senior. Additionally, classes must prepare for the upcoming Homecoming activities in October this year. If you have questions about what is going on, please contact the following individuals:

Graduation Year:	Class Advisor(s):	E-mail Contact(s):
Class of 2019/Seniors	Ms. Susan Fresn	sfresn@plattscsd.org
Class of 2020/Juniors	Mr. Neil Bowlen Ms. Jennifer McCoy	nbowlen@plattscsd.org jmccoy@plattscsd.org
Class of 2021/Sophomores	Ms. Jerri Charlebois	jcharlebois@plattscsd.org
Class of 2022/Freshmen	Ms. Fran Bieber Ms. Cynthia McMahon	fbieber@plattscsd.org cmcmahon@plattscsd.org



Contact Information for PHS

Students and Parents

**For all extensions, you must dial (518)561-7500 first, and then enter the extension number.*

Attendance:	Ms. Bouchard, extension 5002
Principal:	Mr. Hurlock, extension 5009
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director:	Mr. Manchester, extension 5008
Athletic Coordinator:	Mr. Hartmann, extension 5091
Principal's Secretary:	Ms. Kennedy, extension 5001
Assistant Principal's Secretary:	Ms. Meschinelli, extension 5004
Health Office	Ms. Maggy, extension 5031
Guidance Office:	Ms. Schudde, extension 5071
School Counselors:	Ms. LaPage (Last Names A-F), extension 5075
	Mr. Feazelle (Last Names G-Mo), extension 5072
	Ms. Tisdale (Last Names Mn-Z), extension 5074
School Psychologists:	Mr. DeBella, extension 5078
	Ms. Turner, extension 5076
Cafeteria	Ms. O'Connor, extension 5093
PHS Fax:	(518) 561-1895

Plattsburgh High School Supply Lists

It's always a good idea to have a 3" binder for school, along with looseleaf paper, pens, and pencils.

Below you will find a general list of supplies needed for students enrolled in classes, by department.

- Art:** Colored pencils, and a sketchbook
- English:** Notebook for class notes, colored pencils, highlighters, index cards, and composition notebook for journals.
- Foreign Language:** Notebook for class notes and pocket folder. The department also recommends that students purchase an other-language-to-English dictionary for their classes.
- Math:** Loose leaf paper, 1/4" graph paper, notebook, and ruler.
- Music:** Band students need either black pants or a modest length black skirt. Chorus and Orchestra students should have the following: black pants or a modest length black skirt, white shirt or blouse, and a long black tie.
- Phys. Ed.:** Shorts for physical activity (3-4" inseam), sweatpants, T-shirt for physical activity (no spaghetti straps), socks, sneakers designed for physical activity (good, supportive shoes)
- Science:** Students enrolled in chemistry or environmental science should have a notebook, students in living environment should have a pocket folder, chemistry and forensics students need a composition notebook, and physics students should have a graphing or scientific calculator.
- Social Studies:** Notebook, colored pencils, highlighters, and index cards.

Please note that the PHS Green Team collects almost all of these supplies from students at the end of the year. If you need assistance in getting supplies, please contact Ms. Sholtis at asholtis@plattscsd.org.





Important Dates in August and Early September at Plattsburgh High School:

- August 8-9: Sports Clearances in the PHS Health Office (see listing above)
- August 9: Board of Education Meeting at Duken, 7:00 pm
- August 10: Student Schedules Released on SchoolTool for Students, Parents, & Guardians
- August 23: Freshman/New Student Orientation in the PHS Auditorium, 1:00-3:00 pm
Board of Education Meeting at Duken, 7:00 pm
- September 4: First Day of School for Faculty and Staff/Superintendent's Day
- September 5: First Day of School for Students/PHS-tival
- September 6: Board of Education Meeting at Duken, 7:00 pm
- September 11: Open House, Beginning in the PHS Auditorium, 6:30-8:30 pm
- September 12: Community-School Organization (CSO) Meeting in the PHS Conference Room, 7:00 pm

