

September 15, 2024

Dear Potomac Community,

Fall is here! As we welcome cooler temperatures, we're also excited for the many Fall activities and events on the horizon. Please find Potomac Senior High School updates below:

STUDENT PROGRESS UPDATE:

Each year, mid-September serves as a good checkpoint for early student progress in classes. Please remember that student attendance and grades are available 24/7 in ParentVUE. I am asking that parents be intentional about checking student attendance and grades via ParentVUE on Friday, September 20, in the place of previous "Interim Report Cards". A few indicators of student success include:

- Consistently attending all classes
- Completing formative practice opportunities, such as homework or classwork
- Taking advantage of retake opportunities on summative assessments, such as tests

Please remember that student access to various school functions will depend on their consistent on-time attendance at school and be sure to reach out to your student's counselor, teacher, or administrator with questions.

24/7 ONLINE TUTORING:

Prince William County Public Schools has partnered with Varsity Tutor, a 24/7 academic support tutoring platform. Through Varsity Tutor our students can safely and securely chat with an expert tutor anytime, anywhere, for free. Whether they need help clarifying homework questions or feedback on a written assignment, they can receive on-demand and unlimited help when they need it. Please take advantage of this awesome resource!

HOMECOMING 2024:

Heads-Up! Our 2024 Homecoming Dance will be held on Saturday, October 5, at 8:00 p.m. at Potomac High School. A Spirit Week with several fun student events and the Homecoming game on October 4, will both precede the dance. More detailed information will be shared soon!

OTHER UPCOMING FALL DATES: Please see meeting info below:

PSAT:

On Wednesday, October 9, all grade 9, 10, and 11 students will participate in Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying (PSAT) testing for much of the school day. Grade 12 students will be provided with asynchronous learning opportunities from home and are not expected to be in the building that day. The PSAT is a great primer for the SAT, and even the ACT. Please also remember that

PSAT scores are used to identify National Merit Scholars and award merit scholarships, so we encourage students to focus and do their very best on the test. Students can practice for the PSAT by visiting the College Board website [HERE](#) and trying a few sample questions or the Practice Test.

ACADEMIC AWARDS:

Our Fall Academic Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 24, at 9:00 a.m. in the Potomac High School Auditorium. The ceremony is based on student achievement from the 2023 - 24 school year. Award recipients will be notified via individual letters distributed at school as well as a letter mailed home to families with additional details. Please contact your student's School Counselor with questions. Please see award criteria below:

- A student shall be enrolled in at least six classes that carry a Carnegie unit of credit. All classes that carry a Carnegie unit of credit shall be used in computing the yearly average.
- A student shall earn a grade point average for the year of 3.5 (non-rounded) or higher.
- A student shall earn a grade equivalent to 3.0 or better for the year in each class. That is, no student is eligible for an academic letter if he or she earns a grade lower than a grade equivalent to 3.0 for the year.

GET INVOLVED: I encourage all parents/guardians to support continued success at Potomac by joining the Potomac Principals Advisory Council (PAC), or the Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO). Please see meeting info below:

- Assist with community partnerships and student support events at our PTSO meeting on Thursday, September 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the Potomac Senior High Library.
- Provide feedback and input about the school's Continuous Improvement Plan and budget at our PAC meeting on Thursday, October 17, at 6:00 p.m. in the Potomac Senior High Library.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- October 3: Holiday (NO SCHOOL)
- September 30 – October 4: 2024 Potomac Spirit Week
- October 4/October 5: Potomac Homecoming Game/Dance
- October 9: PSAT Day (Students in grades 9-11)

For more information on school news, upcoming events, and activities, please visit the Potomac Senior High School website.

Thank you for your continued support of Potomac Senior High School!

Best Regards,

Mrs. Stacy M. Norwood
Acting Principal
Potomac Senior High School
Where Excellence is the Standard