

PETOSKEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Jon Wilcox, Principal
Jason Purcell, Assistant Principal

January 29, 2024

Parents of 8th grade students,

This marking period is a busy time for our soon-to-be high school students! This email is to provide some details about what is coming up for them in the next couple months.

In preparation for the upcoming **8th grade Career Day** and the **4-year planning process** for high school, Mrs. Kelley and Mrs. Pinney will be in your child's science class this week working with 8th grade students on career exploration. Students will complete an interest inventory that will generate for each individual student a multitude of "good match" career options across the different Career Pathways (arts, business, technology, health sciences, human services, and natural resources). We will be working with Xello, an interactive online program with a vast amount of information for students to explore a plethora of post-secondary opportunities. Students will research current, in-depth information about the training, education, skills, earning potential, level of demand, and more as it pertains to specific careers. Part of this activity will also include indicating their preferences for which Career Day sessions they are interested in attending for that event, as well as preparing them for the upcoming **Career Tech Education (CTE) tours** at Petoskey High School.

Next month we will be presenting information about 4-year EDP's (**Educational Development Plan**) to all 8th grade classes. Students will receive information about graduation requirements, high school course sequences, and elective/Career Tech Education opportunities. At that time, we will share with parents the same information, along with some additional details about the high school planning process.

In preparation for the EDP/high school scheduling process, we encourage parents of 8th graders to attend the **PHS Parent Curriculum Meeting** where high school counselors and administrators will be explaining their 2024-25 course offerings and scheduling process, as well as going over graduation requirements and answering questions.

In March, we will hold our annual 8th grade **Career Day** during which over 20 members of our community will share their professional experiences and expertise with our students. After Petoskey Police Chief Rocky Karr's keynote address, each eighth grader will rotate through four different career sessions, which are assigned in large part based on your child's interest and preference. That event runs from 8:30 - 11:00 on Wednesday, March 13.

After spring break, 8th graders will be taking the **PSAT8**, the state-mandated test in reading and math. This will be your child's first opportunity to take a practice SAT. The test will be administered from a digital platform, similar to the standardized tests students have taken in the past. Look for more information in the March newsletter!

"Learning and Growing Together"

Important upcoming dates for 8th graders and their families:

January 30th or 31st: Career Exploration, Career Day Interest Survey, and CTE overview

February 6th: Parent/Teacher Conferences--PHS counselors will be here at the middle school with information about post-graduate financial planning

February 8th: PHS Parent Curriculum Meeting at Petoskey High School (see attachment)

February 14th: CTE Tours at Petoskey High School (9-noon, with lunch at PHS)

February 20th or 21st: 4-year plan/EDP presentations to students and information sent home to parents

February 27th or 28th: 4-year plans due--counselors will meet with students 1:1 to go over their individual high school course planning

March 13th: 8th grade Career Day

April 10th: PSAT8 Test Day

Planning for high school and beyond is an exciting time, but we understand it can also create some nervousness for both students and parents. We will continue to provide information along the way, but also please feel free to reach out to us with questions!

Dana Pinney and Angie Kelley--Counselors

231.348.2289 231.348.2290

PARENT CURRICULUM AND SCHEDULING MEETING



FEBRUARY 8, 2024
5:30-6:00PM
OR 6:30-7:00PM

PHS AUDITORIUM

JOIN US



REVIEW COURSE OFFERINGS



ASK QUESTIONS



**LEARN HOW PHS HELPS ALL STUDENTS PLAN
FOR THEIR POST SECONDARY PLANS**