

# CAT TALES NEWSLETTER

Cat Tales Newsletter

September 1, 2017

**PATRICK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL**

**Let the 2017-2018 school year begin...**



*This year's Student Government Association officers left to right: Logan Morrison, Treasurer; Ashton Young, Vice-president; Jessica Bryant, Secretary; Allison Eames, Historian; Emily Eames, Reporter; Josie Pendleton, President; Angela Rose, Sponsor. Not pictured: Montana Moorefield, Intern.*



*Class of 2018 Top Ten in order of rank left to right: Nathaniel Wright, Nicolas Barnes, Ashton Young, Morgan Biggs, Macie Rogers, Evan Hopkins, Helen Dawson, Hunter Kenyon, Sydney Biggs, and Grace Williams.*

**PCHS**

The mission of Patrick County High School is to build a foundation for lifelong learning that prepares students for responsible citizenship.

## Chromebooks 1.1

With our new school year comes a major change to our students and faculty—the introduction of Chromebooks 1:1. Darren Biggs, Patrick County Public Schools System Director of Technology has been working on the plan for quite some time. Technology is essential for student learning in today's information and technology reliant society. When asked, "Why Chromebooks?" Biggs answered, "Chromebooks are quick and easy to use. Everything is cloud-based so you don't have to worry about losing data. Most importantly for our District, they are cost effective. The Chromebook is the student's own personal device, meaning they have more permissions than in a one-to-many environment." Teachers are learning the features and advantages of the Chromebooks along with the students. Spanish Teacher Anita Knight has been very pleased with how excited her students have been about doing assignments on the Chromebooks. Instead of complaining, she says, they are saying, "Mrs. Knight, this is fun!" So far, Biggs is pleased with the initiative. "Everything seems to be going great."

## PCHS Students View the Eclipse

On August 21 students and staff were released from class to view the solar eclipse through special glasses provided by the school system. Before students were escorted to their viewing area, they were instructed on how to properly use the glasses and were allowed to stand, sit, or even lay on the grass to observe the eclipse with no obstructions.

Two teachers were especially excited about this opportunity to share such a memorable event with their students—Earth Science teachers Rendy Williams and Crystal Fain. According to Mrs. Fain, it is often difficult for students to visualize concepts in Earth Science because they take place on such a massive scale. “It is hard to grasp that the top of Mount Everest used to be ocean floor! It can be even harder to understand concepts related to astronomy since most of them are taking place outside our perspective.” She went on to say that being able to view the solar eclipse in real time brought the concepts alive and made them relatable. “After being given a brief overview of what was happening, students were able to see the concepts all come together in that ‘ah ha’ moment.”

Mrs. Williams agreed that it was a really good experience. Being able to teach about the event as it was happening was a rare opportunity. “This is something we will all remember!” said Williams.





## SOVA Youth Expo 2017

Our 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders will attend the Career ChoICE (Imagine Connect Explore) on September 27 & 28 at the Olde Dominion Agricultural Center in Chatham, VA.

The Dan River Region Collaborative and the Southern Virginia Career ChoICE Youth Expo Planning Team invite employers from across the region to participate in the SOVA Career ChoICE Youth Expo to expose seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students from Danville and Martinsville and the counties of Halifax, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania to real-life career choices in their respective and surrounding communities. All school systems have agreed to participate, bringing over 4,000 students to this two-day event.

For students to make informed decisions, it is critical that they be exposed to a broad array of career options. Career ChoICE highlights the myriad of career pathways available to students, specifically highlighting opportunities within the region. Our goal is to have students making informed decisions about what classes and extra curricular they should pursue to position themselves well for future employment and to show students that they don't have to leave the region to find that employment.

Career ChoICE is an opportunity for the region to begin an intentional effort to build a pipeline of students in strategic sectors that are aligned with economic development interests. Also, Career ChoICE is a key event in the region that can make a difference in the lives of our emerging workforce.

### New in Career and Technical Education

These classes are now offered through CTE:

- ◆ Small Animal Care I
- ◆ Introduction to Plant Systems
- ◆ Agricultural Production Management
- ◆ Agricultural Fabrication and Emerging Technologies
- ◆ Modeling and Simulation Technology
- ◆ Automotive Technology III
- ◆ Programming

**PCHS**

#### CONTACT US:

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For daily announcements, menus, homework, sports schedules, upcoming events, and more: Go to our website: [pch.patrick.k12.va.us](http://pch.patrick.k12.va.us)

## New Teachers

**Kristie Bentley, Family and Consumer Science**

**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology with Minors in Biology and Chemistry

**Past Work Experience:** Quality Assurance Manager, Category Merchandiser, and Buyer for BI-LO, LLC

**Family:** Sons: Avery, 21 and Reed, 18; Daughter Marissa, 11

**Hobbies:** Reading, cooking, and sight-seeing

**Will Clement, Special Ed.**

**Education:** Graduate of University of Virginia

**Past Work Experience:** Veterinary Assistant; Patient Transporter; Program Director for Student Volunteer Organization

**Family:** Parents, Charlie and Sandra Clement; Sister, Ally Clement

**Hobbies:** Running, hiking, traveling, cooking, and attending concerts and art shows

**Amy Conner, English**

**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from Radford University

**Past Work Experience:** Taught 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts at Hardin Reynolds Memorial School for the past ten years

**Family:** Husband, Seth Conner; three children: Gracen, 7; Easton, 3; Caiden, 17 months

**Extra-curricular activities at PCHS:** Assistant JV Softball Coach

**Hobbies:** Crafting

**Rani Klisiewicz, Special Ed.**

**Education:** Bachelor of Science from Radford University; Master's Degree from Hollins University

**Past Work Experience:** Twenty-three years of teaching in high school English and Special Ed.

**Family:** Married with three children: Keiko, 13; Kayleigh, 11; and Gaius, 8

**Hobbies:** Eating chocolate, picking flowers, baking bread, planning trips, and spending money

**New Teachers (continued)****Helen Holt, Special Ed.**

**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Education from Longwood University

**Past Work Experience:** Computer Coordinator and Teacher's Assistant at Stuart Elementary School for ten years

**Family:** Married with three daughters and one grand-daughter

**Tony Mosley, Special Ed.**

**Education:** Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Wake Forest University

**Past Work Experience:** Seven years in Family Preservation Services as a TDT Counselor; seventeen years with CL Johnson and Associates as an Insurance Agent

**Family:** Sons: Cameron and Keifer Mosley; daughter Kiara Mosley

**Extra-curricular activities at PCHS:** Assistant Coach/Defensive Coordinator for Varsity Football; Head Coach for JV Football; Head Coach JV Boys' Basketball

**Hobbies:** Cooking low/slow on the grill

**Christal Presley, English**

**Education:** Ph.D from Capella University; M.Ed. from Virginia Tech; Bachelor of Arts in English from VA Tech

**Past Work Experience:** Seventeen years in education; most recently I supported new-to-the-profession teachers in Atlanta Public Schools

**Family:** My family includes two turkeys, nine chickens, one pig, three dogs, and a cat

**Hobbies:** Bee-keeping, gardening, and writing

# WELCOME

## Chromebook Handbook

### ***Student Responsibilities:***

The Chromebook is an important learning tool and is to be used for educational purposes only. In order to take the Chromebook home each day, you must be willing to accept the following responsibilities.

- When using the Chromebook at home, at school, and anywhere else I may take it, I will follow the policies of Patrick County Public Schools, particularly the Chromebook Student Handbook and the Acceptable Use Policy, and abide by all local, state, and federal laws.
- I will treat the Chromebook with care by not dropping it, getting it wet, leaving it in an automobile, leaving it outdoors, unsecured, or in a place where it may become damaged or stolen.
- I will not lend the Chromebook to anyone, not even my friends or family members.
- I will not remove division-owned programs or files from the Chromebook.
- I will charge my Chromebook nightly so that it has a full charge at the start of school every day.
- I understand that if I leave my Chromebook at home or do not charge it, I am still responsible for getting course work done as if I had my Chromebook present and charged.
- I will bring the Chromebook to school every day. If I leave my Chromebook at home for multiple consecutive days, I may be called upon to bring the device in to verify possession and condition of the Chromebook.
- I agree that email (or any electronic communication) should be used only for appropriate, legitimate, and responsible communication.
- I will keep all accounts and passwords assigned to me secure and will not share them with anyone.
- I will not attempt to repair the Chromebook. If it is not working properly, I will notify IT support staff, teachers, or administrators. A Chromebook needing repair should be brought to the library.
- I will bring the Chromebook to IT support staff if it needs repair. If it does need repair, the student's record will be checked, a loaner may be checked out if the student is eligible and a device is available. If it is determined that needed repair is due to intentional damage or neglect, the student will subsequently be informed.

## College Guidance

Welcome back! We're already starting to think about the college-going process for our juniors and seniors, so mark your calendars for these upcoming events.

All juniors and seniors will attend the PCHS College Fair on Tuesday, September 12 during the school day. This will give students a chance to meet with representatives from 50 colleges and universities to get information about their programs and ask questions.

For seniors planning to attend 4-year colleges, the ACT will be held at PCHS on Saturday, October 28. The deadline to register for the test is Friday, September 22. Registration is online at [act.org](http://act.org), and if your student qualifies for free or reduced lunch, they may see Ms. Rosenthal for a fee waiver.

Also for seniors, the SAT will be held on Saturday, October 7 (NOT at PCHS - it is offered at Basset HS and Martinsville HS), and the registration deadline is Friday, September 8. The test will also be offered at PCHS on Saturday, November 4, and the registration deadline is Thursday, October 5. Registration is online at [sat.org](http://sat.org), and if your student qualifies for free or reduced lunch, they may see Ms. Rosenthal for a fee waiver.

For parents of seniors, you may sign up for text message reminders of these deadlines and other news by texting @2k18parent to the number 81010.

Looking forward to a successful year!



# SEPTEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:00p V FB Floyd Co	2
3	4 <b>HAPPY LABOR DAY!</b>	5 Senior Pictures 2:00p V Golf Bassett 4:30p MS VB Floyd Co 5:30p JV VB Floyd Co 7:00p V VB Floyd Co	6 Senior Pictures	7 Picture Day 10th Gr. Vision Screening 5:00p JV VB North Stokes 5:00p MS FB Laurel Park MS 5:00p MS VB Laurel Park MS 6:00p JV FB William Campbell 7:00p V VB North Stokes	8 7:00p V FB William Campbell	9 8:30a G V CC Cave Spring 11:00a B V CC Cave Spring
10	11 2:00p V Golf Chatham 5:30p JV VB Tunstall 7:00p V VB Tunstall	12 College Fair 11th & 12th Graders <b>1:00p Closing</b> Interim Report 4:30p G V CC Bassett 4:30p B V CC Bassett 5:00p MS VB Fieldale-Collinsville MS	13 2:00p V Golf Franklin Co	14 5:00p MS VB Benjamin Franklin MS 5:00p MS FB Fieldale-Collinsville MS 5:30p JV VB Halifax Co 7:00p V VB Halifax Co 7:00p JV FB North Stokes	15 7:00p V FB North Stokes	16
17	18 10:00a V Golf vs. Multiple Schools 5:30p JV VB George Washington 7:00p V VB George Washington	19 5:00p MS VB Halifax Co MS 5:30p JV VB Martinsville 7:00p V VB Martinsville	20 2:30p B V CC Galax 3:30p G V CC Galax	21 5:00p MS VB Martinsville 5:00p MS FB Halifax Co 5:30p JV VB Magna Vista 6:00p JV VB Magna Vista 7:00p V VB Magna Vista	22 7:00p V FB Magna Vista 	23
24	25 7:00p Beta Induction—Auditorium	26 9:00a Senior Class Meet—Jostens (Aud.) 2:00p V Golf Magna Vista 4:30p G V CC Martinsville 4:30p B V CC Martinsville 5:00p MS VB Laurel Park MS 5:30p JV VB Bassett 7:00p V VB Bassett	27 Career Expo 5:00p MS FB Martinsville	28 Career Expo 5:00p MS VB Fieldale-Collinsville MS 5:30p JV VB Franklin Co 6:00p JV FB George Washington 7:00p V VB Franklin Co	29 10th Grade Hearing Screening—Library 7:00p V FB George Washington	30 Celebration of Pride Band Competition

\*Note: Dates are subject to change.