

# Cat Tales Newsletter

DECEMBER 4, 2017

## Veterans Day Assembly



Patrick County High School's JROTC presented our annual Veterans Day Assembly on November 9 in the school gym. After the Presentation of the Colors, the playing of the National Anthem, and the Pledge of Allegiance, and other ceremonies, the students and invited guests were treated to the US Military branch flags salute. Each Veteran in attendance was called forward and recognized with a certificate. They were accompanied by the student or staff member who invited them to the event.

The guest speaker was Lieutenant Colonel Douglas E. Dunlap of Woolwine. LTC Dunlap had a distinguished career after earning a Bachelor's Degree in Modern Languages and Germanic Studies from the Virginia Military Institute. During the course of his career, he served as a Cavalry officer on the front lines of the Cold War. He also served in Fort Knox, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Iraq. He earned a Master's Degree in Russian and Russian Studies from Georgetown University, after which he was assigned to various duties at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the Joint Staff and the Army Staff in Washington, D.C.

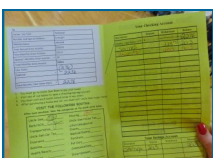
LTC Dunlap is a veteran of The Cold War, the first Gulf War, the Global War on Terrorism, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has received numerous prestigious medals. He is married to the former Linda Earlene Griffith. They have four children, Sergeant Matthew Earl Dunlap, U.S. Army, Major Earl Griffith Dunlap, U.S. Marine Corps, Airman First Class Colin-Michael Dunlap, U.S. Air Force, and Megan Abigail Dunlap, a doctoral candidate at the Murphy Deming School of Occupational Therapy. We appreciate LTC Dunlap and his service to our country and our community.

## Reality Store



The Reality Store paid a visit to PCHS on Thursday, November 16. Our 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students got a chance to see what life will be like when they are adults with paying careers. Students were given specific careers with a set income and other life circumstances such as spouses and/or children. They were then required to buy transportation, food, insurance, and other necessities. At that point, they could explore what luxuries could be purchased or how much could be saved.

According to Terri Alt, Patrick County's Unit Coordinator for the Virginia Cooperative Extension, the goal for this event is to get students thinking about their future and why it's important to be smart when budgeting money. Many of our area businesses volunteer time and resources to bring the Reality Store to our students.

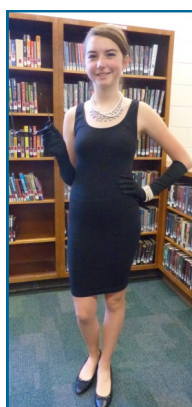
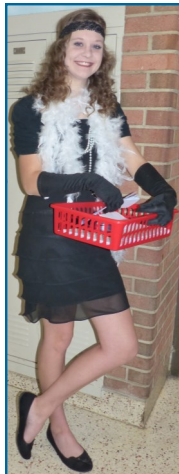
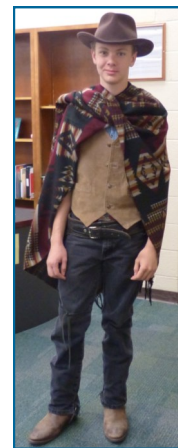




# Homecoming 2017



This year's Homecoming theme was Road Trip. School was divided into parts of the country and a classroom door decorating contest was held. The special dress days included Hollywood, Florida (Under the Sea), the American West (Cowboys and Cowgirls) and New York City. Friday, students showed their spirit with Green and Gold Day. King and Queen were Shemar Hill and Josie Pendleton. The movie *Insidious* was shown for students after the ballgame.



COUGARS  
ROCK



HOMEcoming



## Teacher Feature



### Crystal Fain, Science Department

**Education:** Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science; Master of Science in Education with a concentration in Earth Science from Radford University

**Past work experience:** Environmental Inspector for the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water; 7<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher at Martinsville Middle School; Earth Science teacher at PCHS for eleven years

**Family:** Husband, Douglas Fain and two sons, Mason, age 8 and Eli, age 4

**Extra-curricular at PCHS:** Praise and Worship Team Sponsor and Fellowship of Christian Athletes Sponsor

**Hobbies:** Cooking; crafts; learning about essential oils; and spending time with family

## SkillsUSA

Smartstyles sponsors the SkillsUSA Fall Festival Competition at the New River Valley Community College every year in November for schools located in the south-west part of the state. Over 200 students compete in hair, nails, and promotional bulletin board competition. There are three categories of hair: Fantasy Manikin, Total Fashion and Manikin Comb-out.

On Monday, November 20 the PCHS Cosmetology students competed in this year's event. Molly Hernandez and Sarah Young placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Nail Competition. Jocelyn Harbour placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Fantasy Hair Competition. Finally, the team of Haley Rorrer, Candance Stanley, and Kathleen Turner placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the Total Fashion Competition. Mrs. Melanie Culler is very proud of all the girls who competed and says they all worked very hard.



Front row: Sarah Young and Molly Hernandez Back Row: Haley Rorrer and Jocelyn Harbour Not pictured: Kathleen Turner and Candace Stanley

## Challenge

The Gifted and Talented Program has a new coordinator this year. PCHS Science Teacher, Stephen Biedrycki has taken the helm with the philosophy that learning is a journey that has many paths to academic and personal enrichment.

The Challenge Program now has a Google Classroom site. This virtual classroom provides college grant information, NASA-based college-credit classes, links to college scholarships, links to practice for SAT and ACT, notifications of upcoming activities, and a forum to share information with each other. Members of the program will also be offered the option of attending meetings during school club sessions. This should help students participate in the program who may not be able to attend meetings after school.

In addition to the classroom, several initiatives are planned. First is a trip to the Stevens Center in Winston-Salem to attend the UNC School of the Arts production of *The Nutcracker*. Since SOL tests are just around the corner, Sarah Wray of the Reynolds-Homestead will offer a mindfulness stress management project in which students can attend a beginner yoga class. Other events to help with stress management will be forthcoming. A college visit for spring is being planned along with a workshop for college application and essay tips in collaboration with College Advisor Lindsey Rosenthal.

A special project we are excited about is the NASA mission that will allow students to collect weather balloon data through NASA provided instruments. That's right—students from PCHS will be part of a space mission. Launch date will be in the summer of 2018.

## SOL Schedule

Monday, December 11	English
Tuesday, December 12	Algebra II Geometry
Wednesday, December 13	World Geography World History I World History II US History
Thursday, December 14	Physical Science Biology Earth Science Chemistry
Friday, December 15	Retakes Math Retakes English
Monday, December 18	Retakes Social Science Retakes Science

**PCHS**

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

**PCHS**

### CONTACT US:

Patrick County High School  
215 Cougar Lane  
Stuart, VA 24171

Phone: (276) 694-7137  
Fax: (276) 694-6997

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)

## Test-Taking Tips

1. Practice, practice, practice. The more you practice, the more familiar you will be with the test format, and the less likely you are to panic when you take the test for real.
2. Studying for the test over an extended period is much more effective and lasting than cramming for the test at the last minute.
3. Eat a good breakfast the morning of the test. Avoid eating sugary foods. High-protein foods like scrambled eggs are often best for aiding concentration and minimizing fatigue.
4. Visit the restroom 15-30 minutes before the test.
5. Get a full night's sleep before the test. Do not pull an all-nighter cramming before the test. A lack of sleep will affect your performance.
6. Wear comfortable clothing.
7. Don't panic. If you start getting anxious, take slow deep breaths. Don't worry about other people finishing early. Smart people know to use all available time to double-check their work.
8. Pace yourself. Calculate the amount of time you have to answer each question and avoid getting bogged down on any one question.
9. If you have time left over at the end of the test, review your answers. Don't second-guess an answer unless you are certain that you misread or misinterpreted the question. Watch out for careless errors. Also double-check that you wrote all of the answers in the correct locations.
10. Read the question in full before trying to answer it.

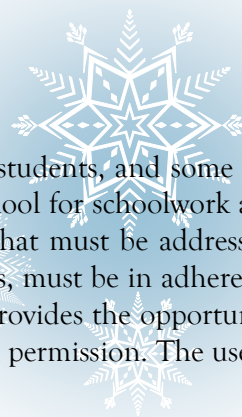
*Good luck Cougars!*

Taken from: Mark Kantrowitz. "Top Standardized Test Taking Tips." *Fastweb!*

<http://www.fastweb.com/back-to-school-2012/articles/top-standardized-test-taking-tips>

# Patrick County Public Schools

## Guidelines for the use of student-owned Electronic Devices



Patrick County Schools understands that technology plays a key role in the lives of today's students, and some students would like to be able to use their personal computers or other technology devices at school for schoolwork and to enhance educational opportunities. With this privilege come responsibilities and issues that must be addressed. Use of any electronic device, including but not limited to laptops, iPods, iPads, or cell phones, must be in adherence of policy and accompanying regulations. Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices PCPS provides the opportunity for students to bring an electronic device to school to use as an educational tool with parental permission. The use of these electronic devices will be at teacher's discretion.

1. Students must obtain teacher permission before using an electronic device during classroom instruction.
2. Student use of an electronic device must support the instructional activities currently occurring in each classroom and lab and must adhere to the Acceptable Use Agreement.
3. Students must turn off and put away an electronic device when requested by a teacher.
4. Students should be aware that their use of the electronic device could cause distraction for others in the classroom, especially in regards to audio. Therefore, audio should be muted or headphones used when appropriate. Any music would need to be stored on the device and not streamed or downloaded while on the school network.
5. Students may use their personal electronic device before school, at lunch, and after school in adult supervised areas only, such as the Media Center or classrooms with the teacher present, as long as it does not create a distraction or disruption for others in the area. If an adult asks a student to put his/her electronic device away, the student must comply.
6. Students are NOT permitted to use their personal electronic device to access the Internet by any manner other than connecting through the secure wireless network provided.
7. A student who brings a privately owned electronic device to school is personally responsible for the equipment. Any damage to the equipment and charges related to the use of the device is the responsibility of the individual. District technicians will not support, service, or repair any equipment that does not belong to the District.
8. Students are responsible for ensuring that all electronic devices that they bring in are virus free and do not contain any inappropriate or unauthorized files.
9. Patrick County Schools does not guarantee the privacy or security of any item stored on or transmitted by any privately owned electronics devices.

As it relates to privately owned computers or other electronic devices being used in Patrick County School District facilities or on the division network, Patrick County Schools reserves the right to:

1. Monitor and log all activity.
2. Determine when and where privately owned equipment may be connected to the network.
3. Make determinations on whether specific uses of the computer are consistent with the District's Acceptable Use Policy.
4. Deem what is appropriate for use of personal computers on District property or on the division network.
5. Remove the user's access to the network and suspend the right to use the privately owned computer in District facilities at any time it is determined that the user is engaged in unauthorized activity or is violating the Acceptable Use Policy.

Violation of Acceptable Use Policy on personal computers may also result in disciplinary action in coordination with policies set forth by division School Board or by school administrators. This may include but is not limited to removal of all access rights to the division network. Network access rights may be removed by School principals or by the School or District Technology Committee.

# December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 4:00p BB-G/JV North Stokes 5:30p BB-B/JV North Stokes 7:00p BB-G/V North Stokes 7:00p Drama Play 8:30p BB-B/V North Stokes	2 7:00p Drama Play
3 2:30p Drama Play	4 5:00p BB-B/MS Benjamin Franklin MS 5:30p BB-B/JV Chatham 6:00p SCAEL-V Tunstall vs. Multi Schools 6:30p BB-G/MS Benjamin Franklin MS 7:00p BB-B/V Chatham	5 5:00p Wrestling-V Floyd Co 5:30p BB-G/JV Floyd Co 7:00p BB-G/V Floyd Co	6 5:00p Wrestling-MS Martinsville vs. Multi Schools 5:30p BB-B/JV Floyd Co 6:00p Wrestling-V PC vs. Multi Schools 7:00p BB-B/V Floyd Co	7 5:00p BB-B/MS Martinsville 6:30p BB-G/MS Martinsville	8 4:00p BB-G/JV North Stokes 4:30p Track-B/V TBA 4:30p Track-G/V TBA 5:30p BB-B/JV North Stokes 7:00p BB-G/V North Stokes 8:30p BB-B/V North Stokes	9 7:00p Jingle Bells Rock PCHS Theatre
10	11 SOL—English 5:00p BB-B/MS Laurel Park MS 6:00p SCAEL-V Martinsville vs. Multi Schools 6:30p BB-G/MS Laurel Park MS	12 SOL—Math 5:30p BB-G/JV Magna Vista 5:30p BB-B/JV Magna Vista 6:00p Band/Chorus Concert Auditorium 7:00p BB-G/V Magna Vista 7:00p BB-B/V Magna Vista	13 SOL—Social Studies 5:00p Wrestling-MS Benjamin Franklin MS vs. Multi Schools 6:00p Wrestling-V Magna Vista vs. Multi Schools	14 SOL—Science 3:30p School Board Meeting in Library 5:00p BB-B/MS Westwood 5:30p BB-B/JV Floyd Co 6:30p BB-G/MS Westwood 7:00p BB-B/V Floyd Co	15 SOL— Make-up & Retakes 4:30p BB-B/MS Floyd Co 5:30p BB-G/MS Floyd Co 6:30p BB-G/JV Floyd Co 8:00p BB-G/V Floyd Co	16
17	18 SOL—Make-up & Retakes 5:00p BB-B/MS O. Trent Bonner MS 5:00p Wrestling-V George Washington vs. Multi Schools 6:30p BB-G/MS O. Trent Bonner MS	19 4:30p Track-G/V TBA 4:30p Track-B/V TBA 5:30p BB-B/JV George Washington 5:30p BB-G/JV George Washington 7:00p BB-B/V George Washington 7:00p BB-G/V George Washington	20 1:00p Early Dismissal End 2nd 9 weeks  6:00p Wrestling-V Franklin Co vs. Multi Schools	21 Closed—Holiday	22 Closed—Holiday	23
24	25 Closed—Holiday 	26 Closed—Holiday	27 Closed—Holiday 5:30p BB-G/V Rockingham Co 7:00p BB-B/V Rockingham Co	28 Closed—Holiday 2:30p BB-G/V Western Alamance 4:00p BB-B/V Western Alamance	29 Closed—Holiday	30 11:00a BB-G/MS Fieldale-Collinsville MS 12:30p BBB/MS Fieldale-Collinsville MS 3:30p BB-B/JV Bassett 5:00p BB-G/V Bassett 6:30p BB-B/V Bassett
31	January 1 Holiday—Closed 	January 2 Teacher Work Day	January 3 Teacher Work Day	January 4 School Reopens Report Cards	January 5	January 6

\*Note: Dates are subject to change.