

# Freshman Class

## Presentation

### Pine Bluff High School

### Guidance Department



#### PBHS Guidance Counselors

Cathryn Laurent

A-G

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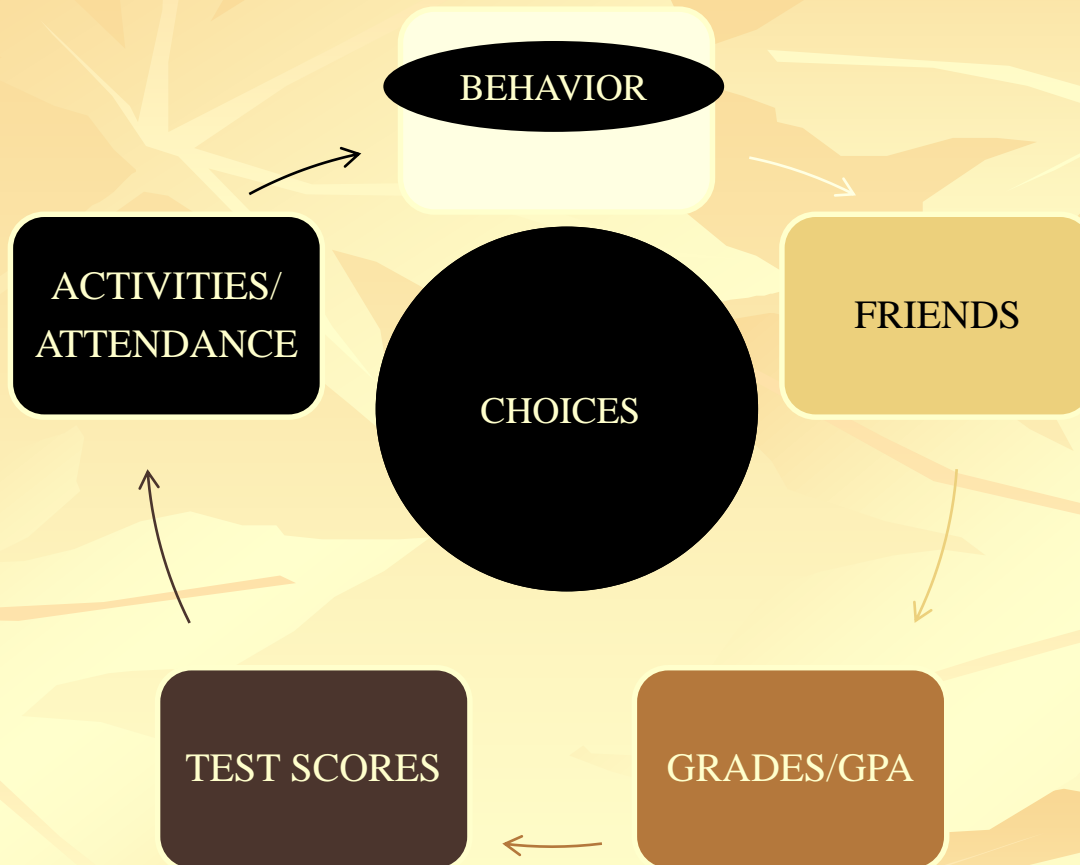
Sheila Davis, Guidance Secretary

# **High school matters!**

## **Graduating high school affects your whole life:**

- You'll have better job opportunities
- You'll feel proud of your accomplishments
- You'll be able to attend college or technical school
- You'll earn higher wages at work
- You'll be more likely to stay employed and avoid chronic unemployment

# HIGH SCHOOL = A FRESH START!



# Expectations

- Be here!
- Your choices now define who you will be
  - Where you are right now does not have to determine where you will end up.
- Respect for peers, self, staff, and property.
- Do not harm with words or actions.



# Mistakes to Avoid

**1. Believing your freshman year doesn't really count and you can improve your grades later.**

If you slack off in your first year, it will be really hard to catch up later. Don't forget: Your freshman year grades count toward your overall grade point average as much as your grades in later years, and you want that GPA to be high to better qualify you for college admissions.

# Mistakes to Avoid

## **2. Skipping classes and missing homework.**

Teachers share important information during class, and listening to their lectures helps you to better understand the subject. You never know what subjects will end up becoming your favorite – or even your college major! Don't miss homework either: Homework assignments help you learn the subject matter better, which is not only important for for your GPA, it can also help you when you take standardized tests like the SAT or ACT.

# Mistakes to Avoid

## **3. Failing to make up missed assignments.**

Some teachers are very reasonable in negotiating extra time for you to complete your homework, so just because it's late doesn't mean you shouldn't do it. It might cost you a few points, but that's better than a missed assignment on your record. There is a huge benefit in doing assignments, even if you're turning them in late: You are more likely to retain the material.

## **Mistakes to Avoid**

### **4. Assuming you're not doing well because the teacher "just doesn't like you."**

Your future is your responsibility, and you shouldn't let personal feelings interfere in your path to get the degree or career you want. You won't get along with everyone in life, but that's not an excuse to slack off or give up. If you're struggling with a subject, ask your teacher for help, get tutoring or talk to your counselor. Schools want you to succeed if you are willing to do the work.

# Mistakes to Avoid

## **5. Not signing up for extracurricular activities.**

Many students say they don't have time for extracurricular, but keep in mind that these activities can help both your social life and your college applications. When you start your search to find a college, you'll see that they look for well-rounded students who did extracurricular activities along with a challenging academic program.

# Mistakes to Avoid

Continued...

The best careers today are highly competitive and they require people to be able to multi-task. That doesn't mean you should sign up for every activity out there; just try a few programs until you find one you like. It's better to be dedicated and active in a few activities than to make little effort in several.



# Mistakes to Avoid

## **6. Not asking for help.**

If you're having problems in school, there are many people out there who can help you: parents, teachers, social workers, school nurse, friends and your school counselor are all good sources for advice and assistance. Teachers and counselors got into those professions because of their desire to help students succeed, and your parents and friends know you well and can help you weigh your options, or just lend support when you need it.



# Mistakes to Avoid

## **7. Not asking questions in class.**

They say the only stupid question is one that isn't asked. You're not going to have all the answers, and you're not going to get them unless you are willing to ask questions. If you don't understand something in class, it's likely other students don't understand it either.

# Mistakes to Avoid

## **8. Taking classes just because your friends are taking them.**

It can be fun to be in all the same classes as your friends, but it can also be a distraction. Also, your friends may have different interests, academic skills and college goals than you do. So if you're interested in classes that your friends' aren't, take them. You just might make some new friends, and you'll be one step closer to getting into the college of your dreams.

# Mistakes to Avoid

**9. Deciding that high school is about dances, partying and sports, not classes.**

Big mistake. Even though social activities are an important part of high school life, they shouldn't be your main focus during the school day. Your focus in high school should be learning, preparing for college or the workforce.

# Graduation Requirements



Twenty-two (22) credits will be required for graduation

## SMART CORE CURRICULUM

### English – 4 units

- English 9th grade
- English 10th grade
- English 11th grade
- English 12th grade

### Mathematics – 4 units; One unit must be taken at 11th or 12th grade

- Algebra I or First Part and Second Part Algebra I (Grades 7-8 or 8-9)
- Geometry or First Part and Second Part Geometry (Grades 8-9 or 9-10)
- Algebra II
- Fourth Math--Choice of: Algebra III, Calculus, Linear Systems and Statistics, Pre-Calculus, or an Advanced Placement mathematics

### Natural Science – 3 units with lab experience chosen from:

- Biology (1 unit)

Two units from the following three options:

- Physical Science
- Chemistry
- Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

# Graduation Requirements



**Social Studies – 3 units (see note beside economics)**

- Civics – ½ unit
- World History – 1 unit
- American History – 1 unit

**Oral Communication – ½ unit**

**Physical Education – ½ unit**

**Health and Safety – ½ unit**

**Economics – ½ unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus)**

**Fine Arts – ½ unit**

**Career Focus – 6 units.**

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on a student's future work aspirations



# Graduation Requirements



**Beginning with the entering 9th grade class of 2014 – 2015 school year, each high school student shall be required to take at least one digital learning course for credit to graduate. (Act 1280 of 2013)**

Beginning with the entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade class of 2014-2015, students in -12 grade are required to receive CPR training before graduating from high school.

\*(ACT 478 of 2017) requires students seeking a high school diploma or GED to pass the AR Civics Exam with a score of 60% or better. Beginning with 2018-2019 school year.

- Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, all students 10<sup>th</sup> grade and below will be required to complete financial literacy.
- Computer Science-(optional) a flex unit of Essentials of Computer Programming may replace the 4<sup>th</sup> math requirement or the 3<sup>rd</sup> science requirement.

# Honor Grad Requirements



1. A student must have taken at least 10 Pre/AP/AP courses.
2. A student must have a 3.5 or better cumulative gpa (grade point average).
3. A student cannot have an F on his/her transcript.



# Valedictorian/Salutatorian Requirements



1. To be considered for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must have taken at least (2) AP courses in addition to the requirements for PBHS Honor Graduates as listed above.
2. After a student meets the Pre/AP courses quota requirement, the valedictorian is determined as the student/students with the highest G.P.A. and the salutatorian is determined as the student/students with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest G.P.A. All ties will be honored.

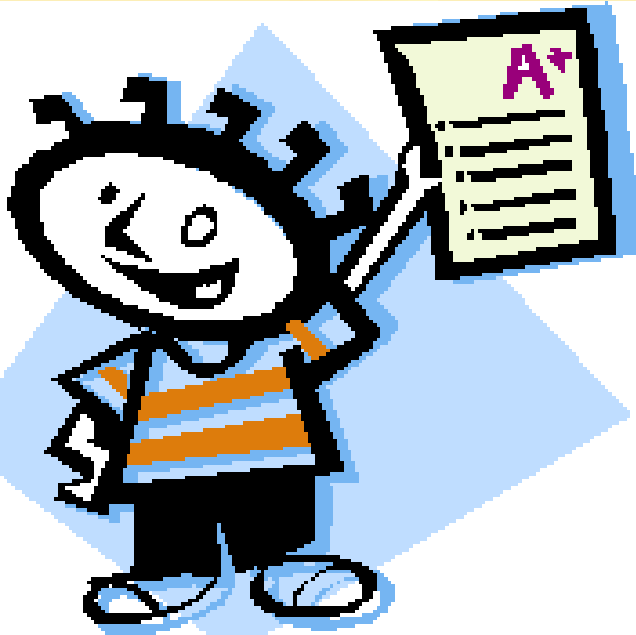
# Promotion Requirements

Students must have 5.5 credits in order to be classified as a sophomore (English 9 and Algebra I credits are(MANDATORY), 11 credits to be classified as a junior, and 16.5 credits to be classified as a senior.



# Grading Information and Report Card

- Numerical grades
- 60 is passing grade, 100 is highest grade
- 4 nine weeks a year
- Semester & Finals



# Example of a Report Card

9/27/2018

## Grade Report

Pine Bluff High School  
711 West 11th Avenue  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

**Principal:** Michael Nellums  
**Phone:** (870)543-4300

Grading Scale: A 90-100 B 80-89 C 70-79 D 60-69 F 59-Below

<b>Student Name:</b>		<b>Building:</b>	Pine Bluff High School	<b>School Year:</b>	2018
<b>Student ID:</b>		<b>Homeroom:</b>		<b>Reporting Periods:</b>	1
		<b>Counselor:</b>		<b>Grade:</b>	09

Course	Section	Description	Bldg	Teacher	9WK1	9WK2	EXM1	SEM1	9WK3	9WK4	EXM2	SEM2	ABS	Credit
431000	9	Geometry	42	Turley, M	85	97	92	91	97	94	95	95	1	1
41000P	1	Pre AP English 09	42	SANDERS, S		93	90	95	88	82	95	86	0	1
42300P	3	Pre AP Physical Science	42	Shelby, C	93	87	99	92	93	87	EX	90	1	1
453100	5	Visual Art Appreciation	42	Hooks, M	99	100	100	100					0	0.5
495480	4	Introduction to Eng Design	42	Jones, T	87	94	95	91	93	95	95	94	1	1
47200P	3	Pre AP Civics/Gov. Digital	42	Lewis, S	96	100	100	98					0	0.5
485002	2	Physical Ed Basketball Boys	42	Conley, K	100	100		100					0	0.5

Daily Attendance					Credit	GPA
Description	Current	YTD	Current Honor Roll GPA		0.0000	3.1429

<b>Total Earned Credit:</b>	5.50
<b>Rank in Class</b>	/

# Grading Information and Report Card



**Home Access Center** allows real time access to parents and students to view student registration, scheduling, attendance, assignment, and grade information.

# Career & Technical Completer Programs

- Courses are available at Pine Bluff High School in our Career and Technical Education Department. They involve choosing a course of study and completing the courses listed underneath.
- A student must take the first course listed then choose the courses underneath if they plan to continue to completer status.
- A student must take 3 credit hours in the chosen area to be a completer in that field.
- Students who successfully complete the courses will be recognized at graduation with a special cord to be worn at graduation and a seal attached to their high school diploma.



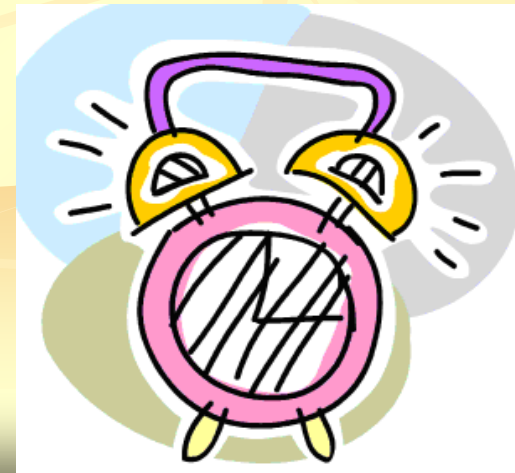
# Attendance & Tardy Policy

## Attendance

- Parents must be notified in writing or by phone when a student has accumulated four (4) absences.
- When a student misses four or more class periods in one day, this equals to a full-day absence.
- Regulations for student attendance state that for denial of credit, students who exceed the maximum number of absences (10) days allowed under district policy.

## Tardies

- Students are tardy when he/she fails to be in the classroom by the time the tardy bell rings.
- Students are considered absent if they enter the classroom 10 minutes after the tardy bell.
- Students can be suspended for excessive tardies.





# Guidance Information

- Individual/Group Counseling
- Post-graduate and College Planning
- Career Exploration and Evaluation
- Crisis Intervention
- Academic Support/Monitoring
- Parent Information
- Student Scheduling
- Testing Administration and Interpretation



# Testing Information

- The ACT-Aspire tests have been developed to measure achievement and will identify students who may need additional instruction in language arts, mathematics and science.
- Students, grades three (3) through ten (10), will be tested in the spring with the ACT-Aspire exams for Achievement and Growth in English Language Arts (English, reading, writing); Mathematics; and Science (SQSS indicators).
- If a student does not score at either the E-Exceeds or R-Ready levels on the examination, a Student Success Plan (SSP) will be developed for students scoring at C-Close or N-Needs Support levels.
- Parents/guardians are to review test results with the classroom teachers/building administrator, attend parent/teacher conferences, and provide input into the development of the Student Success Plan (SSP) as required by law.

**High School is not a spectator sport.  
Get Involved!**







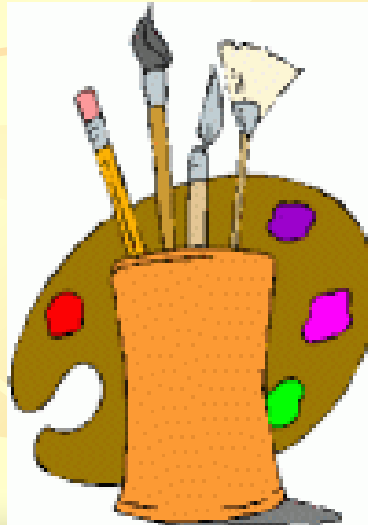
# PBHS Athletics

- Baseball – boys
- Basketball – boys/girls
- Cross Country – boys/girls
- Football – boys
- Soccer – boys
- Softball – girls
- Spring Track – boys/girls

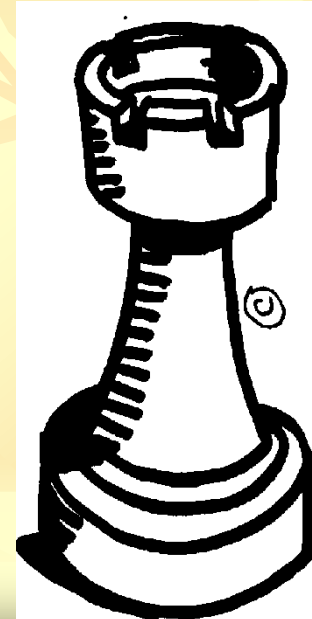


# Clubs & Activities

- Air Force Jr. ROTC
- Art Club
- Band
- BETA
- Book Club
- Booster Club
- Break Dance Team
- Cheerleading
- Chess Club
- Choir
- Dance Team
- Debate Team
- Drama Club
- Honor Society
- FBLA



- FCCLA
- Gentlemen's Club
- Gifted & Talented
- History Club
- International Club
- Math Club
- Mentoring
- National Honor Society
- Skills USA
- Science Club
- S.L.A.Y.
- Student Council
- Yearbook



# Names to Know



■ Mrs. Claudette	Interim Principal
■ Dr. Reginald Wilson	Assistant Principal
■ Mr. Dexter Lee	Assistant Principal
■ Ms. Larissa Davis	Library Media Specialist
■ Mrs. Valarie Smith	School Nurse
■ Mrs. Shun Jackson	Social Worker
■ Mr. Eric Mayfield	Registrar
■ Mrs. Rebecca Stone	Attendance
■ Ms. Childress	Receptionist-McGeorge Bldg.



# Other Important Information

- You may bring a cell phone or electronic devices to school but it must be turned off and out of sight.
- You may not wear baseball caps , hats or hoodies in the buildings.
- No smoking.
- No food or drinks in hallways.
- PBHS is your home for the next four years, treat it and others with respect.

# Resources

- COLLEGE RESOURCES EXPLORE AND COMPARE COLLEGE
- OPTIONS: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>
- COLLEGE MATCH: [www.student.naviance.com](http://www.student.naviance.com)
- COMPARE COLLEGES: <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>
- GET FINANCIAL AID GUIDANCE: <https://StudentAid.gov>
- CAREER RESOURCES WHERE TO LEARN ABOUT CAREERS?  
<https://roadtripnation.com> EXPLORE CAREERS: Naviance Student App  
([www.student.naviance.com](http://www.student.naviance.com))
- OTHER CAREER EXPLORATION TOOLS:
- CAREERS IN THE MILITARY: <https://www.careersinthemilitary.com/>
- ASVAB Test: Contact a Recruiter <http://www.todaysmilitary.com/>

# Guidance Counselors

- Mrs. Cathryn Laurent, last name ending in **A-G**
- Ms. Shelia Brown, last name ending in **H-O**
- Mrs. Monica Bones, last name ending in **P-Z**

School Counselors Make a  
World of Difference

