PVCHS is again rated an A school by the State of Florida

Newsweek ranked PVCHS as one of the top 1,500 schools in the U.S

New Student Orientation
Thursday, August 13, 2009

2009/2010 School Year Starts
Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Open House
Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Outback® Kick Off to Athletics
Thursday, September 24

School Holidays
Labor Day, Monday, September 7, 2009
Fall Holiday, Monday, September 28, 2009
Teacher Work Day, Friday, October 16, 2009

SAC Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

Late Start Days: classes start at 10:32 a.m.
Thursday, August 27, 2009
Thursday, September 24, 2009
Thursday, October 8, 2009

First Quarter Ends
Thursday, October 15, 2009

2009/2010 Parking Decals
Parking decals will go on sale during pre-school. Only eligible juniors and seniors will be able to purchase decals. Students may not have outstanding obligations and must bring the car when registering (see page 4).

Homecoming Week: September 8 - 12
PVCHS Student Government presents a Park Vista Premier; homecoming is a whole week dedicated to Hollywood box-office hits with each day representing a different movie. The homecoming dance will be held Saturday, September 12, 2009, in the PVCHS gymnasium. Tickets will go on sale August 24, 2009 (see page 9).
From the Principal

Dear Cobra Families:

The faculty and staff of Park Vista Community High School (PVCHS) join me in welcoming returning students, the incoming freshmen class, and all other students who are new to our Cobra community. The administrators, teachers, and support staff are eagerly awaiting your arrival and looking forward to another stellar year. With your continued support, we know this will be a successful and satisfying school year.

Park Vista received national recognition as one of the top 1,500 schools in the United States, as rated by Newsweek magazine. For the fourth consecutive year, Park Vista has received an ‘A’ from the State of Florida, based on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). As we continue to celebrate these successes, we hope to blend the best elements of the past years with some exciting new ideas. Our emphasis will continue to be on the academic achievement of each student.

We are counting on you to be involved educational partners in your child’s high school experience. As the year progresses, and as you have questions, I encourage you to call Park Vista and talk with those who might be of assistance, such as your child’s guidance counselor and teacher. Edline is a valuable, ongoing resource for both parents and students. Research clearly indicates that involving families in the educational lives of their children has a direct positive correlation to enhanced student performance.

At PVCHS we focus on providing you with updated information about school events and activities, as well as helpful information on ways that you can assist your child to succeed during high school. To accomplish this, our school newsletter, Cobra Bites, will be shared with all families via mail once at the beginning and again at the end of the school year. Throughout the year, however, several editions of Cobra Bites will be posted on the school’s website at www.pvchs.com and on Edline.net. Please make sure that you have an active Edline account at the beginning of the school year, not only to view this newsletter but also to monitor the academic progress of your son or daughter.

As you begin to read through this back-to-school edition of Cobra Bites, I encourage you to preview the Dress Code and Cell Phone policy changes for PVCHS included in this newsletter. Our New Student Orientation is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, at 6:00 p.m. in the PVCHS gymnasium. Our Open House night, where you can meet your child’s teachers, learn about the curricula, and be aware of student expectations for the year, will be held on Tuesday, September 8, at 6:00 p.m. at Park Vista.

It is my hope that this newsletter will both address and clarify some of your concerns regarding first day procedures and the start of the academic year. We look forward to our students and the entire Cobra Community having a positive beginning to the 2009-2010 school year.

Educationally Yours,

Reginald B. Myers
Principal, PVCHS
Florida’s finest educators, as well as statewide business and community leaders, were in attendance. The event recognizes outstanding educators for their innovation in teaching economics, free enterprise, and financial literacy. Kindergarten through 12th grade teachers, counselors and administrators throughout Florida were invited to nominate outstanding educators who creatively emphasize economic concepts in their classrooms. Mrs. Gilbert was awarded first place in the category of teaching American and/or global economies.

By Mrs. C. Slesinger

The Granada Chapter of the PVCHS Spanish Honor Society has accepted 65 new members to be inducted in the fall of 2010. Membership in the Spanish Honor Society is a great privilege as students must have earned an overall GPA of 3.0 and also maintained a 3.5 GPA in Spanish to qualify. All students must have completed a minimum of three semesters of high school Spanish. After being inducted in September, the new members will continue to fulfill the goals of the society, which are to emphasize economic concepts in their classrooms. Mrs. Gilbert was awarded first place in the category of teaching American and/or global economies.

By Mrs. L. Matyskiel

On May 13, 2009, 19 juniors were inducted into the PVCHS Rho Kappa Studies Honor Society. Inductees must have earned an overall GPA of 3.0 and maintained a 3.5 GPA in social studies courses to qualify. Rho Kappa members must also demonstrate a commitment to civic service in their communities.

By Mrs. L. Matyskiel

Cobra Kudos

Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching Economics

Mrs. Lisa Gilbert, PVCHS Economics Teacher, was awarded the 30th Annual Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching Economics for the State of Florida. Mrs. Gilbert was honored at Sea World, Orlando, on Friday, May 8, 2009, by the Florida Council on Economic Education (FCEE) and Publix Super Markets Charities.

Florida Association for Media in Education

Mrs. Brigitta McTigue, PVCHS Media Specialist, will be presented with the Amanda Award from the Florida Association for Media in Education at the FAME Conference in September, 2009. The Amanda Award recognizes high school and middle school media specialists for developing programs that enhance and support the self-esteem and well-being of young adults by creating exemplary environments where students are made to feel that they fit in and that they are part of the school.

The multicultural activities made available through the library media program and the PVCHS Multicultural Club was the basis of the award. Mrs. McTigue will receive $600, a trophy, and will do a presentation for other media specialists on PVCHS’s Multicultural Club program.

By Mrs. L. Gilbert

Amanda Award, Florida Association for Media in Education

Mrs. B. McTigue

Debate

By Dr. B. Cohen, Debate Coach

Park Vista students performed admirably in the Catholic Forensic League (CFL) national competition held in Albany, New York, in May, 2009. Graduate Erica Kramer advanced to octo-finals (ranked 31/220). Senior and president-elect, Anne Clark also represented PVCHS at the Student Congress.

This year, four seniors graduated with a National Forensics League (NFL) Degree of Distinction, having accumulated more than 250 points in over four years of tournament participation. Recognized at the senior awards ceremony were: Erica Kramer, Marcie Lieberman, Cassidy Cresswell and Liz Udell.

PVCHS belongs to the CFL and Florida Forensics League (NFL) and participates in local, state and national competitions.

The Debate Club is an academic endeavor that makes a substantial difference in students’ academic success & future achievement.

The first scheduled tournament of the season is the Student Congress, which will be held on September 12, 2009, at Suncoast High School. Those interested in learning more about the debate team should attend the introductory meeting on Tuesday, August 18, at 2:45 p.m., in room 5-108.
School begins promptly at 7:30 a.m. and students are dismissed at 2:45 p.m. Please allow plenty of time to get to school by the first bell. Traffic is often backed up along Jog Road as early as 6:50 a.m. When the traffic backs up, drivers sometimes become frustrated sitting in traffic and students anticipate being late for their first class. When this happens, students often jump out of the cars and dart through the traffic on Jog Road in an effort to get to class on time. This is not only illegal but it is EXTREMELY DANGEROUS! Please protect your child by using safe drop off procedures.

Important Papers for Parents

School begins promptly at 7:30 a.m. and students are dismissed at 2:45 p.m. Please allow plenty of time to get to school by the first bell. Traffic is often backed up along Jog Road as early as 6:50 a.m. When the traffic backs up, drivers sometimes become frustrated sitting in traffic and students anticipate being late for their first class. When this happens, students often jump out of the cars and dart through the traffic on Jog Road in an effort to get to class on time. This is not only illegal but it is EXTREMELY DANGEROUS! Please protect your child by using safe drop off procedures.

Students’ Schedules

On the first day of school, alphabetical listings of all students will be posted throughout the courtyard area. When arriving on campus, all students should go directly to the courtyard, find the roster for their LAST NAME, and report to the designated classroom. If students cannot locate their classroom, ask any adult wearing a school ID for help; faculty and staff are here to give directions. Upon reaching the designated classroom, students will receive their class schedules and many other items.

Important Papers for Parents

Important papers will be distributed on the first day of school for students to give to their parents/guardians. Each student will bring home a large envelope that will include a registration form, emergency cards, a new student/parent handbook, school insurance forms, information for specific classes, and the materials needed. It is critical that all parents provide accurate addresses as well as home and emergency phone numbers. Please complete all forms and return them as soon as possible. Make sure to review the student/parent handbook since it includes the Progressive Discipline Plan and the Dress Code, two items about which parents and students frequently asked questions.
Lunches

Park Vista offers an outstanding food service program with lunches provided daily. A hot lunch is $2.00 per day but there are also separate a-la-carte lines for the purchase of individual items. Please remember, for the first few weeks the school cafeteria is very crowded. Students should be patient as lunch-time procedures are soon established. It is recommended that students bring a packed lunch for the first couple of weeks to make sure they have time to eat. If students were on free or reduced lunch last year, they will continue to receive the same free or reduced lunch during the application review process.

Cell Phone & iPod® Usage Policy

Camera phones are strictly prohibited per School Board Policy. We ask for everyone’s support as the school policy is enforced.

Possession or use of a camera phone (communication device capable of taking digital photographs) on school grounds or during any school-sponsored program or activity, including school transportation, is prohibited. This shall constitute “possession and/or use of items or contraband designated by the school as inappropriate materials” (SB Policy 5.183). Consequences will be imposed accordingly.

Cell phones and iPods® may not be used at any time during the school day, including lunch time. Electronic devices must be turned off during school hours when students are on campus. This policy also applies to text messaging.

If parents/guardians need to contact their child, please do so through student services. The telephone numbers are (561)491-8441 or (561)491-8414.

School Board Policy 5.183 states students may possess wireless communication devices (including cell phones) on campus for use only before and after the school day. If a student possesses a cellular phone (or other wireless communications device), it must be turned off (not on “silent” or “meeting”) and kept inside a book bag, purse or similar container, and it may not be used or allowed to emit any ring tone or other noise. ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE POWERED OFF AND MAY NOT BE SEEN.

Mp3 players (iPods®), CD players, DVD players, digital video players, headphones, cell phone headsets, electronic games (e.g. PSP), radios, laser pointers, and other items that are not conducive to a safe and productive learning environment are not allowed on campus for use during class or between classes.

Violation of these policies during the school day will result in confiscation of the electronic device (released to parent). The parent will be contacted by the school. The second time a student violates this policy, he/she will receive a Saturday School detention. The third time a student violates this policy, he/she will earn a one day In School suspension.

1. Failure to serve a Saturday School detention will result in a three day Out-of-School suspension.
2. Failure to surrender an electronic device (including a cell phone) will constitute disobedience and insubordination and will result in a one to three day out-of-school suspension.

School is a student’s place of business and appropriate, professional dress is important to the quality of student life.

Examples of Acceptable and Allowed Clothing:

- **All shorts, skirts, and dresses must be long enough to touch the knee**
  - Skirts or dresses may NOT have a front slit;
  - Ankle-length dresses may have a slit no higher than the knee to facilitate walking.
- **Students must wear shirts with sleeves**
  - Shoulders, upper arms, and backs are to remain covered.
- **All tops must be long enough to stay tucked-in**
  - Clothes must cover the ENTIRE midriff at ALL times; this includes when sitting, walking, or with arms raised.
- **Female students must wear necklines that are high enough to eliminate any exposure of cleavage.**

Disruptive clothing is forbidden and the following items are not allowed:

- Clothing, jewelry, buttons, etc., with words, phrases, symbols, pictures, or insignia which are obscene, profane, racist, offensive, suggestive, or related to drug or alcohol use. This would include clothing which displays vulgar language or promotes alcoholic beverages or other illegal substances.

Examples of Other Forbidden Items:

- Any article of clothing containing references to death, murder or gangs;
- Anything which would deface, alter, or improperly display the national emblem;
- **Absolutely no sleeveless shirts of any kind**, such as tank tops, spaghetti straps, racer-back, halter or tube tops;
- No see-through fabrics, holes or cut outs in the cloth;
- No pajamas, no house or bedroom slippers;
- Leggings are forbidden unless they are worn with a skirt that touches the knee;
- No pants, shorts or skirts which ride below the hip bones, or would expose the midriff or undergarments;
- No sunglasses, hats, bandanas, or wave caps. Sunglasses or hats may be worn ONLY IF NECESSARY during outside physical education activities. Unauthorized items will be CONFISCATED. Exceptions to this policy will be granted only for medical reasons after a doctor’s note has been supplied to the appropriate assistant principal for approval;
- No wallet chains, spiked collars, or any other types of metal chains that are not gold or silver jewelry as per District Policy 5.18 (1-4).

Consequences

Students who are sent home and/or miss time from class due to improper dress will be charged with an UNEXCUSED ABSENCE. Parents are requested to play an active role in the Enforcement of this dress code policy. Students with continuous or flagrant violations of the dress code policy are subject to detentions, Saturday School detention, or suspension.
2008/2009 Athletic Highlights

Park Vista 2009 Conference Championships

Girl’s Cross Country                      Boy’s Cross Country
Girl’s Golf                                     Boy’s Golf
Girl’s Swimming                                   Boy’s Swimming
Girl’s Volleyball                                Boy’s Volleyball
Girl’s Soccer                                     Boy’s Soccer
Wrestling                                       Baseball
Girl’s Lacrosse                                   Softball
Girl’s Track                                     Boy’s Track
Girl’s Tennis                                     Boy’s Tennis

Park Vista 2009 District Championships

Boy’s Cross Country                     Girl’s Swimming
Softball                                         Girl’s Lacrosse
Boy’s Volleyball                           Girl’s Track
Boy’s Track

Regional Championships

Baseball
Boy’s Volleyball
Girl’s Lacrosse

State Tennis Individual Gold Medal
Rashaad Williams

17 Coach of the Year Honors

PVCHS Boy’s Varsity 2009 Football Schedule

Friday  8/28/09  Kick Off Classic vs. Santalucce  Home 7:00 p.m.
Friday  9/04/09  Jupiter High                      Away 7:00 p.m.
Friday  9/11/09  John I. Leonard  Home 7:00 p.m.
Thursday 9/17/09  Spanish River        Away 7:00 p.m.
Friday  9/25/09  Palm Beach Central  Home 7:00 p.m.
Friday  10/09/09  Atlantic High           Away 7:00 p.m.
Thursday 10/15/09  William T. Dwyer    Home 7:00 p.m.
Friday  10/23/09  Suncoast                Away 7:00 p.m.
Friday  10/30/09  Seminole Ridge         Home 7:00 p.m.
Friday  11/06/09  Boca Raton High        Away 7:00 p.m.
Friday  11/13/09  Lake Worth High         Home 7:00 p.m.

Come & Support the Cobras

PARK VISTA GIRLS LACROSSE

FIVE US LACROSSE ALL AMERICANS

District Champion  Palm Beach County Champion
2006  2007        2006  2007
2008  2009        2008  2009

FHSAA Regional Champion  FHSAA State Finalist
2008  2009        2008  2009

- NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY -
PROGRAM MEETING ON TUESDAY AUGUST 25
Multicultural Club

The PVCHS Multicultural Club is planning to have another active school year with a large membership. The club sponsors activities that celebrate diversity on campus and promotes learning about cultures around the world.

The club plans to participate in West Palm Beach's Kaleidoscope Festival for the second time and to host a Multicultural Festival on campus. The group also collaborates with community organizations to help those in need. If you would like to join this fun and active club, see Mrs. McTigue in the Media Center. For more information, stay tuned to the morning announcements for the date of our first meeting.

Volunteer with PVCHS Special Olympics Athletes

Help support our Special Olympics Athletes by becoming a volunteer. Our athletes participate in two sporting events a year, bowling in the fall and track and field in the spring.

Special Olympics athletes begin their season for 2009-2010 on August 11, 2009, at the Palm Beach Strike Zone Bowling Alley at 3:00 p.m. Please come and support your Special Olympics athletes by becoming a volunteer.

All volunteers must complete the required paperwork prior to participating. Please contact Mrs. Baudat or Mrs. S. Gilbert in August if you are interested in joining the Park Vista Special Olympics Club. Be sure to listen to the morning announcements for further information regarding the times and place for our Special Olympics Club meetings. We hope to see you in August.

M-Power Psychology Club

In August, 2009, PVCHS will be Palm Beach County’s pilot school for a new student Mental Health and Psychology Club. The club will be co-sponsored by The Mental Health Association of Palm Beach County, Inc.

The club will focus on mental health issues that affect teens as well as general topics in psychology. Students interested in participating should see faculty sponsor, Mr. DiLorenzo, in room 6-212 at the start of the school year.

Parents with a background and/or career in the field of psychology who would like to be guest speakers for the M-Power club can email Mr. DiLorenzo at DiLorenzo@palmbeach.k12.fl.us.

Strategy Game Club

Strategic Games Club meets Thursdays after school in room 6-114. Strategy board games such as Risk, Axis, and Allies, Settlers of Catan, and many more are played as well as trading card games such as Yu-Gi-Oh and Magic: The Gathering. Any questions? See the club sponsor, Mr. Miller, in 6-114.

Join Cross Country:
Come & be a Part of Something Great

The Boy’s Cross Country team had another championship season. Besides winning several dual meets, the Boy’s were once again District Champions and qualified to compete in the state race at Little Everglades Ranch in Dade City. At the state competition, they placed 11th, far ahead of their Conference rival John I. Leonard who placed 20th.

The Boy’s team works tirelessly over the summer getting their bodies prepared for the rigor of racing. Pre-season conditioning is well under way.

Any interested runners may contact Coach White at 358-5531. Join the Cobra Cross Country team and see if you have what it takes. It will be the best decision of your life!

Cross Country Cobra Deniz Hay at the Spanish River Invite
Bowling Tryouts
Tryouts for the Park Vista Girl’s and Boy’s Bowling teams are
August 19, 20, & 21
3:15 p.m.
at Palm Beach Strike Zone
6591 S. Military Trail
Lake Worth
Bowlers must attend two of the three days of tryouts. Each day will require two hours of bowling. Transportation to and from PVCHS will not be provided.
All potential bowlers must have eligibility packets with physicals completed, with required fees, prior to tryouts.
Questions? E-mail Coach DiLorenzo at DiLorenzo@palmbeach.k12.fl.us

Swimming
Girl’s and Boy’s Swimming tryouts begin
Aug. 10, 2009
at 3:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center
Email: Coach Tim Bruce at brucet@palmbeach.k12.fl.us

Sixth Annual Kick Off To Athletics
JOIN US ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Our dinner is sponsored by the Outback Steakhouse® and promises to be a great evening for you and your family. Support Cobra athletics and enjoy a delicious and fun-filled evening with:
- A wonderful dinner cooked onsite by Outback Steakhouse®
- Entertainment provided by our Cobra Striking Band
- Wonderful chorus selections
- Amazing Step Team demonstration
- Varsity and Junior Varsity Cheerleader presentations

In addition, your ticket will give you the opportunity to see:
- Cobra Volleyball Team in action against Santaluces in the gym at 7:00 p.m.
- Cobra Football Team vs. Broncos game the following evening (9/25/09)

Tickets are $15.00 and can be purchased from the Athletic Office and/or student athletes.

Don’t miss out on this opportunity to celebrate & support our athletic programs.

Athletic Eligibility
If you are interested in becoming a Cobra athlete you must meet the Athletic Eligibility Requirements. Athletic Eligibility is determined by the cumulative grade point average. For students to be eligible, they must maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA out of a possible 4.0. Entering freshmen must have been regularly promoted from 8th grade in order to be eligible for the first semester freshman year. Prior to participation, an eligibility packet must be completed by any student athlete trying out for a sport. The annual District Athletic Insurance Fee of $75 (this applies to all sports) must also be paid prior to participation. Athletic Eligibility packets are available in the Main Office or the Athletic Office.
Boy’s & Girl’s Golf
Golf practice will begin on August 10, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at the Links at Boynton Golf Course
Email Coach James McDonough at mcdonough@palmbeach.k12.fl.us or Coach Vickie Politis at politisv@palmbeach.k12.fl.us

Cross Country
Boy’s and Girl’s cross country teams will have mandatory practice on August 17, 2009.
Email: Coach White at Whiteje@palmbeach.k12.fl.us or Coach Hamilton at Hamiltons@palmbeach.k12.fl.us

HOPE Classes
All incoming freshmen are required to take Health Opportunities Through Physical Education (HOPE). Students will need to purchase a Park Vista PE uniform. The cost is $20. This is class is graduation requirement by the State of Florida. Uniforms may be purchased at orientation or the first week of school from their PE teacher.

Student Activities
Specific information about clubs is available in the Activities Office. A partial listing of clubs offered on campus is listed below. Additional clubs may be added.

Activities are an integral part of the total school program, and Park Vista offers a club or special activity group to meet the needs and interests of virtually every student. All students are encouraged to become involved in the activity of their choice.

A few clubs and organizations do have national guidelines regarding membership that must be adhered to in order to be a member. Please check with the sponsor of the club or organization to find out objectives, membership qualifications, etc. Belonging to, and participating in, an organization is a very significant part of the student’s high school career.

Academic Tournament Team
Art Club
Automotive Club
Automotive Art Club
Bands: Marching Jazz Symphonic Concert
Book Club (Student)
Cheerleading - Varsity Cheerleading - Jr. Varsity Chorus
Class of 2010 Activities
Class of 2011 Activities
Class of 2012 Activities
Class of 2013 Activities
Color Guard (Flag Drill Team)
Debate Team
Drama Club
Ecology Club
Empower (Psychology)
FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America)
FFEA (Fl. Future Educators of America)
Film Club
First Priority
French Honor Society
GSA Spectrum
HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America)
Inter Club Council (ICC)
Jewish Student Union
Key Club
Lacrosse (Boys)
Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society)
Multicultural Club
National Honor Society (Grades 11 & 12)
National Technical Honor Society
Quill & Scroll Honors Society (Journ.)
Rho Kappa (Social Studies Honor Society)
SADD/SWAT
Spanish Honor Society
Special Olympics Athletes
Special Olympics Volunteers
Step Team (Chi Sigma Chi)
Strategy Game Club
Student Council
Newspaper (Cobra Chronicle)
Yearbook (Serpent)

Deadline to sign up for PSAT
Sept. 18.
See Guidance

PSAT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2009. 10th graders will be automatically scheduled to take the PSAT and do not need to sign up. 11th graders who want to take the PSAT to qualify for National Merit Scholarships must sign up in the Guidance Office by Friday, September 18, 2009.

Parents & Students - check out Park Vista’s website www.pvchs.com throughout the year for information concerning college admissions, volunteer opportunities, transcript requests, testing dates and other important guidance updates!
Dual Enrollment
The dual enrollment program allows students who have a cumulative 3.0 GPA or HPA to take college-level courses at Palm Beach Community College (PBCC) or Florida Atlantic University (FAU). Seniors with at least a 2.5 GPA are permitted to enroll in the Strategies for College Success course. These courses are free to high school students. The dual enrollment program provides students with the opportunity to earn college credit and high school honors credit simultaneously.

Interested students should see their guidance counselor for an application. Registration for the fall semester begins July 27, 2009. Dual enrollment courses may also be taken in the spring semester. Registration for those classes will begin November, 2009.

Take advantage of this opportunity to take college classes free and to also increase your HPA and class rank.

Advanced Placement (AP) Summer Reading
Advanced Placement World History: Mrs. Matyskiel
All accompanying study guides can be found in the Guidance Office during summer. Please read the following books and complete the respective study guides. All three are due on Wednesday, August 19, 2009.

- *Hiroshima*, John Hersey

All students should have a working knowledge of basic geography (i.e. continents, major bodies of water, and regions with their respective characteristics) and a comprehension of the five primary world faiths.

Advanced Placement European History: Mrs. Matyskiel
All accompanying study guides can be found in the Guidance Office. Please read the following books and complete the respective study guides. Both assignments are due the first day of school, August 18, 2009.

- *The Prince*, Niccolo Machiavelli (Penguin Classics, 1981 or newer)
- *Brunelleschi’s Dome*, Ross King (Penguin, 2001)

All students should have modern European geography memorized and ready to apply by August. (i.e. nations, mountain ranges, major rivers).

If there are any questions I can be reached at matyski@palmbeach.k12.fl.us.

Other Summer Reading Assignments at PVCHS.com Guidance section.
### New Admission Requirement for State Universities

Be Aware---The State Universities have decided to include the Writing sections of the SAT and ACT in their admission decisions this year. This is a new requirement as of school year 2008-2009.

- Quality Points added to GPA for AP, honors, and dual enrollment: 1.0 QP for AP, 0.5 QP for Honors, 0.5 QP for Dual Enrollment
- None of the colleges listed above state a preference for SAT OR ACT
- U.C.F. is the only one of the above colleges who ask for a letter of recommendation which should be generated from the PVCHS Guidance Department.

For a more detailed version of this matrix, please visit the Guidance Department or visit our web site at [www.pvchs.com](http://www.pvchs.com)

Select: Guidance  Then: College Information

Then: State Universities Admission Information

### Florida University Matrix, As of August, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Preferred Time to Apply</th>
<th>Mid Range GPA Accepted</th>
<th>Mid Range SAT Accepted (Math &amp; Verbal)</th>
<th>Mid Range ACT Accepted</th>
<th>Top 3 Undergraduate Majors</th>
<th>2008-2009 Tuition 30 Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>FAMU</td>
<td>SEPT.</td>
<td>FALL 3.0-3.49</td>
<td>FALL 940 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 20 SUMMER</td>
<td>BUSINESS</td>
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<td>FAU</td>
<td>FALL</td>
<td>FALL 3.0-3.6</td>
<td>FALL 980-1130 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 20-24 SUMMER</td>
<td>ELEMENTARY ED.</td>
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<td>FGCU</td>
<td>SEPT 1-NOV 15</td>
<td>FALL 3.03-3.71</td>
<td>FALL 980-1120 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 20-24</td>
<td>MANAGEMENT RESORT &amp; HOSPITALITY</td>
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<td>FIU</td>
<td>JUL 1-JUL 15</td>
<td>FALL 3.4-4.1 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 1080-1210 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 23-26</td>
<td>BUSINESS LIBERAL ARTS PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>$3696</td>
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<td>FSU</td>
<td>PRIOR TO OCT 15</td>
<td>FALL 3.7-4.2 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 1180-1330 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 26-29</td>
<td>BUSINESS ENGINEERING</td>
<td>$4007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCF</td>
<td>BY FEB 15</td>
<td>FALL 3.71-4.2 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 1230-1420 NO SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 27-31</td>
<td>PSYCHOLOGY ENV. STUDIES ECON. &amp; HISTORY</td>
<td>$4127 FOR 36 HRS</td>
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<td>UCF</td>
<td>FALL</td>
<td>FALL 3.4-4.1 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 1140-1280 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 24-28</td>
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<tr>
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<td>JUL 1-JUL 15</td>
<td>FALL 4.0-4.4 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 1210-1400 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 26-31</td>
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<td>UNF</td>
<td>FALL</td>
<td>FALL 3.53-3.78</td>
<td>FALL 1160-1210 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 23-24</td>
<td>BUSINESS ED. COMMUNICATIONS</td>
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<tr>
<td>USF</td>
<td>JAN 1 HONORS MARCH 1</td>
<td>FALL 3.5-4.1 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 1100-1270 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 24-28</td>
<td>BUSINESS SCIENCES</td>
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<td>UWF</td>
<td>FALL</td>
<td>FALL 3.1-4.0 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 980-1150 SUMMER</td>
<td>FALL 21-25</td>
<td>BIOLOGY BUSINESS EDUATION</td>
<td>$3655</td>
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High School Graduation Requirements

Below are the minimum requirements needed for high school (H.S.) graduation. The State of Florida university admissions policy has additional academic requirements, including a minimum of 18 academic credits to include at least Geometry and Algebra II in addition to two years of the same foreign language.

2009-2010 INCOMING FRESHMEN MUST IDENTIFY AND BE ENROLLED IN COURSES THAT ARE PART OF A MAJOR AREA OF INTEREST

I. A total of 24 credits are needed for graduation which must include:
   - English: 4 Credits
   - Mathematics: 4 Credits
   - Social Studies: 3 Credits
   - Science: 3 Credits
   - Performing/Fine Art: 1 Credit
   - Electives: 8 Credits

Total Credits: 24 Credits

II. A cumulative GPA of 2.0 needed in ALL H.S. credit courses.

III. A passing score is needed on the 10th grade FCAT Reading and Math sections.

IV. 20 hours of community service/volunteer hours completed in H.S. are a graduation requirement.

Throughout Freshman Year:

1. Continue to take challenging and rigorous courses with a focus on students’ post-secondary plans (university, community college, vocational program, military, work force).
2. Earn good grades. Students’ GPA and HPA include all H.S.-level courses taken and are important for promotion to the next grade level, graduation, athletic/activity eligibility, awards, scholarships, college entrance, vocational school entrance, military recruiting, etc.
3. Students will take the PSAT in October of their sophomore year and it is strongly recommended that it be taken again as a junior. National Merit Scholarships are based on PSAT scores which can only be earned when the test is taken as a junior. Students will receive their scores 6 to 8 weeks after taking the test. The results will be correlated to the score they would most likely receive on the SAT. If students would like to practice the types of questions that will be on the test, go to www.collegeboard.com.
4. Start researching college choices based on location, price, majors offered, etc. This can be done on the internet, by phone, or in person. PVCHS schedules presentations by several colleges each fall; listen to the announcements or come to the Guidance Department for a schedule. Also, plan visits to prospective colleges.
5. Begin building a résumé of school/community activities, awards, honors, and work experience.
6. Explore the Florida Department of Education’s financial aid web site, sponsored by the Office of Student Financial Assistance. This site will give students a preview of state grants, scholarships, and loans (including the Bright Futures Scholarship Program) available for post-secondary education. The web site address is www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org. Research now, but apply after December 1 of your SENIOR year.
7. Consider dual enrollment opportunities available at P.B.C.C. or F.A.U. available to students with a 3.0 GPA. Students should see their counselors in November, March, or May for enrollment information for spring, summer, or fall semesters.

Visit the Cobra website at www.pvchs.com for frequent scholastic updates throughout the year.
### Class of 2011

#### 2009 - 2010 JUNIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

**Throughout Junior Year:**

1. Complete SAT/ACT test prep in the library or on the web: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) or SAT Coach online at [http://www.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/satcoach](http://www.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/satcoach). PVCHS offers a SAT Prep class during the school day. Students must have a 3.0 GPA and be enrolled in at least Algebra II to qualify. Private companies, such as Princeton Review, Kaplan, Educational Services Center, and F.A.U., also offer SAT/ACT test preparation courses.

2. Take the PSAT test to be given on October 14, 2009. Students took this as a sophomore and it is strongly recommended that it be taken again as a junior. National Merit Scholarships based on PSAT scores can only be earned when the test is taken as a junior. Students will receive their scores 6 to 8 weeks after taking the test. The results will be correlated to the score they would most likely receive on the SAT. If students would like to practice the types of questions that will be on the test, go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or SAT Coach online at [www.testprep.com/studyguide](http://www.testprep.com/studyguide) (use ID & code 88966).

3. Read the College Admission booklet located at [PVCHS.com](http://PVCHS.com) under the Guidance tab and click on College Admission. All the information needed for the college application process and to prepare you for senior year is here.

4. Register for the SAT and ACT online. Fee waivers (if applicable) are available in the guidance office. A JUNIOR SHOULD CONSIDER TAKING BOTH OF THESE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS IN THE SPRING OF JUNIOR YEAR IF HE/SHE HAS TAKEN ALGEBRA II.

   - SAT online: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
   - ACT online: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

   Park Vista’s CEEB number is 101923

PVCHS is a test site for the SAT on all dates except November.

5. Check the web site [www.facts.org](http://www.facts.org) for college information, students’ individual transcript evaluations, and necessary Bright Futures GPAs. This site is an excellent resource for researching Florida colleges and other career and interest exploration.

6. Check weekly scholarship information at [PVCHS.com](http://PVCHS.com) under the Guidance tab and then click on Scholarships. There is a plethora of information in the Guidance Department’s Career Center. Make sure to stop in frequently for updates.

7. Start researching college choices based on location, price, majors offered, etc. This can be done on the internet, by phone, or in person. Also, plan visits to prospective colleges. Spring break of the junior year is a very popular time for these visits; so make reservations early to visit targeted colleges early. Park Vista also hosts presentations from several universities and colleges during the school day in the fall. Listen to the announcements or check in the Guidance Office for dates and times. Students are permitted to sign up for five on-campus college visits without incurring an absence.

8. Start (or continue) performing community service hours to apply towards the 20 hour requirement for graduation and certain scholarships. The correct form and suggested places to perform volunteer hours can be found on our web site at [www.pvchs.com](http://www.pvchs.com) under the GUIDANCE heading or in the Guidance Department.

9. Prepare a résumé of school/community activities, awards, honors, and work experience. Check the file in the Guidance Office for community service opportunities and the form to submit hours to students’ counselors. If requesting a letter of recommendation, give that person a résumé and at least two weeks to write the letter.

10. Explore the Florida Department of Education’s financial aid web site, sponsored by the Office of Student Financial Assistance. This site will give students a preview of state grants, scholarships, and loans (including the Bright Futures Scholarship Program) available for post-secondary education. The web site address is [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org). Research now, but apply for the Bright Futures scholarship after December 1 of SENIOR year at: [https://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/UA/SAWS/SAWS автомаform.asp](https://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/UA/SAWS/SAWS автомаform.asp).

11. Pick up SAT and ACT applications and fee waivers (if applicable) in Guidance Office or apply online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for SAT and [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) for ACT. Our CEEB # is 101923.


13. Dual enrollment is available at P.B.C.C. or F.A.U. to students with a 3.0 GPA. See counselor in November, March, or May for enrollment information for spring, summer or fall semesters.

### Class of 2010

#### 2009 - 2010 SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

**Throughout Senior Year:**

1. Read the College Admission booklet located at [PVCHS.com](http://PVCHS.com) under the Guidance tab and click on College Admission. All information needed for the college application process and to prepare you for senior year is here.

2. Do SAT/ACT test prep in the library or on the web: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

3. If students have not successfully completed both sections of the FCAT (Reading & Math), sign up for the SAT or ACT as these scores can be used instead of FCAT scores.

### CONCORDANT SCORES FOR 2008-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>MATH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FCAT 300</td>
<td>FCAT 300</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAT 410</td>
<td>SAT 370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT 15</td>
<td>ACT 15</td>
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(The Florida State Legislature determines these each year)

### Community Service Requirement Reminder

It is now a graduation requirement for all students to have a minimum of 20 hours community service. If you need community service hours, please stop by the guidance office for information on non-profit organizations where you can volunteer or flyers on upcoming events requesting student volunteers. Do not wait until the last minute to fulfill this requirement. No community service hours, no graduation!
Lockers
Seniors and Juniors may purchase lockers at the following times in the atrium:
- **Seniors:** Thursday, August 13, 2009 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.
- **Juniors & Seniors:** Friday, August 14, 2009 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Lockers will be available the first full week of school for sophomores & freshmen.

Seniors must have portraits taken at Bryn Alan Studio in W. P. B. Deadline is September 18, 2009. Call 1-800-421-3314 or log on to BrynAlan.com.

Watch your Mail Advertising packets from The Serpent staff will go to the homes of seniors by the end of August so that seniors can reserve a special space in the yearbook.

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**Countdown to Graduation**

**Senior Timeline for Class of 2010**

**September, 2009**
- During senior credit check discuss with counselor:
  - My top three college choices are: 1. _________________________
  - 2. _________________________
  - 3. _________________________
- If I’m not going to college, then I want to: _________________________
- Read the College Admission booklet located at PVCHS.com under the Guidance tab and click on College Admission. All the information needed for the college application process and to prepare you for senior year is located here;
- Begin to gather applications for colleges and meet their application deadlines for early decision or regular decision;
- Start credit lab or online courses, if necessary, to earn missed credits needed for graduation;
- Speak to military recruiters, if interested.

**October, November, December, 2009**
- Take SAT and/or ACT—be sure to have scores sent to potential college choices. Register online at: SAT www.collegeboard.com
  - ACT www.act.org
- Or, pick up application packets in the Guidance Department.
- Park Vista’s CEEB # is 101923.
- Park Vista High is a test site for the SAT on all dates except November.
- Student Athletes: submit NCAA Clearinghouse form to www.ncaaclearinghouse.org; ask the Records Secretary in the Guidance Office to send transcript to potential colleges.
- December 1, 2009, apply online for Florida Bright Futures Scholarship at https://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/UA/SAWSTUA_uiform.asp
- See counselor for a dual enrollment application for spring semester, if interested. The deadline is usually the first week in December.
- Make final preparations for mailing college applications. Enclose application fee or waiver, proofread essays, & have Records Secretary send transcript.

**January, 2010**
- Make sure college applications have been completed and are mailed on time. This should be done ASAP!
- Pick up FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) in Guidance Office or apply online at http://www.fafsa.gov. Fill out and mail after receiving W-2.
- Retake SAT and/or ACT in January, February, March, or April if necessary to raise scores.

**February, March, April, May, 2010**
- Upon receipt of FAFSA results, check for the EFC (Estimated Family Contribution). This shows how much money the student and his/her family is expected to contribute each year towards college expenses. Continue to look for other scholarships to make up the financial shortfall that is not covered through federal and state financial aid.
- Clear all obligations. You cannot participate in graduation if obligations are owed.
- Make sure college of choice has received a copy of FAFSA results. They will put together a financial aid package (if applicable).
- Fill out transcript request at senior check out indicating where the final transcript should be sent after graduation. This should only be done for the college that the student is planning to attend.
Seniors: Show Your Smile

Park Vista’s official school photographer is Bryn-Alan. Seniors should have received an appointment in the mail to have their official portrait taken. All seniors are encouraged to go to the West Palm Beach Studio before school starts, but you must have an appointment. Call 1-800-421-3314 or logon to www.brynalan.com to make an appointment and to get your questions answered.

For consistency, the yearbook staff chose what seniors should wear in the yearbook. The Bryn-Alan photographer will have the proper drape, uniforms etc. for girls. The photographer will also have the correct shirts, jackets or tuxedos for boys. Seniors also may bring clothes for personal poses such as cheerleading, football uniforms, or props (for example, a tennis racquet or musical instrument).

The deadline to have pictures taken and be included in the yearbook is September 18, 2009; there are absolutely no exceptions to this deadline.

Homecoming Court Reminder
To be eligible for Homecoming Court, students must have five hours service with Class Council. A great opportunity to get some hours for this requirement is to help decorate doorways in the senior hallway on August 17! See Ms. Jeske-Torres for info.

The time has come to purchase your 2010 Park Vista Yearbook!

The deadline to reserve your copy is November 20th!

You must order now if you want to guarantee a copy is here for you when they arrive in May. After November 20th, books will no longer be on sale.

ORDER BY MAIL OR ONLINE!

To order online just simply go to www.yearbooks.biz enter the code 845 and follow the instructions through Herff Jones’ website. Most major credit cards are accepted. There is a small convenience fee added to online orders. Be sure to print your receipt.

OR

Return this form with a check or money order for the amount shown to:
Park Vista Community High School
ATTN: Yearbook Staff (Room 4-104)
7900 Jog Road
Lake Worth, FL 33467

I want to order (circle one)
Classmate Package (60.00)
Yearbook Only
Varsity Package (70.00)
Yearbook, Plastic Dust Cover, and Autograph Pages

Payment Type: (circle one)  CASH  MONEY ORDER  CHECK:

Name on Check: ________________________________
Student Name: ________________________________ Grade: ________
Address: _______________________________________
Phone: ____________________

Payment Type: (circle one)  CASH  MONEY ORDER  CHECK:

Name on Check: ________________________________
Student Name: ________________________________ Grade: ________
Address: _______________________________________
Phone: ____________________
Medical Requirements for High School Entry

If you are a new incoming student from out-of-state or entering public school for the first time, the Palm Beach County Health Department and the School District of Palm Beach County require a current physical examination and complete immunization records PRIOR to admittance. ANY STUDENT WITHOUT THIS DOCUMENTATION WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO START SCHOOL UNTIL THE DOCUMENTATION IS PROVIDED. Incoming ninth graders need to make sure the Form DH680 has all the documented immunizations. These immunizations include DPT series (Td booster), Polio series (Completed), MMR (2 dosages), Hepatitis B (two or three – shot series required), and a physical examination (performed within 1 year prior to enrollment).

REMEMBER, NO SHOTS… NO SCHOOL… NO KIDDING!

Medical Information

Nurses Lavigne and Prezioso welcome you to PVCHS. Each year presents new challenges. Due to the size of our student body and staff we ask that everyone follow the school and clinic policies:

1. Firstly, we ask that all students who have a severe or chronic health condition, who are injured or post-op., or are in need of special assistance come to the clinic to be properly assessed so that we may better serve you.

2. Secondly, we ask that any student requiring medications or treatments such as blood sugar testing, nebulizer treatments, over the counter medications, or rescue medications or treatments obtain the Physician’s Authorization for Student Medication or Treatment Form from their Health Care Providers. These forms must be completed and signed by both doctors and parents/guardians. Supplies and medications must be provided by the students’ families.

3. Thirdly, we ask that all students obtain a pass to come to the clinic unless it is an emergency; students may not come to the clinic between classes without a pass. If students are ill, we request that they do not text message or call their parents prior to coming to the clinic.

The PVCHS nurses also oversee immunizations, screenings and provide assistance with insurances and health accessibility, if needed. Please do not hesitate to call us at 491-8440 or 491-8442 for further information.

FBLA National Leadership Conference


Everyone worked hard all year to earn this trip and now the work begins again for this upcoming year. Elections were held in May for the 2010 school year; the new officers are: Kaitlin Linder, president, Ariel Ladner, vice president, Maggie Creegan, secretary, and Olivia DeSantis, historian.

Any student may join FBLA by attending first meeting of the year scheduled to be held after school in room 4-104 in early September. Listen to the announcements for the exact date. Students will learn about charity events, fund raising, and other exciting events throughout the year. Students will also begin preparations for the next round of competitions: Districts will be held in December and January and States are in April. Those who win will be qualified for next summer’s 2010 National Conference which will be held in Nashville, Tennessee.