

# PCHS Husky News

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## Upcoming Events

- Fr. 3/5 ---  
Midterms 1  
and 3
- Fr. 3/12 ---  
Teacher Work  
Day (No  
Students)
- Fr. 3/12 --- End of  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- Tu. 3/9 - Th.  
3/18: CSAP  
testing
- Tu. 3/23 --- Teen  
Driver Survival  
Class: 630pm  
Aud.
- Fr. 3/26 - Su. 4/4  
--- Spring  
Break

## Principal's News

PCHS students continue to excel in several areas, both individually and in team competitions. Junior Kenny Prather participated in the State Technical Student Association (TSA) competition in February where he placed 2nd in state. He will be competing at the national TSA level June 28-July 2 in Baltimore. Kenny also participated in the district Skills Competition where he took first and will compete at the state level in April. Richard Kirscht, PCHS junior, earned a first place in the district Skills Competition in Multimedia Web Design and will participate in April at the state level. Richard has also been named to the National Tech. Honor Society at Warren Tech and will represent PCHS in this nationally recognized society.

The Univ. of Iowa College of Ed. recently recognized senior Kate Boone with an Hon. Mention in Novel Writing in their Multi-state Writing Regional comp. Kate's piece was one of over 900 entries submitted to the competition.

The US Equestrian Fed. honors high school equestrian athletes, similar to a varsity letter award. This year, senior Kaitlyn Murray and freshman Cassidy Murray participated in this program.

The PCHS Speech team had another banner season this year, finishing with strong performances at the State Speech Festival. Torrie Nickel won Best of Event (BOE) in Poetry Interpretation.

## Annual Parent Survey Yields Interesting Results

On a yearly basis, PCHS parents are asked to fill out a brief survey asking questions regarding school safety and the PCHS learning environment. This year, these surveys were given to parents at our Parent-Teacher conferences in February.

In general, PCHS received favorable responses from parents, indicating agreement or strong agreement that students are safe (98%), rules are

Aaron Anzell-Morris and Natalie Gonzalez won BOE in Humorous Duet Acting. Finally, Caedi Coler won BOE in Impromptu Speaking. Team scores are not tallied in this state-wide event, but several other students performed well, as the team brought home 19 ribbons plus several Excellence certificates. Congrats to Amanda Waterhouse and her assistant coaches for a terrific season.

In sports, three wrestlers qualified for State: Jesse Kirby, Charlie Prentner, and Corey Todd. Cody Spero, Mac Camp, Tyler Kupser, Dom Pucherelli, Austin Quimby, and Olivia Quimby qualified for the State Ski meet. Our girls' basketball team qualified for the Regional tournament and play tomorrow vs. Estes Park. The boys' basketball team had several exciting wins this year and was close in many others. Finally, the girls' swim team had a great year, winning several meets and placing high in several others.

enforced consistently (90%), PCHS provides a positive learning environment (98%), and high expectations and quality instruction are prevalent at PCHS (98%).

96% of surveyed parents graded PCHS overall as an A or a B. We thank the over 50 parents who participated in this non-scientific survey.



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## Test-Taking Tips For Your Anxiety-Wracked

As we approach the onset of the mandated CSAP testing, here are some tips that will help minimize test anxiety:

✓ If you are anxious about your child's test it's ok, but try to keep cool around your child, you don't want them to get anxious about their tests too.

✓ Encourage your child to do well but don't pressure him/her. You may stress him/her out. It is important for your child to stay relaxed on the test.

✓ Keep a positive attitude about tests.

✓ Mark down test days on your calendar so you and your child are both aware of testing dates.

✓ Make sure that your child gets enough sleep on the night before the test.

✓ Talking about the test with your child can relieve stress about test taking.

✓ Ensure that your child eats a healthy breakfast and avoid heavy foods that may make him/her groggy and avoid high sugar foods that may make him/her hyper.

✓ Make sure that your child gets up early enough so that he/she will be on time to school.

✓ Praise/reward your child when they do well on a test or for their hard work preparing for a test.

✓ Encourage them to do better if they don't do well.

These tips were adapted from a much longer list that addressed subject-specific tests. That list appears on the website [www.testtakingtips.com](http://www.testtakingtips.com). There are other valuable study tips on that website as well, including information on note taking, cramming, etc.

We're on the Web!  
[www.plattecanyonschools.org](http://www.plattecanyonschools.org)

Access student information (grades, progress reports, attendance, behavior) on our Infinite Campus Parent Portal. E-mail Shelly Horstmann @ [shorstmann@plattecanyonsd1.org](mailto:shorstmann@plattecanyonsd1.org) for details.

Q: What does PACK mean?  
A: Our school acronym is a short-hand way to remind our students about the qualities that we want them to consistently display: Positive attitude, Achievement-oriented, Competitive, and Kind.

## PCHS P.A.C.K. Program

The PCHS P.A.C.K. program, implemented in the Fall of 2007, continues to recognize the positive achievements of staff and students. Since the program's inception, over 600 students have been recognized in one manner or another for their conspicuous displays of positive, achievement-oriented, competitive, and kind behaviors. The PACK program's purpose is to promote positive behaviors, creating a safer, happier school climate.

Students receive Husky tickets from PCHS staff members for displaying

P.A.C.K. behaviors. Students can use Husky tickets in a variety of ways, including redeeming them for \$.50 per ticket at the cafeteria, the PACK store, or the Booster Club concessions stand. Students may also save the tickets and redeem them for a PACK t-shirt, PACK hoodie, \$15 gift card (Starbucks and iTunes are the most popular), or an iPod shuffle.

This year, the PBS (Positive Behavior Support) committee made a recommendation that we also hold drawings for Husky ticket winners, in which strange prizes are awarded.