



# PATUXENT HIGH SCHOOL



**August 2017 Newsletter**  
<http://phsweb.calvertnet.k12.md.us>  
**Follow us on Twitter @PatuxentHSCPS**

Dear Panthers:

It is time to start thinking about the upcoming school year. I hope everyone has had an enjoyable and productive summer. The Patuxent High School staff has been busy preparing for the 2017 - 2018 school year. PHS has had tremendous success since its inception almost 20 years ago. It is the mission of the school's staff to make this upcoming school year the most successful yet. It will take hard work and determination on everyone's part to accomplish this mission, but I feel certain that with our staff, students, and community working together, we can do it. As the new principal at Patuxent, I would like to thank the Patuxent community for your support and dedication. The Patuxent community has an excellent, supportive reputation, which is well-known throughout all of Calvert County. I am honored to be able to work with such a dedicated community. My hope is that Patuxent will remain a community center with great pride in our past, present, and future. I am proud to be a Panther.

Students will receive their official schedules the first day of school in Homeroom. In the meantime, if they have questions about their course selections or have a desire to change a course they selected, counselors will be available the rest of the summer. **Student schedules will not be finalized and official until the first day of school. Some schedules may change due to class balancing. Changes will not be made due to teacher preference.**

I have listed some key dates and information for you below.

- **Freshman and new student orientation will take place on Friday, September 1st<sup>th</sup> from 7:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.** Students should be at their regular bus stop between 6:15 a.m. and 6:45 a.m. for pick up. Please review the enclosed memorandum from the Transportation Department. Bus pick-up will follow the "regular routes."
- The regular bus number and the approximate pick-up times for the bus stops can be found on the Calvert County Public Schools' website after 4PM on August 17th. Go to [www.calvertnet.k12.md.us](http://www.calvertnet.k12.md.us), click on Departments, click on Student Transportation then click "Bus Stop & School Locator" or "Bus Schedules." All students are encouraged to ride the buses for the first few days of school to cut down on traffic congestion around the campus.
- The student drop-off and pick-up area is at the end of the sidewalk found in front of the faculty parking lot. **DO NOT DROP OFF STUDENTS IN THE BUS LANES.** Parking in the bus lanes is prohibited from 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Classes for all students begin on **Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>**. The building will open at 7:00 a.m., and classes will run from **7:25 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.** Students arriving before 7:10 am must report directly to the cafeteria. The school day runs from 7:25 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. Students will have access to the entire building at **7:10 a.m.** each morning. **All students will be directed to their grade level, alphabetical advisory period.** Students will be receiving a great deal of important information over the course of the first week of school. Please review all school and classroom information with your child.
- **Students must be dressed appropriately for school starting on Freshman Orientation Day.** The dress code is in accordance with the Calvert County Student Code of Conduct. Clothing that is too tight or too short is not acceptable. Clothing must not be shorter than 3 inches above the knee. Sleeveless garments must extend to the end of the shoulder and fit closely under the arm. Tank tops, halter tops, and garments that are "see through," cut low, or expose one's midriff area and/or have spaghetti straps are not acceptable. All trousers (shorts, slacks, etc.) must be worn around the waist. The waistline of the trousers

must not hang below the waist. **Students that are not dressed appropriately will be asked to change into acceptable school attire and will not be admitted to class until appropriate attire is provided by the parents.**

- **Parents, please mark Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendars for our Back-to-School Night, which will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. in your child's first period class.** This is a great opportunity to get to know your son or daughter's teachers and to gain insight into the exciting instructional programs. Please plan on attending this important event.
- Forms for student parking permits will be available during lunch starting the first week of school. Please see the Main Office to pick up a form. After the second week of school, all students must have a displayed PHS parking permit to park in the school lots. To ensure the safety and security of all students at PHS, parking rules and regulations will be strictly enforced. Parking at PHS is \$60. Student parking is located in the back left of the parking lot only. Student drivers are required to be in the lot by 7:15 a.m.
- Seniors who have opted for early release will not be permitted back on campus during the **regular school day**, unless they are members of an athletic team or other extracurricular organization with a scheduled activity.
- All Calvert County Public Schools have security measures in place once students are admitted to the building in the morning, and all entrance doors will be secured. Visitors may only enter from the front entrance of the building and must ring the office to be admitted. Once in the school, all visitors **MUST** report immediately to the main office and sign in on Keep N Track. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.
- Announcements for students during One Lunch will only be made in cases of emergencies. If it becomes necessary for you to pick up your child during One Lunch, it is imperative that you know ahead of time where he/she plans to be or have your student arrange to meet you at the office at the appropriate time.
- **The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen cell phones/electronic devices.**
- The meal prices for the 2017-2018 school year are: secondary breakfast: \$1.55 & secondary lunch: \$2.65. Reduced meal prices are: secondary breakfast: \$.30 & secondary lunch: \$.40.
- Please consider becoming a member of the PHS PTO. The Memberships Form will be included in the student's first day folder information.
- The PHS Newsletter, Twitter (@PatuxentHSCCPS), and our website (<http://phsweb.calvertnet.k12.md.us>) all provide an excellent means to keep up with the activities and events happening around the school.

The administrative team would like to thank the building service staff at Patuxent High School for the outstanding effort they put forth this summer in preparing the facility for the opening of school. If you have an opportunity to thank one of the building service workers for his or her efforts, please take advantage of it. Patuxent High School has the hardest working building service staff in the school system.

This newsletter is designed to focus primarily on information you need for a successful start to the school year. Please look through the enclosed information very closely. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school. The beginning of a new school year is always very exciting but can be very stressful as well. Your cooperation and understanding will help us get off to a positive start. We look forward to working with you to making this a most productive and successful school year for our students and staff.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Bergen  
Principal

8/31/2017

*Mark your  
calendars*



## **September – December 2017**

- Friday, September 1 6 & 9<sup>th</sup> Gr Orientation
- Monday, September 4 Labor Day – No School
- Tuesday, September 5 First Day for All Students
- Saturday, September 9 ACT Test (deadline 8/4/17)
- Monday, September 11 Underclassmen Picture Day
- Tuesday, September 19 Back to School Night - Open House 6:30pm
- Thursday, September 28 Two-Hour Early Dismissal – Prof. Development
- Friday, September 29 Professional Development – Closed for Students
- Wed. – Thurs., October 2 & 3 Senior Picture Make-up Days (wrestling room)
- Friday, October 6 First Quarter Interims available HAC
- Saturday, October 7 SAT Test (deadline 9/8/17)
- Wednesday, October 11 PSAT Test
- Thursday, October 19 Two-Hour Early Dismissal – SLO Development
- Friday, October 20 Schools Closed for Students – Prof. Development
- Friday, October 20 Homecoming Game vs Westlake 7 pm/Parade 6pm
- Saturday, October 21 Homecoming Dance 7pm
- Monday, October 23 Underclassmen Make-up Picture Day
- Saturday, October 28 ACT Test @ CHS (deadline 9/22/17)
- Saturday, November 4 SAT Test (deadline 10/6/17)
- Wednesday, November 8 End of First Qtr.
- Thursday, November 9 Two-HR Early Dismissal for Students – Teacher Work Time
- Friday, November 10 Schools Closed for Students – Prof. Development
- Mon. – Fri., November 13 – 17 American Education Week
- Thursday, November 16 – 19 Fall Play Performance
- Wednesday, November 15 Winter Sport Clinics
- Thursday, November 16 First Qtr. Report Cards Available in HAC
- Wed. – Fri., November 22 – 24 Thanksgiving Holiday – Schools & Offices Closed
- Saturday, December 2 SAT Test (deadline 11/3/17)
- Wednesday, December 6 Two-Hour Early Dismissal – Prof. Development
- Saturday, December 9 Orchestra Winter Concert @ CHS 7pm
- Saturday, December 9 ACT Test (deadline 11/3/17)
- Tuesday, December 12 Chorus Winter Concert
- Thursday, December 14 Band Winter Concert
- Friday, December 15 Second Qtr. Interims Available in HAC
- Friday, December 22 Two Hour Early Dismissal – Teacher Work Time
- Mon. – Mon., Dec. 25 – Jan. 1 Winter Recess – Schools and Offices Closed

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Parents of Students Entering 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades  
Principals  
FROM: Edward C. Cassidy, Jr., Director of Transportation  
DATE: June 21, 2017  
SUBJECT: **Orientation Program – September 1, 2017**

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The 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation program will be provided as follows:

- **PLEASE NOTE; to be consistent with the pick-up times during the school year all Orientation Day bus routes will run at the same time as the 180 days of the school year.** The normal bus stop locations will be used to pick up and drop off students. Students are to stand outside at bus stops five minutes early, every day.
  - All bus routes to all schools will be driven on Orientation Day, but buses will not pick up elementary school students or Calvert Country School students.
- Before Orientation Day please go to the Calvertnet website to Departments → Student Transportation → Safety Items for Parents and Students to review information designed to enhance safety for your student; the Student Safety Video, Student Rights and Responsibilities, Parent Rights and Responsibilities, and the Regulations for Riding the School Bus. It would be a good idea to review these safety items with your child during the school year, as well.
- The regular bus number and the approximate pick-up times for the bus stops can be found on the Calvert County Public Schools' website after August 10. Go to [www.calvertnet.k12.md.us](http://www.calvertnet.k12.md.us), click on Departments, click on Student Transportation then click "Bus Stop & School Locator" or "Bus Schedules."
- Please remind students to be careful; to safely walk to and from the bus stop and to stand ten to fifteen long paces away from where the bus actually comes to a complete stop. Everyone should stand still as the bus arrives. No one should move towards the bus until it is completely stopped and the driver has activated all the lights. Students should not be wearing headphones or using their cell phone when boarding or unloading; they must pay attention to their surroundings for their safety.
- Parents of students who will be new to the school, but who are not 6<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> graders, must contact the secondary school in advance to determine if their child(ren) may also attend orientation programs. With school approval these students may also ride the buses on Orientation Day.

<b>SCHOOLS</b>	<b>PICK UP TIMES</b>	<b>PROGRAM TIMES</b>	<b>DROP OFF TIMES</b>
Huntingtown HS, Northern HS, Northern MS, Patuxent HS, Calvert MS	6:15 to 6:45AM	7:15 to 10:15AM	10:20 to 10:45AM
Calvert HS	6:30 to 7:05AM	7:25 to 10:25AM	10:30 to 11:05AM
Mill Creek MS, Plum Point MS, Southern MS, Windy Hill MS	7:15 to 7:45AM	8:10 to 11:10AM	11:15 to 11:45AM

***Please review the safety recommendations & rules on the reverse of this page and on the Calvertnet website at Departments → Student Transportation → Safety Items for Parents and Students.***

The transportation of our children is a shared responsibility between the home and the school system. As stated in CCPS policy "It is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to provide supervision for their child(ren) while walking to and from or waiting at the designated stop." With this in mind, **the expectation is that parents have students outside and at their assigned bus stop five (5) minutes before the established time that the bus arrives. Below are some other safety recommendations regarding bus stops. Please review these with your children.**

- Students should stand five to ten long paces away from where the bus will stop.
- No one, adult or child, should be standing in the road waiting for the bus; this should be done off of the road.
- No one should be moving towards the bus as it approaches the bus stop. Only after the bus driver has brought the bus to a complete halt, with the red lights flashing and the stop arm out, should students approach the bus to board.
- No one should step out from in between parked cars as a bus is approaching a bus stop.
- Parents who drive to a bus stop must park more than thirty (30) feet away from the stop sign/intersection.
- Vehicles should be parked only on one side of the street, and should not idle for more than five (5) minutes.
- Parents must actively supervise their children so they do not exit their private vehicles and step directly into traffic, or walk in between parked vehicles into traffic without looking for oncoming traffic.
- Private vehicles waiting for the bus must provide adequate space for standing students to see the bus, for the bus driver to see students, and so children do not have to walk in between those private vehicles
- Private vehicles cannot be parked in such a manner as to prevent the bus from making a turn onto an intersecting street.
- When boarding the bus, students must be fully seated as quickly possible so that the bus can depart the bus stop in a safe and efficient manner.
- Students are to be seated facing forward in their seats. Remember "toes and nose to the front!"
- Students are to be seated on their backsides (not sitting on their legs or kneeling).
- Students are to remove their backpacks from their backs when seated.
- Students must remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop, BEFORE they rise from their seats to leave the bus, whether at school, home or any other locations.

**School Bus Rules and regulations are established with student safety in mind.** They are in the Students' Rights, Responsibilities and Code of Conduct, and the "yellow school bus rules card." Both are distributed to each student and family annually. These rules are explained at the beginning of each school year, and they are reinforced throughout the year. Your support will help us to provide each child with a trip to and from school that is safe both emotionally and physically. **Parents are asked to review them with your child(ren), as well.**

1. Except for ordinary conversation, classroom conduct is expected.
2. Be courteous; use no profane or abusive language.
3. Do not bully, tease or harass anyone on the bus.
4. Do not eat, drink or chew gum on the bus.
5. Keep the bus clean.
6. Enter and leave the bus through the front door. Rear doors are to be opened for an emergency only.
7. Keep the aisle clean.
8. Do not damage or deface any part of the bus. Student and/or parents must repay the cost of repairing parts or replacing any damaged equipment and/or the student will be prosecuted.
9. The use or possession of tobacco products is prohibited on the bus.
10. Stay in your assigned seat.
11. Do not extend any part of the body out of the bus window at any time.
12. Do not spray any perfume, cologne, deodorant, etc.

The expectation for students, the driver, the contractor, and the school administration is that School Bus Discipline Referrals shall be written for students who choose to behave in a manner contrary to these most basic safety expectations.

We aim to provide safe and efficient transportation. The driver bears the responsibility of making sure the bus is on schedule each day, operating the bus safely, assigning seats for each student and maintaining discipline on the bus. Please do not hesitate to contact Transportation with questions or concerns about these matters at 443-550-8786.

## PATUXENT HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC NEWS

Athletic achievement requires sincere commitment from all athletes, parents, coaches, and administrators to make Patuxent High School one of the best schools in the state. For all of us to be successful, effective communication must occur. The school athletic department and administration believe strongly in being accessible to parents and supportive of the coaching staff. The PHS Athletic Director, Keith Powell can be reached at 443-550-8865 (office). The athletic website may also be of interest to you at [www.paxathletics.org](http://www.paxathletics.org). GO PANTHERS!

### DOCUMENTATION FOR TRYOUTS

**An athlete must have a physical dated after April 1, 2017 for participation in any sport for the upcoming school year. You must have a physical, parent permission form, proof of insurance form, and parent advisory form (AIDS/HIV) turned in to the coach or athletic director prior to tryouts. These forms are available in the main office or on the Calvert County Public Schools website.**

**All athletes must have protection insurance while participating in the school's athletic program. Student accident insurance (included in the student's first day folder information) is underwritten by United HealthCare Insurance Company. This insurance will provide protection for all sports except football.**

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Standard – A student must maintain a 70 percent GPA, with no more than one failing grade of less than 60 percent. Final grades of the previous year determine the GPA for the fall season. The overall GPA is not used for eligibility purposes.
- New Students – Students transferring in the Calvert County Public Schools system from another school district are accountable for their transfer grades. Note: New ninth grade students are automatically eligible until the end of the first marking period.
- Eligibility Period – The period of eligibility is from the date a report card is issued to the date the next report card is issued.
- Reinstatement – The athletic director or his/her designee verifies with teachers the numerical grades of a student who petitions for reinstatement on an interim date. A student must meet the standard (70 percent GPA with no more than one failing grade) in order to be reinstated.

*Fall sports* began on August 9<sup>th</sup> (Cross Country, Football, Girls & Boys Soccer, Field Hockey, Golf, Cheerleading, and Volleyball)

*Winter sports* begin on **November 15<sup>th</sup>** (Basketball, Cheerleading, Indoor Track, Swimming, and Wrestling)

*Spring sports* begin on **March 1<sup>st</sup>** (Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse, Track, and Tennis)

**2017-2018**  
**PATUXENT**  
**ATHLETICS**

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Parents, Family, Friends, and Spectators of Patuxent High School Athletics:

Patuxent High School is pleased to announce the availability of the **PANTHER ALL SPORTS PASS**. This card entitles you to admission to **ALL** 2017-2018 school year **HOME** regular season events (*does not include regional or state games*).

- A valid driver's license or school ID must be shown with the pass. If the name is NOT legible on the pass, it will not be accepted.

The funds help support our student athletes. Please note that **ALL** games will require an entry fee making the **ALL SPORTS PASS** an exceptional value.

**ALL SPORTS PASS** cards can be purchased at the Patuxent High School Finance Office. Call Mr. Powell, Athletic Director, at 443-550-8865 if you have any questions.

**..... THERE IS A LIMITED NUMBER OF PASSES – FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED .....**

Thank you!

Please make checks payable to: **Patuxent High School**

Adult #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Adult # 2 \_\_\_\_\_

PHS Student #1 \_\_\_\_\_

PHS Student #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Child #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Child #2 \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY DISCOUNT PLAN**

***Adult - \$100.00 each and \$65 for each additional pass***

***PHS Student - \$30 each***

***Child (ages 7-13) - \$20.00 each***

**There will be a \$25 replacement fee for lost cards.**

## Photographs and Videos of Students

Photographs and videos of students taken in school and at school events may be used in print and electronic media, including newspapers and the internet. This may include photographs and videos taken in classrooms, in other areas of the school building, and at events normally open to the public. Students may be identified by name in photograph captions.

Parents who do not want photographs or videos of their children used in print and electronic media should notify the school principal in writing by September 30th of each school year.

## **Screening System for School Volunteers – KeepnTrack**

Calvert County Public Schools will continue to use KeepnTrack for visitors and volunteers to sign-in and sign-out of all schools and facilities. All visitors and volunteers are required to sign-in at a designated computer with a driver's license or other approved ID. All visitors and volunteers will be scanned using the KeepnTrack screening system. KeepnTrack will compare information from visitors and volunteers against the National Sex Offender Registry. All visitors and volunteers will be screened each time they enter a Calvert County Public School or Facility.

Anyone wishing to volunteer in any of our schools or facilities will need to complete an online application at least two weeks prior to beginning service as a volunteer. Online applications are now available and can be accessed on [calvertnet.k12.md.us](http://calvertnet.k12.md.us) from any internet connection. If completing an application online is not possible, paper applications are available in all schools. Applications can only be submitted after the prospective volunteer has completed all parts of the application process.

Anyone wishing to serve as a chaperone for a field trip or special event must be an approved volunteer. Overnight volunteers must be fingerprinted to be able to participate. Thanks to our many volunteers who have already submitted their applications and been approved for volunteer service.

## **2017-2018 School Calendar Approved by Board of Education**

**The first day of school for all students will be Tuesday, September 5th. Graduation for Patuxent High School will be June 5, 2018 at 3:00 P.M. The last day of school for Calvert County students will be Friday, June 8, 2018. Schools will dismiss 2-hours early on June 8. The calendar for school year 2017-2018 includes five days for inclement weather. Days for inclement weather not used will be deleted from the calendar in June. In the event of more than five make-up days for inclement weather, additional days will be appended to the calendar beginning June 8, 2018.**

## **CLASS OF 2018**

Our school has contracted Prestige Portraits by Lifetouch as our "Official Yearbook Photographer."

If your son or daughter did not have their portraits done during the summer, you will receive an appointment card along with information regarding a variety of sitting levels in the mail about 2 weeks prior to make-up picture day.

**Senior make-up picture days are October 2nd and 3rd.**

### Recommended Supply List

3 inch binder for all core subjects	Ti-84 + graphing calculator – Algebra I
Loose leaf paper	Compass/protractor – Geometry
3 sets of dividers	Portable hole punch
Highlighters	Markers/colored pencils
Sticky notes	Pencils/pens
Book socks (sold by National Honor Society)	
Graph paper	Agenda/Assignment Book



**Nondiscrimination Statement**

Calvert County Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, ancestry or national origin, familial status, marital status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or genetic information or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:



- Director of Student Services
- Director of Human Resources  
443-550-8000

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the Office of Civil Rights Complaint Assessment System at: <http://ocrcas.ed.gov> or call 1-800-421-3481.

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**Anti-sexual, Anti-racial and Anti-disability Harassment Statement**

Discrimination can manifest itself in behaviors such as bullying, harassment, or intimidation of individuals.

Calvert County Public Schools does not tolerate any form of harassment including, but not limited to, sexual, racial, or disability. Any individual (student, employee, or community member) who believes that he or she has been subjected to any form of harassment is encouraged to report the allegation of harassment. Students, parents and community members may report allegations of harassment to:

Ms. Kimberly Roof  
Director of Student Services  
Calvert County Public Schools  
1305 Dares Beach Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Employees may report allegations of harassment to:  
Ms. Laveeta Hutchins  
Director of Human Resources  
Calvert County Public Schools  
1305 Dares Beach Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Calvert County Public Schools is committed to conducting a prompt investigation for any allegation of harassment. If harassment has occurred, the individual will be disciplined promptly. Disciplinary actions for students found to have engaged in any form of harassment may result in suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary actions for employees found to have engaged in any form of harassment may result in suspension or termination.

Calvert County Public Schools encourages all students, parents, employees, and community members to work together to prevent any form of harassment.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the Office of Civil Rights Complaint Assessment System at: <http://ocrcas.ed.gov> or call 1-800-421-3481.