

Pirate Press



Volume 9, Issue 1- July, 9 2026

PORTER RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



FAMILY OPEN
HOUSE
2026-2027

Friday, August 21- 12:00 to 3:00

Buy Spirit Wear

Walk Your Schedule

Pick up Parking Passes

Meet Your Teachers



Get
Transportation
Information



FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

Friday August 14: 1:30-3:00 PM

Parents Drop-off/pick up students in the PRHS stadium parking lot. This is a student only event.

--Walk your Schedule--

--Interactive Student Activities--

--Learn about PRHS--



Freshmen Encouraged to attend

We will send Parents a Registration link the last week of July

NEW TO PRHS?

SIGN UP FOR A NEW STUDENT TOUR:

LED BY STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

ON: 8/5 , 8/12 , 8/19
FROM 4-6:30PM



SIGN UP FOR A NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION MEETING:

LED BY THE PRHS COUNSELING DEPT

ON: 8/13 , 8/19, 8/20
TIMES AVAILABLE IN QR CODE



We have included some information for the start of the 2026-2027 school year... but there is more to come in late July



**ORIENTATION
DROP OFF MAP**



Back to School Information

- ❖ **Freshmen Orientation: Friday, August 14, 1:30 to 3:00 PM**
 - Drop students off at the student parking lot for interactive Orientation Activities, PRHS Procedures, and Schedule Review Pirates!
 - This is a student only event.
 - More Info to follow! Watch social media and upcoming newsletters!
- ❖ **Chromebook Distribution:**
 - Chromebooks will be distributed the first couple of days of school
 - Students who have paid their Technology Fee for the 26-27 school year will receive a chromebook during the school day.
 - More information on Chromebooks in the following weeks. Watch social media and upcoming newsletters.
- ❖ **Family Open House: Friday, August 21, 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM**
 - Grab your parents and come walk your class schedule from 12:00 - 3:00pm. Teachers will be on hand so that you can meet them. Club Fair displays will be up so that you can consider what extracurricular activities you may want to be involved in. Come join us!
 - Are you a new student in 10th - 12th grade? Stop by the main office for a tour guide who can show you where your classes are and answer your questions, along with the tricks of getting around the school!
- ❖ **Opportunities for Juniors and Seniors as Peer Tutors, Language Mentors, and Leadership Mentors**
 - We want to continue to support our community by expanding our programs
 - Interested Juniors and Seniors are eligible to apply. Students interested should email their counselor to let them know. More information will be coming out of social media soon! Students do earn course credit for this.
 - Interested Seniors can sign up to help co-advise a 9th or 10th grade Advisory as a Leadership Mentor
- ❖ **Parking Passes:** Information will come out in the next Pirate Press. Parking pass information, application, and payment system will open on Monday August 3r, and be posted on our website. In addition, we will have information about Seniors Parking Spot Painting.
- ❖ **School Starts Monday 8/24.** Students should be in their 1st period class by 8:10 am. Students can arrive at 7:45 or later. We recommend that if you are dropping your child off you are on campus by 7:45 as there will be traffic.



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Over the Summer we have had the FFA State Convention, the 24 hour musical for our theater students, the Little Pirate Cheer Camp, and our Wayfind Scholars attended camp at Wingate University. More to come from all aspects of student life, athletics, and band!





Rising Class of 2027 Senior Portraits

Dear Porter Ridge High Families,

We are excited to announce that Upstate Images has been chosen as the official senior photographer for the Class of 2027.

Senior portraits will be taken at the high school on August 3,4,5,6,7,10 and 11th. Scheduling a portrait session with Upstate Images is essential to ensure your child's inclusion in the yearbook.

To book a portrait session, scan the QR code or visit the Upstate Images website: <https://www.upstate-images.com/seniors>. Select the Carolinas when booking your appointment.

Yearbook Portrait Requirements:

- Formal head and shoulder photo on the traditional blue background
- Tux or drape attire (provided by the studio)

Sitting Options and Fees: *(Sitting fees are prepaid online when the session is booked.)*

- **Platinum:** \$55 sitting fee includes 25-30 images (traditional yearbook attire, cap and gown, three casual outfits, multiple backgrounds)
- **Gold:** \$40 sitting fee includes up to 20 images (traditional yearbook attire, cap and gown, two casual outfits, multiple backgrounds)
- **Silver:** \$25 sitting fee includes up to 15 images (traditional yearbook attire, cap and gown, one casual outfit, multiple backgrounds)
- **Yearbook Only:** Free session for those who need it. This includes four images in yearbook attire only. Call 1-855-773-3321 to book this session.

Rising Class of 2027 Senior Portraits

**CALL TODAY
OR BOOK
ONLINE**



What to bring:

Showcase your style! Bring props, instruments, sports gear, or outfits that reflect who you are.



After your session:

Gallery access within **24 hours!** Select your yearbook image, order packages, graduation announcements, and more!



Questions?

Our dedicated support team is here to ensure a seamless process for you. Please call **855-773-3321** with any questions.

[Click here](#) or on the ad for details.



PIRATE PARKING PASSES

Parking Passes go on sale starting Monday, August 3!

You must be logged in to your student UCPS Account to fill out an applications, and you must pay your technology fee and parking pass fee before the pass is distributed.

You can start at this link on August 3: <https://bit.ly/3SVQVfM>



[Click here](#) or on the ad for details.



Steps you must take Starting August 3

1. Fill out the PRHS Parking Application- Use the QR Code or this Link- <https://bit.ly/3SVQVfM>
2. Pay the UCPS technology fee of \$30 on Infinite Campus
3. Pay the \$60 for PRHS Parking Fee on Infinite Campus
4. Pay the extra \$60 fee for painting your parking spot online on Infinite Campus
5. Fill out the Senior Parking Painting Application and submit a Senior Painting Approval and Agreement Form (in the application)
6. You must have an approved parking space before your painting application will be approved.
7. Your proposal must be approved before you can paint and you must paint on the approved day and time.
8. Use the QR Code or go to this website for all posted information starting August 3.

Link to Transportation Information 2026-2027-
[Click here](#) for clickable links



Bus Riders



Request transportation for PRHS students who did not have bus service last year and needs it this year, please scan the QR code above to request transportation.

- Download and set up the EduLog App for bus information. Parents and students are encouraged to download and set up the app for real time bus information. You will need to add your student to the app using their student ID number and date of birth.

In the Edulog app, be sure to turn on Notifications. When the UCPS pushes out bus routes and bus information, you will get a notification and be able to see your students' bus details.

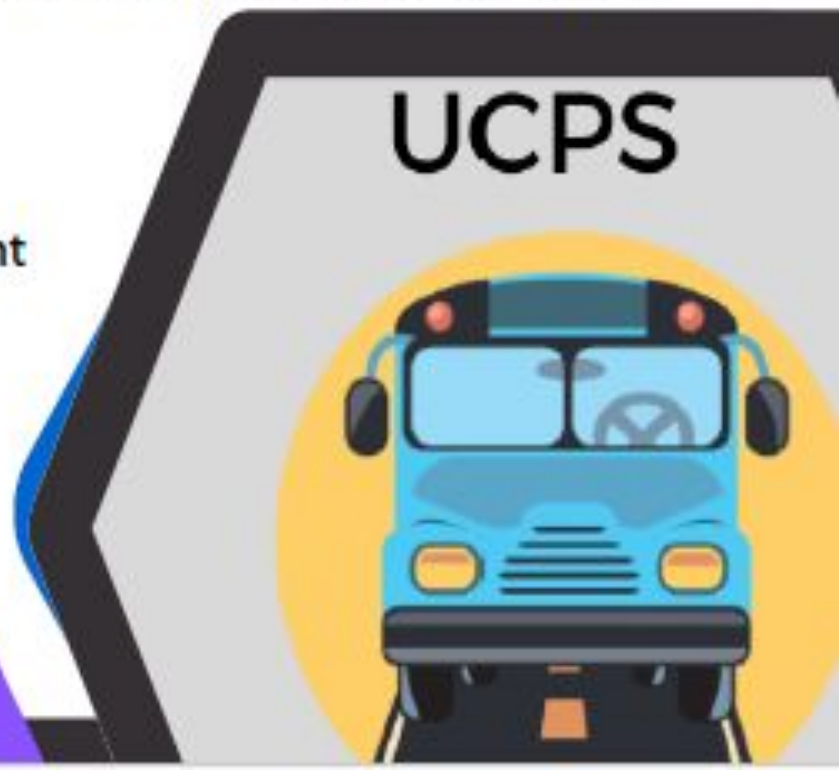
UCPS Service

✓ Transportation Department

[Website- CLICK HERE](#)

Request a Bus

[Website- CLICK HERE](#) or
call 704-296-3015



Link to Transportation Information 2026-2027-
[Click here](#) for clickable links

¿Necesita autobús?



Solicitud de transporte para los estudiantes de PRHS que no tuvieron servicio de autobús el año pasado y lo necesitan este año. Por favor, escanee el código QR de arriba para solicitar transporte.

Descargue y configure la aplicación EduLog para obtener información sobre el autobús. Al utilizar esta aplicación, usted podrá acceder a información en tiempo real sobre el autobús. Para completar el registro, necesitará el número de identificación del estudiante y su fecha de nacimiento.

En la aplicación EduLog, asegúrese de activar las notificaciones. Así recibirá las notificaciones que el condado envíe diariamente sobre las rutas.

UCPS Service

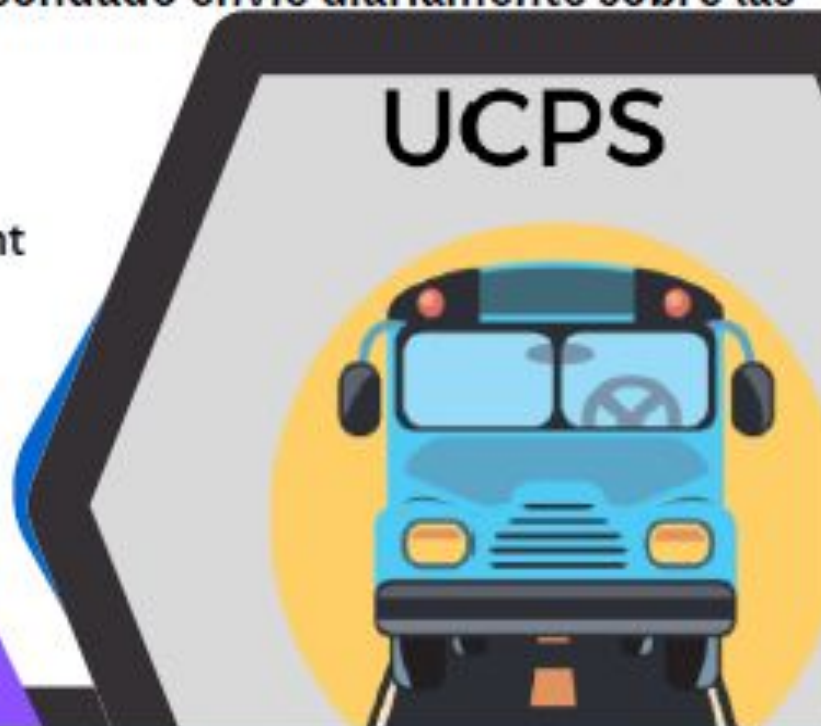
✓ Transportation Department

[Website- CLICK HERE](#)

Request a Bus

[Website- CLICK HERE](#) or

call 704-296-3015





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Free and Reduced Lunch

Apply for Free/Reduced Meals NOW

Breakfast + Lunch Cost for each student

= \$28 per week in HS

= \$27.50 per week in ES/MS

WWW.LUNCHAPPLICATION.COM

OR COME INTO YOUR SCHOOL

TO APPLY TODAY!!

Apply now to get approved prior to the first day of school. Students without approved free/reduced lunch status will have to pay for meals starting on Day ONE.

Students qualifying for Free Meals will have their \$30 Technology Fee waived – please bring approval letter to school office for waiver.

**CLICK THE
AD TO
APPLY**

**CLICK THE
AD TO
APPLY**

Aplique para comidas gratis/reducidas AHORA

Desayuno+Almuerzo Costo por estudiante

= \$28 por semana en HS

= 27.50 por semana en ES/MS

WWW.LUNCHAPPLICATION.COM

O VEN A NUESTRA ESCUELA

PARA APLICAR

Aplique ahora para obtener la aprobacion antes del primer dia de clases. Los estudiantes sin el estatus de almuerzo gratis/reducido aprobado tendran que pagar las comidas a partir del PRIMER DIA DE CLASSES.

A los estudiantes que califiquen para comidas gratis se les eliminara la tarifa de tecnologia de \$ 30, traiga la carta de aprobacion a la oficina de la escuela

Who is your counselor?

Ashley Lawson- last names A-Cou
ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Tanisha Anderson- last names Cov-Hek
tanisha.anderson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Bryan James – last names Hel-Mc
bryan.james@ucps.k12.nc.us

Cassidy Jarrett– last names Me-Sao
cassidy.jarrett@ucps.k12.nc.us

Alexandra Green– last names Sap-Z
alexandra.green@ucps.k12.nc.us

The counselors are here to support you with school. You can set up a meeting to speak to your counselor about academic, career, college, post high school plans or personal needs. If you have any questions please feel free to send your counselor an email.

PRHS COUNSELING NEWS

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**MRS. JARRETT IS OUT ON
MATERNITY LEAVE**

NEW COUNSELOR ASSIGNMENTS:

Mears to Nalley - Bryan.James@ucps.k12.nc.us

Nardi Gonzalez to Penki - Tanisha.Anderson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Pequeno Guerrero to Revels - Ashley.Lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us

Reyes to Santos - Alexandra.Green@ucps.k12.nc.us

**SCHOLARSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES-
CLICK HERE**

NEW TO PRHS?

SIGN UP FOR A NEW STUDENT TOUR:

LED BY STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

ON: 8/5 , 8/12 , 8/19
FROM 4-6:30PM



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ON: 8/13 , 8/19 , 8/20
TIMES AVAILABLE IN QR CODE



Career Plans

Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, NC Senate Bill 193 requires that all students in grades 6-12 have a career plan. A student's initial career plan will be created by the end of their 6th grade year and then revised annually through 12th grade. UCPS will utilize Major Clarity as the platform for students to create their career plan. This can be accessed by students through Clever. Parents are encouraged to review their student's career plan with them each year.

Required components of a Career Development Plan (CDP):

- Update to date Career Assessment
- Update to date Learning Assessment
- Pathway Selection
- Academic Course Planning
- Other items that may be included:
 - Resume, FAFSA Completion,
 - Post Secondary Plans,
 - Add activities, awards, credentials and test scores

Through assessments, academic planning, and exploration of careers and postsecondary options, students will develop a deeper understanding of their interests, skills, and strengths.

Porter Ridge High School is committed to guiding students through this process and will collaborate with them during Advisory and other meetings to ensure every student achieves full completion.

PIRATE ATHLETICS

2026-2027 ATHLETE REGISTRATION

PORTER RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

BEFORE YOU REGISTER

- ✓ USE YOUR EXISTING ARBITER ACCOUNT
- ✓ UPLOAD A CURRENT PHYSICAL (ALL 4 PAGES)
- ✓ COMPLETE ALL FORMS WITH YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN
- ✓ CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR APPROVAL CONFIRMATION

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- ⚠ DO NOT CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT
- ⚠ UPLOAD YOUR PHYSICAL AS ONE PDF DOCUMENT
- ⚠ PARENT & ATHLETE MUST SIGN SEPARATELY & IN CORRECT PLACES
- ⚠ STUDENTS MUST BE APPROVED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ALL PRE-SEASON WORKOUTS

SCAN FOR ARBITER
INFORMATION &
REGISTRATION



PIRATE ATHLETICS

PRHS Competition and Football Cheer Tryouts

Monday July 27
4:00 - 6:30PM - AUX Gym

Tuesday July 28
4:00 - 6:30PM - AUX Gym

Wednesday July 29
5:00-7:30PM - AUX Gym

Arbiter must be filled out with updated physical



PIRATE ATHLETICS

Porter Ridge HS Girls Volleyball Pre-Season Workouts Monday, July 13th

7:00am–10:30am

Meet at the Track

Bring Running Shoes, Gym Shoes,
Water, & Snack

MUST be APPROVED in Arbiter

**"HARD WORK BEATS TALENT
WHEN TALENT DOESN'T WORK"**

–Unknown

PIRATE ATHLETICS

[CLICK HERE OR ON THE AD FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

PR

PORTER RIDGE HS ATHLETICS

PR

FALL SPORT TRYOUTS



**July 27th-29th | 4:00pm
Aux Gym**



**July 29th-31st | 8:00am
Practice Soccer Field**



**July 29th-30th | 8:00am
Tennis Courts**



**July 29th-31st | 7:30am
Main Gym**



**You MUST have a current physical on
file & Approved in Arbiter (FamilyID)
before trying out**

PIRATE ATHLETICS

[CLICK HERE OR ON THE AD FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



PORTER RIDGE HS ATHLETICS



FALL SPORT TRYOUTS



**July 29th-30th | 7:30am
Track**



**Join SportsYou for More Info
Access Code: A2LQ-6K9Q**



**Join SportsYou for More Info
Access Code: 3BCF-DC4W**



**You MUST have a current physical on
file & Approved in Arbiter (FamilyID)
before trying out**

PIRATE ATHLETICS

Porter Ridge HS Women's Golf

Interested in Playing
Women's Golf in the fall

Join the Women's Golf
SportsYou



Access Code
A2LQ-6K9Q

Porter Ridge HS Girls flag football

Interested in Playing Girls
flag football in the fall

Join the Girls flag football
SportsYou



Access Code
3BCf-DC4W

PORTER RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

CROSS COUNTRY



RUN TOGETHER. PUSH FURTHER. FINISH STRONG.



PRESEASON
WORKOUTS START
JUNE 16!



ARBITER REGISTRATION
MUST BE APPROVED
TO PARTICIPATE.

JOIN THE SPORTSYOU GROUP
FOR ALL THE INFO!



ACCESS CODE:
EFHZ-AGXF



FOOTBALL

2026

2026 SCHEDULE

#1	8-21	VS. AL BROWN	7PM
#2	8-28	VS. AK	7PM
#3	9-4	@ W. FORSYTH	7PM
#4	9-11	VS. S. IREDELL	7PM
#5	9-18	@ CUTHBERTSON	7PM
#6	9-25	@ CATHOLIC	7PM
#7	10-2	VS. PIEDMONT	7PM
#8	10-9	VS. MARVIN RIDGE	7PM
#9	10-16	VS. WEDDINGTON	7PM
#10	10-23	*BYE*	-
#11	10-30	@ SUN VALLEY	7PM

PIRATE ATHLETICS



WELCOME Coach **Rose Palaschenko**

Coach Rose Palaschenko is a longtime runner with experience ranging from long sprints to distance running. She remains an active competitive runner, earning top finishes in races while continually setting new personal goals. Her passion for lifelong improvement allows her to lead by example, showing athletes that growth and achievement never stop.

As a coach, she is committed to helping athletes become stronger runners while also developing the character, discipline, and sportsmanship that extend beyond the running course. Coach Rose believes that success is measured not only by performance, but also by how athletes represent themselves on and off the course. Her goal is to foster a positive team culture where athletes learn to love the sport of running while embracing the competitive spirit that helps them reach their full potential.

PORTER RIDGE
HEAD CROSS COUNTRY COACH



WELCOME Coach **Marianne DiRupo**

PRHS is excited to welcome Coach Marianne DiRupo as our Head Flag Football Coach. Coach DiRupo has spent a lifetime competing at a level across multiple sports. A multi-time national bowling champion, PWBA Hall of Famer, and University of South Carolina softball record holder.

Coach DiRupo brings a deep understanding of athletic performance and the mindset required to excel in competition. This experience shapes a coaching approach centered on growth, resilience, and a genuine love of the game. She balances hard work with fun and pushes her athletes to their highest potential. DiRupo is passionate about helping athletes develop their skills, compete with purpose, and learn lessons that extend beyond the field.

PORTER RIDGE
HEAD FLAG FOOTBALL COACH



WELCOME Coach **Cameron MacKenzie** **PORTER RIDGE** **HEAD BASEBALL COACH**

A native of Royal Oak, Michigan, Coach Cameron MacKenzie developed a passion for baseball at an early age. As a standout player at Royal Oak, he established himself as one of the program's most accomplished hitters, setting the school's single-season batting average record of .541. Coach MacKenzie also remains the school's career leader in both batting average (.473) and on-base percentage (.565).

Following high school, Coach MacKenzie continued his playing career at Macomb Community College before transitioning into coaching, returning to his alma mater as an assistant coach for six seasons.

In 2022, Coach MacKenzie moved to North Carolina joining the Porter Ridge High School staff, serving as an assistant coach through 2024. After leaving Porter Ridge, he became the Head JV Coach and Program Hitting Coach from 2024 to 2026 at Hough High School. During his time at Hough, Coach MacKenzie was part of a Queen City 3A/4A Conference Championship team in 2025 and a Greater Charlotte 7A/8A Conference Tournament Championship team in 2024.

Welcome
Known for his passion for player development, hitting instruction, and building strong team culture, Coach MacKenzie brings a wealth of experience as both a record-setting player and championship winning coach. His commitment to helping athletes grow both on and off the field continues to be the foundation of his coaching philosophy.

PIRATE ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS COACHES

Sport	Coach	Email Address
Cheer	Ashley Lawson	ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us
Cross Country	Rose Palaschenko	rose.palaschenko@gmail.com
Flag Football	Marianne DiRupo	marianne.dirupo@ucps.k12.nc.us
Football	Michael Hertz	michael.hertz@ucps.k12.nc.us
Men's Soccer	Ron Ladimir	ron.ladimir@ucps.k12.nc.us
Women's Golf	Chessa Lee	chessa.lee@ucps.k12.nc.us
Women's Tennis	Tom McQueen	tjmcqueen@earthlink.net
Volleyball	Sarah Webb	sarah.webb@ucps.k12.nc.us

[Click here](#)
for Athletics
Registration

[Click here](#)
for the
PRHS
Pirate
Athletics
Website



Watch sports in our main
stadium and in our gym on
these websites- Subscriber
Sites- CLICK THE ICONS



For athletic event tickets [click here](#)
or on the GO FAN Icon ↓



[Click here](#) for the Porter
Ridge Athletic Boosters
Website



[Click here](#) for a list of all PR sports
teams and a link to their schedules



PIRATE ATHLETICS



**PORTER RIDGE ATHLETIC
BOOSTER CLUB**

**SPONSORSHIP
PACKAGES**

BRONZE \$250 1-3X5 STADIUM BANNER	SILVER \$500 1-3X8 STADIUM BANNER
GOLD \$750 1-3X8 STADIUM BANNER 1-3X5 BANNER LOCATION OF CHOICE	PLATINUM \$1000 1-3X8 STADIUM BANNER 1-3X5 BANNER LOCATION OF CHOICE SIGN/BANNER AT ALL PRABC EVENTS

**MULTI YEAR
AND
CUSTOMIZABLE
SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES
ARE AVAILABLE
CONTACT**
PRABCSponsorships@gmail.com
**FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

If you have any questions or would like to sponsor please email prabcsponsorships@gmail.com

When Coming to Athletic Events

- Only clear bags no larger than 4.5" x 6.5" are allowed in events/games.
- Students and children 8th grade and younger must be accompanied by an adult when attending events/games.
- All ticket sales will end at the mid-point of an event or at the beginning of halftime at games.

**DON'T FORGET PIRATE
GEAR IS ON SALE AT SOME
OF OUR ATHLETIC EVENTS.
CONTACT THE BOOSTER
CLUB FOR DETAILS- CLICK
HERE**



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Beginning of School Year Information

*In our next edition we will have our Back to School pages
on the PRHS website updated for info on.....*

Chromebooks- Distribution
Parent Portal- Infinite Campus
Pirate Advisory
Beginning of Year Forms
Attendance and Tardy Procedures
Clubs and Student Organizations
Parent Involvement and PTO
Schedule Corrections
Senior Gear
Pirate Passes to purchase for athletics





Ports of Information for Pirates

Our Website- Click Here- <https://prhs.ucpsnc.org/>

Athletics- Click Here- <https://www.porterridgeathleticzone.com/>

Follow us on Facebook: Porter Ridge High School, PorterRidgeHSNC

Follow us on Instagram: @porterridgehscnc

#Committed #InItTogether #WeRPR @prhsffa @porterridgefootball @prhs_pirates @prbandofpirates @prhs_volleyball @prhscounseling @pr_athletic_booster_club @prhs.running @prhsbaseball @prhs.beta.club @porterridgestuco @prhs_hosa @pr.nahs @prhs_interactclub @prhs.nhs @prhs.knittingandcrocheting @prhswomenslax @porterridgesoftball @ucpsnc @pmhs_afjrotc @prhs_castaways @prhs.draft.robotix @porterridgeswimming @prhspiratecheer @prhs_gsa_ @prhsw.tennis @pr_nehs @PRHS_Vocal_Treasures @prhsspeechanddebate @prhs_mha_saves @prhsfilmclub @prhspirates4christ @growinggreen_prhs @Prhs_pto @prguards @porterridgemenslacrosse @prhs.culinaryarts @porter.ridgewbb @ucpsncathletics @prhs_menssoccer @the.hook.student.media @prhs.rise @prhstaap @prhs_computer_science_club @prhs.sewingandupcycling @porterridgehoops @prhs.classcup @prhs.snhs @prhs_mvb @prhs_umoja @prhs_pickleball_club @porterridgewinds @porterridgekeyclub @lasuprhs @dermaglowsociety.prhs @fccla_porterridgehs @prhs.internationalclub @rhokappa.prhs @prhs_ varsitywsoc @prhsphilosophy @prhs_cookingclub @fashionclub_prhs

Follow us on X: @PorterRidgeHSNC (we post very limited info on Twitter)

Follow UCPS on Social Media- @ucpsnc on Instagram, @UCPSNC on X, and Union County Public Schools or ucpsnc on Facebook