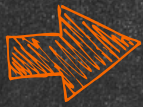


PORTRAIT OF A PANTHER:

Eleventh & Twelfth Grade



Typical students in grades 11–12 are emerging adults who demonstrate increasing independence, academic depth, and reflective thinking. They are preparing to transition to postsecondary education, careers, and civic life and benefit from learning experiences that are challenging, relevant, and empowering.



Academic Expectations

Core Literacy Skills: Students independently analyze complex literary and informational texts across disciplines, evaluating themes, arguments, evidence, and authorial intent. They synthesize information from multiple sources, assess credibility and bias, and engage in sustained academic discourse. Writing includes polished narratives, research-based arguments, and analytical essays that demonstrate clarity, voice, precision, and command of conventions. Students revise strategically and write for authentic audiences and purposes.

Core Math Skills: Learners apply advanced mathematical reasoning to algebraic, statistical, and modeling contexts. Depending on course pathways, students analyze functions, probability, statistics, and quantitative relationships, using mathematics to interpret data, justify decisions, and solve real-world problems. Precision, perseverance, and communication of reasoning are expected.

Interdisciplinary Knowledge: In science, students design and analyze investigations, apply scientific models, and evaluate evidence within biology, chemistry, physics, or environmental science contexts. In social studies, they critically examine historical and contemporary issues, apply civic reasoning, and construct evidence-based arguments related to government, economics, and global systems.

Learning Behaviors: Students are expected to manage long-term projects, meet complex deadlines, and demonstrate independence in planning, organization, and self-monitoring. College, career, and civic readiness skills—including research, collaboration, and professional communication—are emphasized.



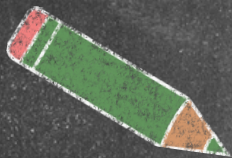
Social & Emotional Development

Self-Management: Students demonstrate increased emotional regulation and self-awareness, though stress related to postsecondary planning, academic demands, and life transitions is common. Learners benefit from support in goal-setting, balance, and wellness strategies.

Social Awareness: Adolescents show growing awareness of identity, equity, ethics, and social responsibility. Many students seek purpose and relevance in learning and value opportunities to contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Relationship Skills: Students navigate mature peer and adult relationships, demonstrating empathy, collaboration, and respectful communication. They increasingly advocate for themselves while recognizing the perspectives of others.

Responsible Decision Making: Learners reason through complex choices involving long-term consequences. While judgment is more consistent, guidance and reflection remain important as students prepare for independence.



Physical Traits & Development

Gross Motor Skills: Physical growth stabilizes for most students. Strength, coordination, and endurance support participation in athletics, work experiences, and daily responsibilities.

Fine Motor Skills: Fine motor skills are fully developed, enabling precision in writing, laboratory work, technical tasks, and creative pursuits.

Physical Growth Patterns: Most students have completed major pubertal changes, though individual variation in physical maturity and health continues.

Stamina & Activity Levels: Students manage sustained academic and extracurricular demands. Attention to sleep, nutrition, and physical activity supports overall functioning and well-being.



Cognitive Milestones

Attention & Focus: Students demonstrate sustained attention, particularly for self-selected or goal-oriented tasks. They manage competing priorities with increasing effectiveness.

Memory Development: Working memory and long-term retention support complex synthesis, strategic learning, and application of knowledge across contexts.

Reasoning & Problem Solving: Abstract, critical, and metacognitive thinking are well developed. Students evaluate arguments, analyze systems, and generate original solutions to complex problems.

Perspective Taking: Learners demonstrate sophisticated perspective taking, ethical reasoning, and understanding of societal and global implications of decisions.



Implications for Instruction & Support

- Provide rigorous, authentic learning tasks aligned to college, career, and civic expectations.
- Offer opportunities for choice, leadership, and real-world application.
- Maintain clear expectations and transparent assessment practices.
- Support postsecondary planning, self-advocacy, and wellness.
- Foster strong, respectful relationships that encourage independence while providing guidance.



**CENTRAL YORK
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Pursuing Excellence: All Panthers. Every Day. In All Ways.

