



Ponderosa High School

7007 E Bayou Gulch Road
Parker, CO 80134
Telephone: 303-387-4000
School Code: 061151
phs.dcsdk12.org



“Proud, Productive, Proven”

OUR SCHOOL

Accredited: 1984

Founded: 1983

School Type: A four-year comprehensive public high school
Location: Parker, southern suburb of Denver
Schedule: Two semester calendar
Accreditation: Colorado Department of Education
Enrollment: 1,447

PONDEROSA ADMINISTRATION

Principal, Ryan Hollingshead	rshollingshead@dcsdk12.org
Asst. Principal, Activities Natalie Garcia	njmunozgarcia@dcsdk12.org
Asst. Principal, Sean-Michael Pfeiffer	spfeiffer@dcsdk12.org
Asst. Principal, Ben D'Ardenne	bdardenne@dcsdk12.org
Dean, Seth Hughes	shughes1@dcsdk12.org
Athletic Director-Asst. Principal, Kristen Skirk	kshirk@dcsdk12.org

PONDEROSA COUNSELORS

Natalee Springer	A-CL	nspringer@dcsdk12.org
Julie Wright	CO-GL	jwright4@dcsdk12.org
Diane Guidroz	GO-LAS	dguidroz@dcsdk12.org
Pamela Cheeseman	LAT-O	prcheeseman@dcsdk12.org
Alicia Laughlin	P-SIL	arlaughlin@dcsdk12.org
Christy Kidd	SIM-Z	ckkidd@dcsdk12.org

[Counseling Website](#)

FACULTY AND STAFF

107 state certified instructors, counselors, professional staff and administrators. The majority hold Masters Degrees. There are 42 support staff member

ADVANCED PLACEMENT/COLLEGE COURSES

AP 2-D Art and Design	AP Macroeconomics	ACC English Comp
AP 3-D Art and Design	AP Microeconomics	ACC English Literature
AP Biology	AP Physics C: Mech	ACC Human Relation
AP Calculus AB	AP Pre-Calculus	ACC Infant/Toddler
AP Calculus BC	AP Psychology	ACC Intro to Business
AP Ceremics	AP Statistics	ACC Intro to PC Apps
AP Chemistry	AP World History	ACC Prin of Marketing
AP Drawing	AP US Government	ACC Spanish 1 & 2
AP Environmental Sience	AP US History	ACC Statistics
AP Human Geography	ACC Auto	ACC Trigonometry
AP Language & Comp	ACC College Alegebra	CTE Personal Finance
AP Literature & Comp	ACC Early Child Ed	CTE Intro to PC Apps

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

Ponderosa offers 25 varsity sports and is a member of the Continental League. Ponderosa has over 48 extracurricular activities ranging from service organizations to student-ionterst clubs. Students can earn a letter in academics, activities, athletics and community service. For a complete list of clubs and activities, please see our website: [Activities Website](#) and [Athletics Website](#)

GRADING SYSTEM

Grade	Unweighted GPA	Weighted GPA	Grading Scale
A	4.0	5.0	A = 90-100%
B	3.0	4.0	B = 80-89%
C	2.0	3.0	C = 70-79%
D	1.0	1.0	D = 60-69%
F	0	0	F = 0-59%

Weighted grade points are awarded for Advancement Placement, Concurrent enrollment- ACC courses, Honors courses receive a .5 weight. A=4.5

CLASS OF 2026

	Weighted GPA	Unweighted GPA
GPA Range	4.44-1.49	4.00-1.49
Top 10%	4.1	3.89
Top 25%	3.83	3.64
Median GPA	3.3	3.2

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A student must successfully complete a minimum of 24 credits in order to graduate from Douglas County School District . One half credit is equal to one semester.

Language Arts	4.0	Practical Arts	1.0
Social Studies	3.0	Fine Arts	1.0
Mathematics	3.0	Physical Education	1.0
Science	3.0	Elective Credits	8.0

COLLEGEBOARD AP TESTING

Year	2025	2024	2023	2022
Students Tested	329	338	292	293
AP Tests	536	525	475	489
Students with Scores 3+	268	259	214	223
AP Scholars	58	44	34	32
Ap Scholars with Honors	21	9	17	21
AP Scholars with Distinction	28	20	20	27
AP National Scholars	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
AP International Scholars	N/A	N/A	1	N/A

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

Scholars: 4
Semi-Finalists: 1

Finalists: 0
Commended: 0

POST SECONDARY PLANS

Class of 2026

Graduation Rate: 99%	Gap Year: 5%
Four-year college/university: 51.90%	Trade School: 7.2%
Two-year college: 10.1%	Workforce/undetermined post-graduation plans: 20.9%
Military: 4.9%	

The Class of 345 graduates demonstrated strong postsecondary readiness, with 62% enrolling directly in college and others pursuing military service, career training, gap year experiences, or workforce opportunities.

MISSION

The purpose of Ponderosa High School is to empower all students to become caring, contributing citizens who can succeed in an ever-changing world.

VISION

Ponderosa High School is dedicated to providing a positive educational experience for every student, ever family, every day.

CORE VALUES

Respect, Empathy, Kindness, Honesty, Responsibility, Accountaibility, Hard Work, Resiliency.