



ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES @ PGCC

Andria Nungesser, M.Ed., Principal | andri.nungesser@pgcps.org
301 Largo Road, Lanham Hall | Largo, MD 20774 | 301-546-7247 | www.pgcps.org/academyatpgcc

August 24, 2026

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! We are thrilled to welcome our students back to the Academy of Health Sciences @ PGCC. Our continuous goal is to prepare every student to earn both their high school diploma and associate degree, preparing students for long-term success. To achieve this, our academic focus will be centered on building critical thinking, mathematics, writing, and executive functioning skills.

As a reminder, our students complete six years of academic coursework in four years. Students take primarily high school courses during Years 1 and 2, transitioning to mostly college coursework during Years 3 and 4. Wrap-around support is provided in all classes, complemented by structured guidance through Enrichment (Years 1–2) and College Summit (Years 3–4). Attending the Academy of Health Sciences is a prestigious privilege—your child is in receipt of a full scholarship to earn an associate degree tuition-free, and we urge every student to fully embrace and take advantage of this life-changing opportunity.

Celebrating the 2025–2026 Academic Year

We are immensely proud of our students' achievements from this past year:

- **Academic & Graduation Success:** Achieved a 100% graduation rate (119/119 students), with 117 students earning their associate degree.
- **Scholarships & Honors:** The Class of 2026 earned over \$43.6 million in scholarships, including 12 full-ride scholarships (featuring Posse Scholars and a QuestBridge National College Match recipient attending Dartmouth College).
- **Grade Promotion & Testing:** 100% of Year 1–3 students were promoted, and we achieved a 100% pass rate on the English MCAP, Biology MISA, and LSN Government MISA, alongside a 7.9% increase in Math MCAP scores.
- **Competitions & Clubs:**
 - AHS Debate Team named *High School Debate Team of the Year*.
 - 13 STEM Fair winners advanced to the Prince George's County STEM Fair, earning top placements in Physics, Systems Software, Sustainable Materials, and Environmental Sciences.
 - PGCPS Math Competition winners: 1st & 3rd Place (Essential Division) and 2nd Place (Advanced Division).
 - 24 students earned the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy.
- **Program & Faculty Highlights:** Established chapters for the Science National Honor Society and National French Honor Society. Our French department was also awarded a \$3,500 FWLP Grant to build a dedicated Francophone library.
- **U.S. News & World Report Rankings:**
 - #3,080 in **National Rankings**
 - #60 in **Maryland High Schools**
 - #68 in **Washington, DC Metro Area High Schools**
 - #3 in **Prince George's County Public Schools High Schools**



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Essential Expectations & Operations for 2026–2027

- **Daily [Safety](#) & Dress Code:** All students must wear their school ID daily, follow the PGCPS dress code, and carry a clear backpack. Any secondary bags larger than a half-sheet of paper must also be clear.
- **[Bell Schedule](#):** We are transitioning to a **4-period schedule** this year. Check Synergy for individual class and room assignments. Students who cannot access their schedule should report directly to the Main Office on day one.
- **[PGCPS Supply List](#):** Students will receive a list of any additional supplies when they meet with their teachers and professors.
- **Attendance & Unexcused Absences:** Please submit absence notifications via the [SY27 Absence Reason Notification Form](#) within 3 days of a student's return. Unexcused absences—or forms submitted late—will result in a zero for any missed assignments or assessments.
- **Food Services & Deliveries:** Food deliveries for students are **not permitted**. [Meal menus](#), [payment portals](#), and [Free & Reduced Meals applications](#) (required for SAT fee waivers) can be accessed on the PGCPS website.
- **[Transportation](#):** Download the [Chipmunk App](#) and check the [AHS SY27 Bus Check-In Spreadsheet](#) for updates. Please use this site for [Transportation Help](#).
- **Communication:** Students should check their PGCPS/PGCC emails and Canvas accounts at least twice daily.
- **Monitoring Progress:** We strongly encourage parents to sit with their child at a minimum weekly to review Synergy, Canvas, syllabi, Owl Link, and transcripts.
- **College Communication Policy:** Per college guidelines, **only students** may communicate directly with PGCC professors. Parents may assist with drafting emails, but all correspondence must originate from the student's official PGCC email address.

Guidelines by Grade Level

Years 1 & 2

- **Calendar:** Follow the standard [PGCPS calendar](#), including winter/spring breaks and emergency closings.
- **College Classes:** Check Synergy and PGCC Owl Link. Tuesday/Thursday college classes begin **Tuesday, August 25**; Monday/Wednesday classes begin **Wednesday, August 26**. Textbooks will be ordered the week of August 25.
- **Physical Education Note:** Year 1 students enrolled in Fall PE must arrive at school wearing their athletic wear, as there will not be time to change before class.
- **Back-to-School Night:** In-person on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 6:00 PM**.

Years 3 & 4

- **Calendar:** Follow a [Blended PGCPS/PGCC Calendar](#). High school classes begin **Tuesday, August 25**. Students will follow the PGCPS Winter Break. During PGCPS Spring Break, students attend their PGCC classes and complete high school coursework asynchronously.
- **Grab 'N Go Meals:** Complete the [SY27 Meals Request Form](#) daily by 3 PM to indicate a need for breakfast and/or lunch. Students requesting a meal will be prompted to enter their PIN number upon pick up. Failure to pick up a requested meal will result in the requesting student's food account being charged.



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- **Transportation:** When PGCC is open but PGCPS is closed or releasing early, Year 3 and 4 families must arrange their own transportation.
- **Back-to-School Night:** In-person on **Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 6:00 PM.**

Immediate communication is critical to student success—please reach out to us as soon as questions or concerns arise so we can support your family effectively.

We look forward to an outstanding school year together!

Sincerely,

Andria Nungesser
Principal
AHS@PGCC Website