



November 2023 | Issue 1

Cougar

CHRONICLE

For The Parents, Students, Faculty, Staff & Community Of Countryside High School - Pinellas County, Florida

Mission:

At Countryside High School, we are committed to educate and prepare all students for career, college, and life.

Vision:

The vision of Countryside High School is 100% student success.



Area 1 Office

Area Superintendent:

Dr. Christen Tonry Gonzalez Ed. D

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Superintendent:

Kevin K. Hendrick

Countryside High School

<http://www.pcsb.org/countryside-hs>

Taylor Henderson, Principal

Main Office 727-725-7956

Main Office Fax 727-725-7990

Guidance Office Fax..... 727-669-1929

Assistant Principals

Lonnette Alexander, Brad Bernstein,

Erin Overall, Cynthia Ramos-Gonzalez

A Note From The Principal

Cougar Family,

Happy October and there is a hint of coolness in the air as we enter the second academic quarter of the year! This new quarter brings new opportunities to refresh academic goals and re-establish good habits for a successful finish to the semester. Countryside High School just completed a school-spirited homecoming week that included an outstanding fall festival, dress up days, a competitive pep rally, and a Hollywood-themed dance. It was a great celebration of our high school community which embraced the great traditions of our school here in year 45!

As we engage in the second quarter, our students will have the opportunity to master skills and standards that were missed in the first quarter. Our teaching staff has multiple formats for review of previously taught curricular standards including tutoring opportunities during lunch and after school in each content area. CHS also provides credit recovery each day in room G9 after school for students to attain missing credits in core academics. The second quarter is often the most successful academic quarter for academic performance as our students and staff adjust to specific learning styles. Please reach out to our school counselors or administration should you need any support for your Cougar.

Did you know that Countryside High School's iSTEM program is nationally recognized as a "School of Distinction" by the Model Schools of America? Our iSTEM programs boasts seven different technology strands for student study and holds 30 industry-level certifications that students can attain on campus. We are so proud of our current iSTEM teachers and students and look to another banner year in recruiting new students to our program. If your student is interested in pursuing iSTEM please contact Mr. Brad Bernstein or Mrs. Degarmo for application information.

The winter sports and activities program is also busy at CHS as we offer soccer, basketball, and wrestling. Our famed Drama Troupe 900 holds their fall production of "Spider's Web" this month. Our Golden Cougar Band of Pride is excited to once again be heading to the Bands of America competition in Orlando, and our choral program hosts their fall concert in the auditorium.

Thank you again for supporting our school and always supporting our Cougars. We hope that your student is off to a great start this year, and again, please do not hesitate to contact us if you need anything to assist them.

Go Cougars!

Taylor K. Henderson, Sr.
Principal



Cougar CHRONICLE

'Cougar CHRONICLE'
November 2023
Published Four Times a Year
Pinellas County School Board
301 Fourth Street SW
Largo, FL 33770
Issue # 1

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Change Phone/Email Contact Information

The school district needs accurate contact information to send parents phone calls and emails about:

- Emergencies or severe weather
- School or district events
- Special application opportunities

To update your phone and email address:

- Visit <https://reservation.pcsb.org> and log in with your parent username and password. If you do not have a parent ID or forgot yours, you can get help at any public school. Make sure to present a valid photo ID.
- Select the option: "Change Phone and Email Address Only"
- Enter your child's name and date of birth or student ID number and update your phone number and email address.

Things to Remember

PERMISSION TO LEAVE - If you know in advance that your student will need to leave during the school day, please provide a note to Student Services office or email with: Name of the student, grade level, why they are leaving, time they are leaving, and the phone number of the parent or legal guardian where they can be reached for verification.

We will provide a yellow permission-to-leave pass for your student. Please sign the yellow pass and have your student return it to the Front Office/Visitor Entrance when he/she returns to school. Please send in doctors' notes when students have had an appointment or seen the doctor or been in the hospital.

NO permission-to-leave passes will be granted over the phone.

ABSENCES - If your child will be absent, please, report it on our website at <https://www.pcsb.org/countryside-hs>, and click on the top right link "**Report Student Absence.**" Please include the following: **Student's Name, Date of Birth, Grade, Absence Date, and Reason.** If applicable, please attach any documentation to support the absence.

You may also call the school at (727) 725-7956 #2051 or email Ms. Perry at perrya@pcsb.org and let us know that your student will be absent. If there is no answer, please leave a message with the following information: Student's name, grade, reason the student will be absent, your name and relationship to the student. When the student returns, please send an absence note with the same information, and have your student deliver the note to Student Services. Also, please send in doctors' notes when students have had an appointment or seen the doctor or been in the hospital.

If your student is absent, you might still receive a phone call at the end of the day even if you have called to notify us. Please allow us 48 hours to get the attendance updated. If you know that your child is absent from school, there is no need to call the school.

For more information about the Pinellas County Attendance Policy, please visit <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/15059> on the Pinellas County Schools website www.pcsb.org. In addition, your student received the Student Code of Conduct booklet the first day of school where you will be able to find this information.



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Student Parking

Good afternoon parents & students:

This 2023/2024 school year Countryside High School will begin enforcing the need for students to purchase a parking pass to park on school property. In today's school environment, security is of the utmost importance. Our staff must be able to know whether a vehicle has a right to be parked on campus or if someone has entered the campus without permission. Students will be required to purchase the general parking permit for \$5. The basic parking placard, which will hang from the rear-view mirror, will allow staff to identify which vehicles do belong on school property.

The students will be given a grace period, till September 5th, to purchase the parking placard. After that there will be a progression of discipline. It will be as follows:

- **1st offense:** Written Warning (grace period to buy placard)
- **2nd offense:** A referral to their AP for inability to follow school rules.
- **3rd offense:** A referral to their AP and parking privileges revoked until parking permit purchased.
- **4th offense:** the vehicle will be booted (wheel lock). A parking permit would need to be purchased/arranged for when released.
- **5th offense:** The vehicle will be towed from the property, continuously towed until they purchase a placard. (Cost of the tow will be the responsibility of vehicle owner)

The placards can be purchased on Revtrak.com. Once purchased, your child will be able to get their placard from the SRO office.

We would appreciate your cooperation in complying with the parking requirements. If there are any questions, feel free to contact our SROs, Ofc. Comini and Ofc. Faulk.

Thank you,
Taylor Henderson
Principal



Driver Education Spring Semester

Anyone who is scheduled to take Drivers Ed in the Spring, there are some prerequisites that must be completed before the class begins:

1. Complete the TLSAE Drug and Alcohol Course online
2. Complete the Florida Learners Permit Test as well
3. Go to the DMV office and get your permit so that you can begin driving.

Any questions, come by H9 and meet Coach Scott Hernon and he will assist you.

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School Counselor's 101

Who is my School Counselor? By student's Last Names: A-G: Ms. Harris, email: harrisjul@pcsb.org; H-O: Ms. Parsley, email: parsleye@pcsb.org; P-Z: Ms. Santiago, email: santiagook@pcsb.org; and all ISTEM students: Mrs. DeGarmo, email: degarmoca@pcsb.org

Looking for Scholarships? Check out the latest postings on our school's website, the guidance bulletin board, or the binder in Mrs. DeGarmo's office. Learn more at: www.pcsb.org/financialaid

Bright Futures Scholarship – All students must submit volunteer / work site proposals for review & approval on Profferfish via Clever. Once approved, then students may upload their completed hours & reflection. The Bright Futures Scholarship application opens on December 1, 2023, for our seniors! Not only do you have to complete the BF scholarship application, but the FFAA one too.

Pinellas Education Foundation Scholarships – The PEF & Jump Start scholarships are now open for seniors, and the deadline to apply is Jan. 30, 2024. The foundation provides over 100+ scholarships that your student could be eligible for. Many are based on financial need.

SAT / ACT test fee waivers – You must apply each school year at: www.applyforlunch.com to see if you meet eligibility.

Important Dates:

- Semester 1 – Naviance required tasks need to be completed for all 9th-12th grade before then end of S1. Log into Clever to access your Naviance account and then search for Planner à Tasks
- 11/1 SPC FREE Application Day for our seniors. Come to the media center during your lunch time to apply. Bring your SS # and a copy of 2 forms of your parent's ID (i.e.: FDL, car registration, voter ID, etc.)
- 11/13 ASVAB Testing – Sign up to take the ASVAB in the media center.
- December – The new **Better FAFSA** Opens! Be on the lookout for FAFSA completion events throughout PCS high schools to help you complete the new Better FAFSA application. Learn more at: pcsb.org/fafsa

2023-2024 Countryside High School Edmentum Credit Recovery & GPA Enhancement



SUBJECT	COURSES AVAILABLE				
	Students who earned a D/F in a semester class				
ENGLISH	ENG 1	ENG 2	ENG 3	ENG 4	-
SOCIAL STUDIES	US GOV'T	WORLD HISTORY	US HISTORY	ECONOMICS	-
MATH	GEOMETRY	ALGEBRA 2	MATH FOR COLLEGE LIBERAL ARTS	MATH FOR COLLEGE ALGEBRA	MATH FOR DATA & FINANCIAL LITERACY
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY	CHEMISTRY	EARTH SPACE	ENVIRONMENTAL	PHYSICAL

Monday-Thursday from 2:00 until 3:00

(Report to the G8/G9 by 2:10)

Please see your school counselor to register for the after-school Edmentum program

SUBJECT	INSTRUCTOR (By appointment names subject to change)		
TUTORING ALL SUBJECTS	CONTACT THE STUDENT'S TEACHER VIA EMAIL (2:00-2:40) Or		
By Appointment	Mondays & Wednesdays	ELA/READING	grayjenn@pcsb.org, jettem@pcsb.org, denmonj@pcsb.org
By Appointment	Mondays & Wednesdays	SCIENCE	andersonali@pcsb.org, elseyv@pcsb.org
By Appointment	Tuesdays & Thursdays	MATHEMATICS	duesingm@pcsb.org, cooperti@pcsb.org
By Appointment	Tuesdays & Thursdays	SOCIAL STUDIES	schusterd@pcsb.org, jettem@pcsb.org
2:00-2:45	Wednesdays & Thursdays	ALL SUBJECTS	Media Center (Contact nguyenngh@pcsb.org)

Tutoring/Homework Help (No tutoring on the 4th Tuesday)



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2023-2024 Student Calendar

Date	School Info
Nov. 20, 2023 - Nov. 24, 2023	Thanksgiving holiday week – No school for students. (a) * November 20- 21, 2023 Possible hurricane make-up days)
Dec. 21, 2023	End of second quarter
Dec. 22, 2023 - Jan. 5, 2024	Winter holidays – No school for students
Jan. 8, 2024	All PreK-12 and postsecondary schools' classes resume. Second semester begins
Jan. 15, 2024	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No school for students
Feb. 16, 2024	No school for students. (a) *Possible hurricane make-up day)
Feb. 19, 2024	No school for students.
Mar. 8, 2024	End of third quarter
Mar. 11, 2024 - Mar. 15, 2024	Spring holidays – No school for students.
Mar. 29, 2024	No school for students.
Apr. 26, 2024	No school for students.
May 27, 2024	Memorial Day holiday – No school for students.
May 29, 2024	End of fourth quarter. Last day for all students. Students will be released two hours early.



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Athletics & Events

The 2023 Homecoming was a huge success! Special thanks to Student Government and all the students on the Homecoming Committee who participated in endless planning! Also, thanks to the SGA sponsor, Ms. Kissoon!

It's not too late to be invited to the Winter Field Day on December 15th! Special EARLY invitations to anyone who completes the fundraiser "Pick a Date to Donate" from September. You can STILL complete this prior to Dec 15th! Snap a pic or email Ms. Overall at overall@pcsb.org for an electronic version, post it to your social media, and ask your friends and family to donate!

Winter sports are in full swing, but it is not too late to join!

Basketball – Girls	Ashlin, Heather	Varsity Head Coach	ashlinh@pcsb.org
	Quiles, Clarissa	JV Head Coach	quilesc@pcsb.org
Basketball – Boys	Patterson, Dion	Varsity Head Coach	pattersondi@pcsb.org
	Crawford, Chris	JV Head Coach	crawfordchris@pcsb.org
Soccer – Girls	Leja, Allyson	Varsity Head Coach	lejaa@pcsb.org
	Hutchins, Kim	JV Head Coach	hutchinski@pcsb.org
Soccer – Boys	Navas, Diego	Varsity Head Coach	navasd@pcsb.org
	Mosher, Tanner	Assistant Coach	moshert@pcsb.org
Wrestling	Jefferies, Andrew	Varsity Head Coach	jefferiesa@pcsb.org
	Longano, Joe	Assistant Coach	

Spring sports will begin SOON!

Baseball	Morse, Steven	Varsity Head Coach	Mordest@pcsb.org
	Eby, Mike	Assistant Coach	ebymi@pcsb.org
Lacrosse – Girls	Byrnes, Trinity	Varsity Head Coach	byrnest@pcsb.org
Lacrosse – Boys	Lowdermilk, Dylan	Varsity Head Coach	lowdermilkd@pcsb.org
Softball	Bunday, Rebecca	Varsity Head Coach	Bundayr@pcsb.org
	Gannaway, Alice	Assistant Coach	gannawaya@pcsb.org
Flag Football	Pusateri, Tom	Varsity Head Coach	pusaterit@pcsb.org
		Assistant Coach	
Track – Girls	Shackton, Bill	Varsity Head Coach	shacktonw@pcsb.org
	Atherholt, Tony	Assistant Coach	atherholtm@pcsb.org
Track – Boys	Givens, Eileen	Varsity Head Coach	givense@pcsb.org
		Assistant Coach	
Tennis – Boys/Girls	Smith, Daniel	Head Coach	smithdan@pcsb.org

Student athletes: if you are planning to achieve at the next level, please see Ms. Overall for a special FREE membership card to CoreCourseGPA which is a college academic eligibility tool specific for Countryside athletes! National Signing Day is Wednesday, February 7, 2024 and we will have more news regarding our special signing day activity in the Auditorium on that date!

Any student who is interested in joining the swimming and diving team, please see Mr. Nguyen in C-2



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Countryside High Student Activities and Athletics



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SEPTEMBER 2023						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
BONUS DAY #1	BONUS DAY #2	BONUS DAY #3	BONUS DAY #4	BONUS DAY #5	1	2
3	4	5	6	7		
10	11	12	13	14		
17	18	19	20	21		
24	25	26	27	28		

HOW IT WORKS:

PICK THE DATE THAT CORRESPONDS WITH HOW MUCH YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE AND LET ME KNOW SO I CAN CHECK OFF THE DATE!

EX: SEPT 2 = \$2 SEPT 15 = \$15 SEPT 30 = \$30


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Celebrate our Biology Superstars!

The Countryside Biology I Team would like to recognize some of our Biology I scholars for their outstanding job on our Cycle 1 Assessment/. The following Biology 1 Honors students scored in the top 15% of their respective courses. The bolded/ underlined names below also scored a perfect 100% on the assessment. We are extremely proud of EVERY Biology I student's hard work and perseverance throughout this vastly different school year. We are all determined to push through this next semester to show why our CHS Biology students are the best in Pinellas County! Thank you to all those supporting these scholars!

Abbey Kuespert	Gabriela Mrsic	Madelynn Theiss
Abigail Domyan	Isabelle Delleart	Michael Braden
Abigail Frey	Jackson Walls	Michelle Truong
Aliana Richards	Jacob Villalta	Mousa Sulaiman
Andenise Preston	Javon Lawhorn	Nicol Guerrero Nino
Angel Babalola	Jayla Boyette	Nola Mahon
Anna Niemczewski	Jillian Harris	Oliver Engleman
Anthony Aguirre	Joash Hutchinson	Rico Miranda
Ashley Quiterio-Catarino	John Sullivan	Riley Harkins
Benjamin Hill	Joseph Msharka	Samuel Solone
Buck Bauer	Joseph Sanders	Spryo Konstantatos
Caden Scott	Juan Rodriguez Funes	Tobias Barnett
Chanarong St. John	Kevin Bowyer	Toby Cash
Daniel- Frank Tauchnitz	Kirk Bowerman	Tyler Trendelman
Eloise Toy	Lilia Fagot	Uriah Vega
Emerson Rittenhouse	Lily Bahm	Yevgen Fenoga
Emersyn Moore	Lucine Lintzenich	Zoe Brown



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- College exploration and match
- Application development and submission
- SAT/ACT preparation resources
- College Fair and admission events
- Financial and scholarship planning
- Essay preparation and review
- Volunteer opportunities

Scan the QR code to contact your College and Career Readiness Coordinator!



Class of 2024

Ready to Start Your Journey?

Follow these steps when you are preparing for your post-secondary journey. Each activity below will get you one step closer to your goal.

Don't forget to stop by the COLLEGE and CAREER CENTER on campus if you have additional questions. We are here to help!

Common Application
www.commonapp.org
 *Don't forget to connect to Naviance

FAFSA - Free Application
www.studentaid.gov
 *Have your SS# handy when completing

Bright Futures Application
www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org
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Pinellas Education Foundation Scholarships
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Student Body President

Hey, Countryside High School!

I am so honored to serve as your 2023-2024 Countryside Student Body President this year! This role means a lot to me, and I am so glad I get the opportunity to highlight my love for leadership and this high school. My first day at Countryside was one of the scariest days of my life; covid had just started settling down, and my first year was something I never could've imagined, but as time progressed and through the connections I have made and the teachers I have met, they have been able to help me through it all. Having had this incredible support system throughout my high school career, it turned my first day from being scary to my last first day being memorable. I am so appreciative of all my teachers and the faculty for making my experience at Countryside one I will never forget! My time at Countryside has been filled with so much fun; but one thing I will hold onto after senior year is the people I have met through the clubs I have been in. Most of my time has been spent in clubs, such as Marine Biology, Florida Future Educators of America, Spanish Honor Society, and my favorite of all Student Government! I joined student council in sophomore year, and ever since then I have fallen more in love with every role I have represented. As my time at Countryside is coming close to an end, one thing I want to leave the freshman class this year with is a quote from one of my favorite artists to ever exist, "I know it can be really overwhelming figuring out who to be, and when. Who you are now and how to act in order to get where you want to go. I have some good news: It's totally up to you. I also have some terrifying news: It's totally up to you." (Taylor Swift). I am looking forward to all the fun things we have planned this year and the many memories we will be able to create. Go Cougars!

Your Student Body President, Marisela Rivera

CHS FBLA Club is Off to a Rockin' Start in 2023!

When it comes to leading by example, CHS FBLA officers had the opportunity to team build with other schools across the PCS District at Outdoor Empower Adventures. Officers were on their toes to beat the clock & race to the finish in a highly competitive environment. The new student officer team at Countryside is already off to a rockin' start in the 2023/2024 school year with club events, socials, community service, fundraisers & more. The CHS FBLA Officer team includes: President Milanna Brookins, Vice President Ryan Rocco, Treasurer Jeffrey Chen, PR Manager/Communications Syd Youran, Secretary Madeleine Lile-Delfino, Historian Nathan Graff, and Parliamentarian/Graphic Designer Jhoanna Pioquinto.

For more info on this fast-growing, student led club, reach out to Advisor Ms. Julie Yaeger in A-1, at yaegerj@pcsb.org, or just ask one of the officer team & club members!



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Quarter I Highlights

Countryside High Student Volunteers Shine at 10/2/23 CHS College & Career Fair

Energy & excitement was high as our CHS Student Ambassadors & FBLA Club Members teamed with CHS staff and the Cougar Career Center team of volunteers to prepare & set up for the 15th Annual College & Career Fair hosted on campus. In fact, that wasn't all the students did! They recruited teen volunteers, welcomed guests, helped with tear down & escorted 140 exhibitors to their tables. The combined community service hours earned by our team of 43 student volunteers exceeded 129 hours.

These young professionals contributed to the success of this annual prestigious event endorsed by Florida Tours, created fifteen years ago by the Cougar Career Center volunteer team. The result was a highly attended successful venue, with top scoring in the 90% percentile by exhibitors & attendees. A HUGE thank you goes to all CHS student volunteers, FBLA Club, CHS staff, Principal Taylor Henderson, and Volunteer Career Center Director Kathleen Lamb.



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French News

This October 4th, two new members were welcomed into the French Honor Society! Congratulations to Cian C. and Isabelle D.! The next round of applications to the French Honor Society will be in January 2024.

The Société Honoraire de Français - SHF is an honor society for high school students enrolled in French and is sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. The French Honor Society of Countryside was founded in spring 2022. Madame Bogdani is the advisor. The purpose of the society is to recognize high achievement of high school students in the French language and to promote a continuing interest in Francophone studies. It is the highest recognition for French students.

- **The French Honor Society** will meet on the following dates: 8/31, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7, 1/11, 2/1, 2/29, 4/4, 5/2
- **The French Club** will meet on the following dates: 9/21, 10/19, 11/16, 12/7, 1/25, 2/22, 3/21, 4/25
- National French Week: November 1st to November 8th - French Language Students will be celebrating National French Week! Purchase your French shirt today during 1st lunch or after school!



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Your advertisement helps fund the newsletter and at the SAME TIME your business gets community recognition and exposure.

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Watch PCS Sports

In a partnership with The Identity Tampa Bay and NFHS Network, Pinellas County Schools families will now be able to watch district high school sporting events from their homes or mobile devices. This partnership has allowed for the installation of 32 automated cameras at all 16 district high schools.

For unlimited access to live and on demand content from the NFHS Network, fans can visit NFHSnetwork.com, search for their desired school, and subscribe. There is a Monthly Pass for \$10.99 a month which can be canceled at any time. There is also a \$69.99-yearly pass that is billed for 12 months at \$5.83 monthly.

In addition to the NFHS Network subscription option, The Identity Tampa Bay will broadcast multiple games per week as part of this cutting-edge partnership. All games broadcasted on The Identity Tampa Bay will be free to the viewer.

Only football and volleyball games will be broadcasted this fall. The fall viewing schedule will be released soon.

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