

The background features a circular logo of a tiger's head, rendered in shades of purple and blue. The tiger is depicted with its mouth open, showing its teeth, and has a confident, slightly smug expression. The logo is centered on a solid purple background.

Palisades High School

**Freshman and New Student
Orientation
2024-2025**



Principal Olejarczyk

- 21 years in education
- Born & Raised in Cleveland, OH
- Entire Career in CMS, served Steele Creek for more than half of my career
- Science teacher
- Rugby and football coach
- Loves sports, fitness and music
- Father of 2

Agenda

PHS Vision and Mission

Student Expectations

Policies and Procedures

Palisades Mission

Palisades High School strives to empower students to grow into resilient, empathetic, life-long learners within a safe, inclusive and diverse community.



We strive for excellence through a rigorous curriculum and relevant experiences.



All stakeholders collaborate to develop our students into responsible, kind and community-minded leaders who are prepared and empowered to take well informed risks and make a positive impact on the world.

Vision

Our vision at Palisades High School is to develop independent, confident critical thinkers with a skill set to adapt to the rapidly changing world as engaged citizens, by maximizing their potential and using the knowledge gained for life beyond high school.

Our Core Values

Accountability



Integrity

Team Work

Equity



Perseverance

At Palisades we strive to/for...

- Excellence in all facets of our being
Academics, Art, Athletics
- Students to reach their full economic potential
- Challenge all students with rigor and aligned curriculum
- Hire and retain the best staff in Charlotte
- Be a premier educational institution in Charlotte, North Carolina and the United States





Mr. O



Ms. Dix



Ms. Pearson

Grade Level	Name	Email
Principal	Principal Olejarczyk	erikm.olejarczyk@cms.k12.nc.us
12th	AP Danielle Dix	danielle.dix@cms.k12.nc.us
11th	AP Alysse Pearson	alyssem.pearson@cms.k12.nc.us



Ms. Adams



Mr. Lamb



Ms. Wilson

Grade Level	Name	Email
10th	AP Tamarla Adams	tamarla.adams@cms.k12nc.us
9th	AP Jonathan Lamb	jonathan.lamb@cms.k12.nc.us
9th	Dean Coretta Wilson	coretta.wilson@cms.k12nc.us

Student Expectations

- Attendance
- Dress Code
- Personal Devices
- Graduate on Time



Arrival and Dismissal Times

Arrival	Dismissal	Early Dismissal
6:45-7:15AM	2:15PM	Before 1:15PM

Daily Class Attendance is Mandatory

- Class attendance is taken daily
- Students are allowed **10** unexcused absences per class
- Lockout is an unexcused absence
- **11** or more unexcused absences results in a **F** for the class

After 7:30AM

After 7:30AM

- Student reports to lockout for the remainder of first block
- Parent is notified
- Student is expected to work on class assignments and adhere to rules of the Lockout Room
- Students are marked as an unexcused absence

Transition to Classes

LATE is an Unexcused ABSENCE

- **Students have 7 minutes to transition to classes.**
- (1 min. warning)
- Teacher doors are closed after the late bell
- Students should report immediately to lockout if not in class when the tardy bell rings
- Failure to report immediately to Lockout will result in consequences.
- Students sit in lockout for the duration of the class
- Parents are notified of student lockouts
- Failure to report immediately to Lockout will result in consequences

Hall Passes and Restroom Policy

- Hall passes are required at all times when not in class.
- No passes are granted 15 min. after the tardy bell and 15 min before transition.
- No restroom passes are issued the first 15 minutes after lunch.
- Restrooms are open on all three floors.
- Closed restrooms should not be accessed at any time.
- All restroom are monitored by staff.
- Abuse of restroom breaks have consequences.



Dress Code

CMS District Dress Code

- Shirts must cover the entire upper body (when arms are raised)
- Graphic shirts & shoes must be appropriate (No abusive language, slogans, illegal drug symbols)
- Pants must cover the lower portion of the body (tears should be a minimum of skin exposure and not show upper thigh)
- Skirts and dresses must cover mid-thigh
- No hoods, masks, hats, shades, etc. preventing identification
- No pajamas, loungewear, bedroom slippers, blankets, stuffed animals
- No Bodysuits, Onesies
- Address clothing or sit in ISS





Behavior Expectations

Student Behavior

- All students are expected to adhere to the policies and procedures included in the the CMS Code of Conduct as well as PHS policies and rules.
- Failure to to adhere can and will lead to consequences written the CMS Code of Conduct and PHS Discipline Matrix.

Discipline and Long-term Loss of Privileges

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. It is the policy of Palisades High School that student behavior, including conduct that constitutes a violation of criminal law, board policy and/or school rules, shall be considered in determining eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities at Palisades High School.

A student at Palisades High School shall be ineligible from participation in extracurricular activities under the following circumstances:

- Felony Charges
- Misdemeanor Charges
- Out-of-School Suspension
(5 or more days)
- Other Misconduct



Personal Technology Devices



Cell Phone & Electronics Policy



- According to CMS policy, the district is not responsible for theft, loss, or damage to PTDs or other electronic devices brought onto CMS property.
- Students are not to charge PTDs at any point during the school day.
- **Cell phones** are collected and stored in each class and redistributed at end of class
- Students may not use their cell phones, at any time, to make phone calls, record incidents/fights.
- **No earbuds and bluetooth speakers** are allowed during the official school day between 7:15AM -2:15PM.



Cell Phone Consequences



Failure to turn in mobile devices at the start of class results in consequences that may include:

- Warning
- Loss of phone for a block, day
- Administration collection of phone
- Parent pick up
- Referral
- ***3 day Out of School Suspension***



**Palisades High School
Student Services**

Counselors-

Located in the Main Office

Alpha	Counselors Name
A-Cer & Str-To	Ms. Sandra Kindell
Ces-Gon & Tr-Vil	Ms. Tegan Rivers
Goo-Lee & Vim-White	Ms. Teia Coleman
Leep-Nun- & Whitt-Z	Mr. John “Jack” Lapham
Nunn-Sto	Ms. Rachel Brand (Mrs. Stone starting 9/14)
504 support (9-12)	Ms. Jenee Johnson

Student Services Team-

Located on the 2nd floor

Support	Name
Social Workers	Mr. Howard Estell (full time) & Ms. Raquel Williams-Castro (part time)
School Psychologist	Ms. Ashley Carlucci
Attendance/Drivers Ed certificates	Ms. Leila Paige

Promotion Standards

Promotion Standards

9th to 10th: 6 credits

10th- 11th: 12 credits

MUST include Math 1,
English 1, English 2

11th-12th: 18 credits

Graduate on Time

All 24 required credits

+ CPR approved

Schedules

- Schedules will be made available to students in PowerSchool on August 20
- Schedule change requests can be submitted for the following reasons only:

Reason 1: Student has been placed in a course for which they have already received credit.

Reason 2: Student has passed their summer course(s) and updated schedule needed

Reason 3: Student is missing a course needed for graduation

Reason 4: Course drops should be made only for the welfare of the student and in compelling circumstances that are beyond the control of the student or his or her parents. A doctor's note must be provided to the counselor

Students must complete the schedule change form for consideration.

Form link & QR code will be SHOWN during HR August 26-30th.

Deadline: August 30th at 2:30pm

EMAILS TO COUNSELORS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Connect with Us

Visit our
Counseling
Website



Follow Us on Social
Media



Palisades High Student Services



@Palisades_high_studentservices

Quick
Reference
Guide





College and Career Readiness

AVID Program

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a college readiness system and class taken each year at Palisades High School that assists students in preparing to meet the demands of university requirements and to successfully graduate from college.

Students in AVID take the Honors AVID Elective Class each year they are in high school. The skills and knowledge learned and utilized will allow them to become

- independent,
- confident,
- self-driven and
- highly collaborative students

which is necessary for college access and completion and beyond.



An application is required to enroll in this course.

Students in the AVID Elective learn about and are taught WICOR strategies. These strategies are essential for helping students strengthen their academic skills that are necessary for college and career access.

Collegiate Academic Access Strategies: WICOR

Writing

- Focused Note-Taking Systems
- Writing to Learn Strategies
- Process Writing
- Authentic Writing
- Research Writing
- Self and Peer Evaluations

Inquiry

- Skilled Questioning and Thinking Techniques
- Questions that Guide Academic Research Methods
- Socratic Seminars
- Philosophical Chairs
- Investigations
- Tutorials

Collaboration

- Collaborative Study Groups
- Tutorials
- Philosophical Chairs
- Group Activities and Projects
- Peer Editing Groups
- Service Learning Projects and Community Service

Organization

- Focused Note-taking System
- Tutorials, and Study Groups
- Project Planning and SMART Goals
- Organizational Tools
- Time Management Systems



Reading

- Deep Reading Strategies
- Focused Note-Taking
- Vocabulary building
- Summarizing
- Reciprocal Teaching

For more information, please contact Tracy Forst, AVID Site Coordinator: tracy.forst@cms.k12.nc.us



Cambridge Program

Cambridge is an **accelerated academic program** that gives students the ability to concentrate on their strengths and explore more deeply academic content while preparing for college and life. Students have the opportunity to earn college credit as well as an International Diploma.

Through these components, our purpose as a Cambridge School is to help our students develop into people who can do the following:

- **Think critically** by analyzing ideas and issues through local, national and global perspectives
- **Problem solve efficiently** by synthesizing what they learn about new ideas, issues and concepts
- **Communicate effectively** by evaluating perspectives-- written and spoken communication--through exploring print and digital media

Cambridge courses are open to all students; *students who obtain a C or higher in their core classes may elect to enroll in Cambridge classes.*

There is no application requirement.

Coordinator: Tracy Forst (tracy.forst@cms.k12.nc.us)



IGCSE Courses:

(International General Certificate of Secondary Education)

"Honors" classes that students take to prepare them for advanced Cambridge courses.

- IGCSE English I
- IGCSE English II
- IGCSE Math 2 or
- IGCSE Math 3
- IGCSE Biology
- IGCSE Chemistry

9th Grade Classes

CIE (AS) Level Courses/COLLEGE CREDIT COURSES:**

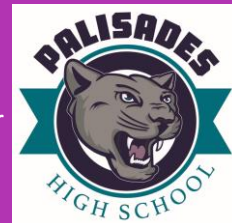
(Cambridge International Education; Advanced Subsidiary)

Advanced Cambridge courses students take in 4 areas: English, Math, Science, and Humanities. Students choose which courses they want to take.

- CIE English General Paper AS
- CIE Thinking Skills AS
- CIE Environmental Management AS
- CIE English Language AS
- CIE Global Perspectives & Research AS
- CIE Mathematics AS
- CIE Psychology AS
- CIE Marine Science AS
- CIE English Literature AS

10th-12th Grade Classes

** AS courses are courses that students can get college credit for when you pass the AS exams.



Cambridge 101



What Makes a Student a Cambridge Student?
They are students who...

- ★ are self motivated.
- ★ work collaboratively and independently.
- ★ value the process of investigation.
- ★ want to push themselves to the next level.
- ★ earned a C or better in their coursework last school year.

Why Cambridge?

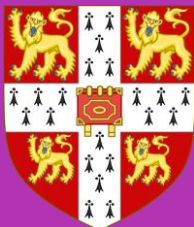
- ★ It helps schools establish a culture through the Learner and Teacher Attributes.
- ★ Establishes best practices in the classroom through pedagogy and examination methods.
- ★ Helps develop an international perspective and develops students into Global Citizens.
- ★ Raises the rigor in classes.
- ★ Allows students the opportunity to earn college credit



Cambridge Assessment
International Education

Cambridge International School

Learn More



HOWARD
UNIVERSITY



Cambridge in CMS (QR Code!)

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/>

<https://www.avid.org/>



Contact Tracy Forst, Academic Programming Facilitator
Cambridge & AVID Site Coordinator, Palisades High School

tracy.forst@cms.k12.nc.us

980-343-0878





Career & Technical Education Department

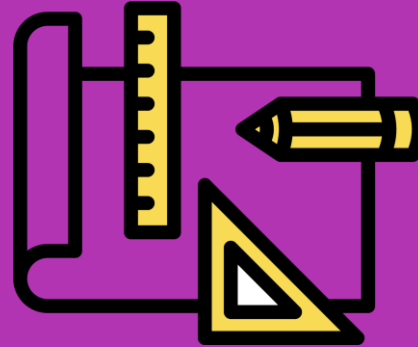
PHS CTE Leadership Team

- Ms. Tia DesChamps-Turner (Ms. D-T)
 - ◆ Instructional Facilitator (IF)
- Mrs. Kristen Poarch
 - ◆ Pathway Development Coordinator
- Mr. Mike Realon
 - ◆ Career Development Coordinator (CDC)





PHS CTE Pathways



PHS CTE Pathways

Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering

Level 1: Intro to Engineering Design*

Level 2: Principles of Engineering

Level 3: Computer Integrated Manufacturing*

Certifications: OSHA-10 Hour

Digital Marketing

Level 1: Marketing

Level 2: Marketing II

Level 3: Digital Marketing

Certifications: ASK (Assessment of the Skills and Knowledge of Business)

Financial Planning

Level 1: Business Essentials

Level 2: Financial Planning I

Level 3: Financial Planning II

Sports & Event Marketing

Level 1: Sports & Event Marketing I

Level 2: Sports & Event Marketing II

Level 3: Sports & Event Marketing II

Architecture & Engineering

Level 1: Honors Drafting I

Level 2: Honors Drafting II

Level 3: PLTW: Civil Engineering & Architecture

Certifications: Autodesk Revit User Certified, Autodesk Inventor User Certified, SolidWorks

PHS CTE Pathways (cont.)

Nursing Fundamentals

Level 1: Health Science I

Level 2: Health Science II

Level 3: Nursing Fundamentals

Certifications: Nurse Aide I, CPR Provider, OSHA General

Graphic & Digital Design

Level 1: Introduction to Adobe Applications

Level 2: Adobe Visual Design I

Level 3: Adobe Video I

Certifications: Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator and Adobe Premier

Entrepreneurship

Level 1: Honors Entrepreneurship I

Level 2: Honors Entrepreneurship II

Software Development

Level 1: AP Computer Science Principles

Level 2: Python I

Level 3: AP Computer Science A

Certifications: Microsoft Technical Associate: Data Fundamentals, Microsoft Technical Associate, Software Fundamentals

Project Management

Level 1: Honors Project Management I

Level 2: Honors Project Management II

CTE Career and College Opportunities at PHS

Point of Contact: Ms. D-T and Mrs. Poarch

- **PAID** Apprenticeship opportunities with community business partners such as:
 - Groninger
 - Montes Electric, Inc.
 - Siemens Energy
 - And MANY MORE
- CMS Career and College Promise Dual Enrollment at Central Piedmont Community College
 - Career and College Promise Dual Enrollment gives North Carolina high school **juniors and seniors** the opportunity to get a "jumpstart" on college.

Technology

Technology Facilitator



Personal Computers

- Students may only use a CMS Chromebook at school.
- Leave your personal device at home!

Expectations

- **No expectation of privacy on school device**
- **Follow CMS Code of Student Conduct and Acceptable Use Agreement**
- **Misuse - at school or home - can result in suspension of account, collection of device, administrative discipline, and/or referral to authorities.**

Oops...I broke it

CMS Damage Fee Structure:

- Replacement Charger: \$10
- Damage (Repairable): \$15
- Total Loss: \$50

Outstanding charges can result in collection of device

Personal Computers

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Chromebook Distribution

Distribution:

- Orientation
- Open House (Aug 20th 5-7PM)
- Other days posted on ParentSquare & School Website
 - Mon 8/19 - Thurs 8/22
 - 10AM - 2PM

All others first 2 weeks of school during Homeroom



HEADLINES & FEATURES



Pay My Tech Fees

Technology Fees



- Any fees owed from the previous school year must be paid to receive a device.
- Fees travel from school to school



Chromebook Usage

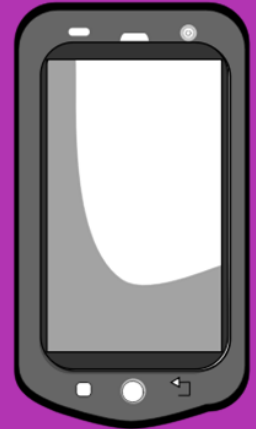
- YOU are responsible for YOUR device.
- Bring chromebook to school daily.
- Charge the device nightly.
- Do not share your device.
- Use chromebook responsibly. There is not privacy on your device.
- Abuse of the chromebook will result in: fine, removal of chromebook and additional consequences.
- Broken or lost devices and chargers should be reported and replaced immediately.

PHS 2-way Communication

- Parent/Guardian/Emergency Contact Information
- UPDATED in POWERSCHOOL includes email and working phone numbers

How we communicate with parents and students

- In-person
- Phone calls
- Email
- Parent Square
- Student Square
- Connect Ed
- Download Parent/Student Square

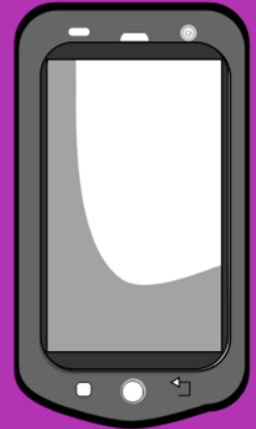


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Traffic Flow & Parent Drop-off

JROTC Instructor:
JROTC Instructor:

Car Riders and Cars on Campus

SAFETY FIRST

- Students are not allowed on campus prior to 6:45.
- All students are encouraged to ride the bus.
- Any student arriving on campus after 7:30 will have to report to lockout and be marked unexcused absence for 1st block (unless parent escorts with excuse)

Arrival: Car Riders and Student Drivers

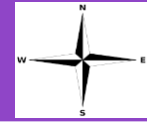
- 2 drop off lanes in the mornings
- Exit vehicles between the pool sidewalk and the flag poles
- Drivers must adhere to staff and cones for ALL directions at ALL times

Car Riders and Cars on Campus

SAFETY FIRST

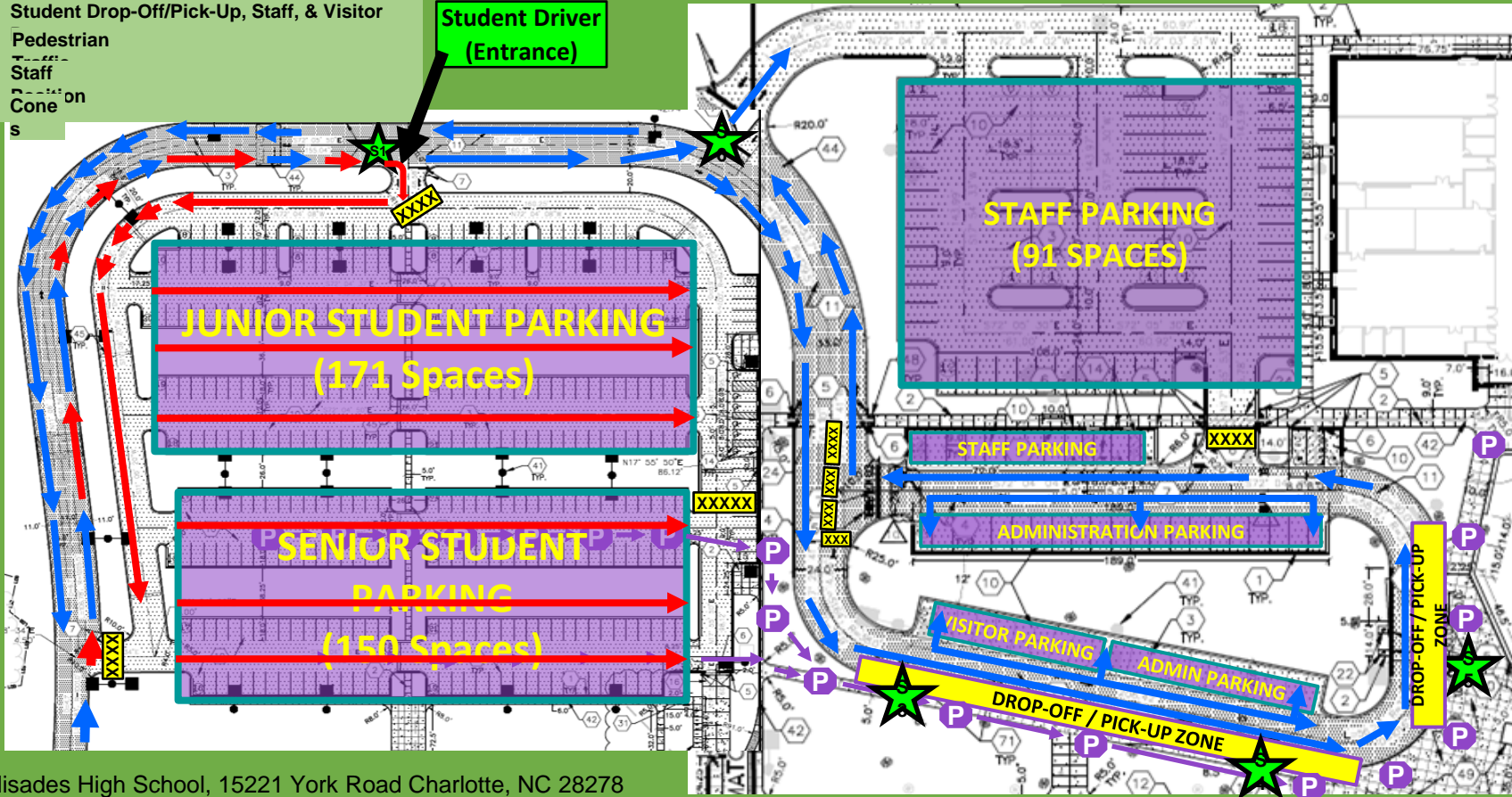
- Single lane student pick up
- Students enter vehicles between the pool sidewalk and the flag poles
- Parents **must** adhere to staff and cones for ALL directions at ALL times

PHS TRAFFIC PLAN (ARRIVAL)



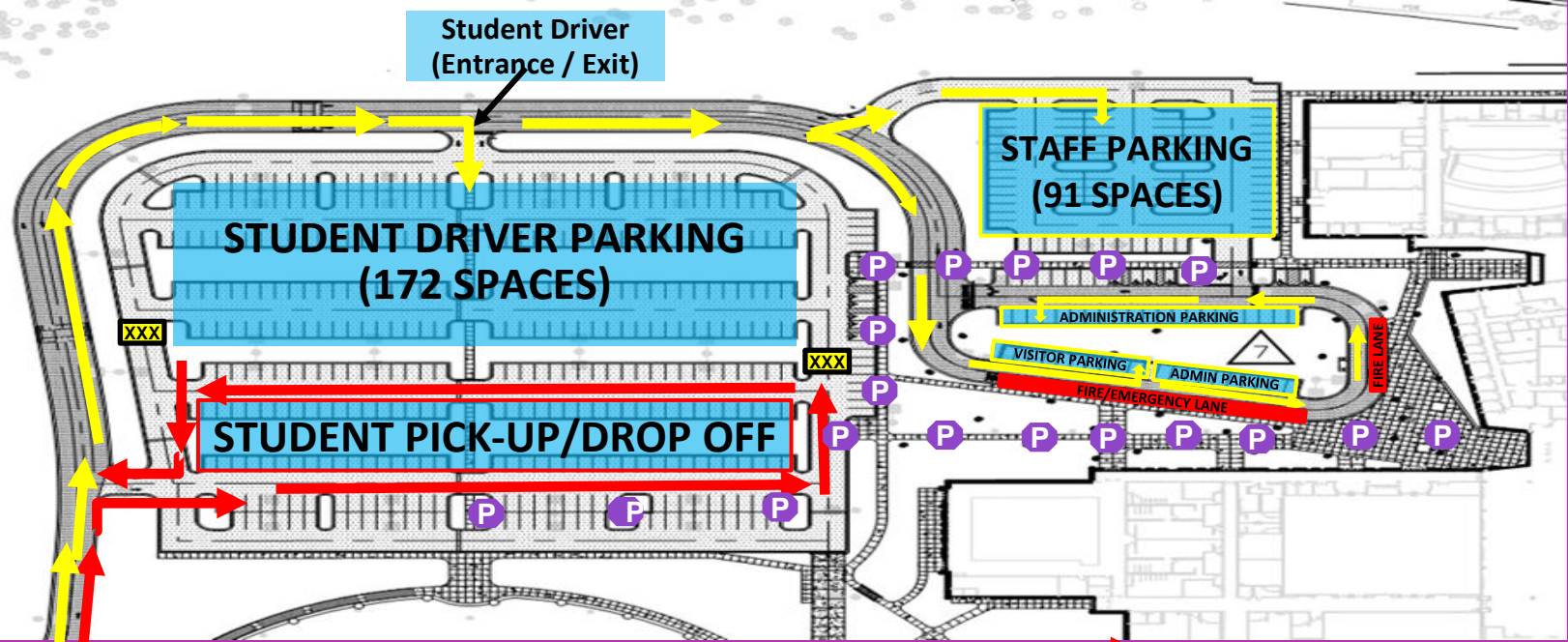
- Student Driver
- Student Drop-Off/Pick-Up, Staff, & Visitor
- P Pedestrian
- ★ Staff
- XX Cone

**Student Driver
(Entrance)**



Drop-off & Pick-up Plan

YORK ROAD / HWY 49



~ 500-700 Pedestrians Entering / Leaving Campus

- Drop Off / Pick Up Route
- Student Driver, Staff, & Visitor Route
- Pedestrian Traffic
- Cones



Student Drivers

Student Driver Registration

2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

WHO?

- Registered Seniors, Juniors & Sophomores at Palisades HS
- Age 16 or older
- Students with a valid NC driver's license (No learner's permits)
- Drivers of vehicles that are legally registered and insured
- Must maintain a 2.5 weighted GPA

STUDENT DRIVER REGISTRATION

- Go to the PHS website under student parking, follow the instructions and submit the online application
- Go to link on the application and you will find the Online School Payments and pay the \$25 processing fee
- See Chief Heffernan or Sergeant Major for Parking decal in Room 110

NOTE:

- Vehicles that are found unregistered, without a valid parking sticker, or the driver's parking privileges have been revoked/suspended are subject to their vehicle being towed at the owner's expense. (Impound: \$275, Gate Fee: \$75, Daily Storage Fee: \$50/per day)

Student Parking Questions Contact

JROTC Instructor: CSM (Ret.) Cleveland Penn
@ cleveland.penn@cms.k12.nc.us

JROTC Senior Instructor: CW4 (Ret) Travus Heffernan
@ travus1.heffernan@cms.k12.nc.us

Palisades High PTSO

First General Meeting



Who we are:

- Parents
- Teachers
- Students

Focused on programs and incentives that enhance education and the learning experiences

WELCOME PHS CLASS OF 2028



**Open House
August 20th
5-7PM**

Student Information Form

