

Dear Providence families and friends,

To ensure everyone can view the MEWS and avoid any formatting issues, it is also attached to this email as a PDF. And, as always, the MEWS is available on the [PHS PTSO Website](#).

MEWS Editorial Team

[PHS Website](#)

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# PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL MEWS

## *August 18, 2023*

The following articles were submitted by staff, various PHS clubs, booster organizations, etc., and compiled by the PTSO for your convenience. Direct questions related to specific articles to the contact person listed.

To submit an article, refer to the [MEWS Guidelines](#) and then [email articles here](#) by 9 PM Wednesday.

View the current and past editions of [the MEWS](#).

Click [here](#) to subscribe to or unsubscribe from the MEWS.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

August 19	Fall Campus Beautification Day
August 25	New Student Orientation
August 28	First Day of School
September 4	No School – Labor Day Holiday
September 20	Early Release Day
September 25	No School – Teacher Workday

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear PHS parents and families:

We are busy at school putting the final touches on what I anticipate will be a GREAT year. The teachers and staff are back at work, and we are so excited to get to see our students very soon.

I need to bring your attention to the circumstances regarding our **master schedule**. As you have probably seen on the national news, there is an ongoing teacher shortage across the country. Providence is not immune to this circumstance. We have hired excellent teachers at Providence (the best anywhere). But, we still have a few vacancies. In some cases, there have been no applicants for the vacant position. That has created a situation where we have very, very full classes and little to no room to allow students to change their schedule. We have filled classes to the extent that student/staff safety would allow.

PowerSchool will open on Monday morning for students to see their schedules. Because of large class sizes and limits to the courses we can offer due to teacher vacancies, requests for schedule changes will **ONLY** be considered if absolutely necessary as defined by the following:

1. Students needs a course added to meet graduation requirements.
2. Student is enrolled in a course they have already completed and received credit.
3. Student is enrolled in a course for which they have not met the prerequisite.
4. Student does not have a full schedule.

5. Student wants to move up to a higher level course (space permitting).
6. Student did not receive a course they were approved for via audition/interview (schedule constraints and space permitting).
7. Seniors who want to drop a 4<sup>th</sup> block course for early release (with proper paperwork and approval). We will not be able to rearrange the courses to create a space for early release.

Upon review of your child’s schedule (both first and second semesters), if you need to request a schedule change for one of the above reasons only, you may complete a schedule change request form available in the main office or on our website beginning Monday. **Only one schedule change request** form may be submitted per student, so please consider your requests carefully.

Our counselors will be in CMS required trainings next week. They will not be on campus to meet with parents or students. They will be handling schedule change request forms at night and after hours. Schedule change requests will be handled in the order in which they are received, so please submit the form either to our main office, or by fax to (980) 343-3957.

**Back-to-School Letter**

You should have received our back-to-school letter via U.S. mail. It contains some important information, including bus details, homeroom teacher name and room number, and a map of our drive through should you be bringing or picking up your child from Providence. Please review this information and make sure your child reviews it so we can have a smooth start to the school year.

**Rising 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation**

Rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders are reminded of orientation on **Friday, August 25 from 3-5 PM**. We will have an information session in the auditorium, and then students will have an opportunity to walk their schedule and find their classrooms. To accommodate all rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders, we will stagger the orientation session in the auditorium. **We can accommodate the student and parents only.**

Here is the plan:

Time	Target Audience	Event
3 PM	9 <sup>th</sup> graders with last names A-L	Meet in the auditorium for an information session.
4 PM	9 <sup>th</sup> graders with last names A-L	Walk your schedule to find your way from first block to second block, etc.

Time	Target Audience	Event
3 PM	9 <sup>th</sup> graders with last names M-Z	Walk your schedule to find your way from first block to second block, etc.
4 PM	9 <sup>th</sup> graders with last names M-Z	Meet in the auditorium for an information session.

The information session will help prepare students (and parents) for the first days of high school. Most 9<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will be in their rooms from **3-5 PM** (health/PE teachers will be in the gym lobby) to meet you. Due to sporting events and practice, some teachers will not be available but students can find their classrooms and learn to navigate the building. Before **3 PM**, teachers will be in a required workshop and unavailable, so please do not arrive before **3 PM**.

**Bus Transportation**

The link below will provide bus information. It will let you know if your student has been assigned a bus. (You will need your student's school ID number.)

[https://wearecms.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cCig61mfSyNEJkG](https://wearecms.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cCig61mfSyNEJkG)

The link is on the CMS Transportation webpage.

**Any bus requests made after August 1 are not guaranteed transportation the first week of school. Please make other transportation arrangements until you know a bus has been assigned.**

Please call the CMS transportation department at (98) 343-5715 if you have any questions about transportation. Students should plan to arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to the time listed.

Students and parents are invited to sign up for the "Here Comes the Bus" app. Directions are on the CMS website at [Transportation Services/Here Comes the Bus App \(cmsk12.org\)](https://cmsk12.org/Transportation%20Services/Here%20Comes%20the%20Bus%20App). This app will tell you where your bus is.

### **Student Parking on Campus**

Starting the first day, **August 28**, students who park at Providence must have a valid parking permit displayed on their vehicle window. Parked cars without valid parking permits will be ticketed and/or booted and fined \$25.

With regard to student parking:

- 1) On **Monday, August 21 and Tuesday, August 22, 8 AM–10 AM** both mornings, we will sell parking permits for the remaining spaces in our student parking lot.

To be eligible, students must be a junior or senior and have a **cumulative weighted GPA of 2.0 or higher**. Students can verify their cumulative GPA in Naviance. Students will need to log into their NCEdCloud account. From there, click on the Clever icon, then you will see the blue Naviance app. Students who will be out of town at these times, and who otherwise qualify to purchase a parking permit, can send their completed forms by a parent or friend who can select the space for them. Juniors and seniors who do not yet have their driver's license will have a later opportunity to purchase a parking permit, space permitting. Right now, we are only selling permits to students who qualify and have their license.

Parking permits cannot be purchased if the student owes a fee to the school. Students and parents can check Online School Payments (link on the left-hand side on the home page of our website) and pay any fees online so they will be eligible to purchase a permit.

### **The following items are required:**

1. Please print and read the [STUDENT PARKING AUTHORIZATION form](#) at this link (front and back). There are places for the student and parent to sign and initial on both pages.
  2. Students are to bring a **copy** of their driver's license **and** valid vehicle registration card. Students cannot make copies on campus, so please make copies in advance. You will leave the copies with us.
  3. A \$25 parking permit fee, which should be paid by credit card on Online School Payments (OSP) prior to **August 21 or 22**.
- 2) If a student purchased their parking sticker on **August 10 or 11** and did not have their vehicle with them to have their decal affixed to the windshield, please bring the vehicle to school on

**Monday, August 21 or Tuesday, August 22 between 8 AM and 10 AM 8am.** Students will not be permitted to park on campus until they receive their official parking sticker/decal. After **10 AM on August 22**, the next available time to bring the vehicle to receive the decal will be after school starts.

Police will increase patrols in the area around our school to ensure the safety of students who walk to school and those who drive. Also, please note that the neighborhoods and apartment complexes near Providence have indicated they will begin towing illegally parked cars on the first day of school.

### **School Communication**

We have begun to use ParentSquare to communicate with parents /families/students. CMS purchased its own CMS ParentSquare app for our families (although the app is not required to receive messages). This week, you may have received messages via regular email (our listserv) as well as on ParentSquare. ParentSquare seems to have received email addresses from PowerSchool, so that is how many of our students and parents are already receiving messages. Next week, I will send out information about how to join ParentSquare should you need it.

We have our opening football game tonight at **7 PM** against Ardrey Kell High School. I expect it to be a good game! We will have a fully operational concession stand, so come hungry and come out to support our team, band, and cheerleaders. Go Panthers!

Have a great weekend,

Dr. Harrill, principal

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **New – Donations Needed for PHS Nurse and Front Office**

As we are starting the new school year, we are in need of some supplies to stock our nurse's office and the front office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

- Feminine products
- Band-Aids
- Tissues
- Lysol wipes

Donations can be dropped off at the PHS front office during the school day or can be ordered from Amazon or other vendors and sent to:

Providence High School  
1800 Pineville-Matthews Road  
Charlotte, NC 28270  
Attn: Sue Reda

*(Submitted 8/16/2023 by Sue Reda, [susan.reda@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:susan.reda@cms.k12.nc.us))*

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## **New – Senior Yard Signs Available for \$15**

Welcome back seniors! Celebrate senior year by displaying a Providence High School senior yard sign on your lawn.

Purchasing is fast and easy through [pay4schoolstuff.com](https://pay4schoolstuff.com). Once the payment is processed, you will get an email notification that your sign is ready for pick up in the front office. If you have any questions, please contact Naomi McRary at [naomi90404@aol.com](mailto:naomi90404@aol.com).

*(Submitted 8/16/2023 by Naomi McRary, [naomi90404@aol.com](mailto:naomi90404@aol.com))*

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## **New – Underclassmen Portraits**

Cady Studios will take underclassmen portraits on **August 31** and **September 1**. Homeroom teachers will distribute informational flyers during the first days of school, and students will be informed of their portrait times. Parents will receive email notifications about the upcoming portrait day and how to purchase packages. All orders are placed online. Cady Studios send emails to the address shown on PowerSchool.

*(Submitted 8/09/2023 by Pamela Mann, [pamelac.mann@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:pamelac.mann@cms.k12.nc.us))*

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## **New – How You Can Have an IMPACT on Providence**

It's time to log into Pay4SchoolStuff and see the many great ways to support our wonderful school! Go to [https://pay4schoolstuff.com/](https://pay4schoolstuff.com) to join the PTSO, order spirit wear, sign up for volunteer opportunities, and donate to our IMPACT campaign. The IMPACT campaign is the PTSO's only fundraiser and benefits all Providence students. Through your generous donations, the PTSO provides funding for staff support, technology enhancements, student scholarships and awards, and campus improvements. We also accept stock donations. To make an IMPACT on the future of Providence, visit [https://pay4schoolstuff.com/](https://pay4schoolstuff.com) to donate. Questions? Please email [phscapitalcampaign@gmail.com](mailto:phscapitalcampaign@gmail.com).

*(Submitted 8/15/23 by Lee Sugg, [leersugg@gmail.com](mailto:leersugg@gmail.com))*

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## **New – Celebrate Your 2023 Senior with a Yard Flock**

Kick off your student's senior year by celebrating with a Providence yard flock! For \$15, PHS parent volunteers will flock your front yard with 24 black and gold lawn flamingos and a sign to commemorate the flocking. Flocks arrive in the evening and stay for 24 hours. This is a great way to recognize your senior's birthday or honor their senior year.

Email requests to [flockasenior@gmail.com](mailto:flockasenior@gmail.com) and include the student's name, address, and whether you have a preferred date. Payment can be made through <https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com>.

*(Submitted 8/15/23 by Vicky Shannon, [vshannon4@gmail.com](mailto:vshannon4@gmail.com))*

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## **New – PHS Spirit Wear**

Get ready for PHS spirit wear! Hoodies, crewneck sweatshirts, t-shirts, hats, and more will be on sale throughout the school year. We will be selling items on **Friday, August 25**, at freshman orientation from **3-5 PM**. We take cash, cards, and Apple Pay. We will open an online store in the upcoming weeks, and information will be available in the Mews and on social media. Spirit wear will also be on sale at several athletic events this fall.

*(Submitted 8/16/23 by Karen Crawford, [karencrawford@hotmail.com](mailto:karencrawford@hotmail.com))*

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## **New – Sign up for Theater Auditions in September**

Auditions for the 2023-2024 theatre productions will be **September 11-15**. The sign-up sheets are in the fine arts hallway, and auditions are open to all PHS students. The fall show is “You Can’t Take It with You,” and the spring musical is “Mean Girls.” If students have questions, please see Mrs. Altmeyer or Mr. Turski in the auditorium. You may also contact them via email at [jacqueline1.altmeyer@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:jacqueline1.altmeyer@cms.k12.nc.us) or [richarda.turski@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:richarda.turski@cms.k12.nc.us).

*(Submitted 8/16/2023 by Jessica Aycock, [jessicam.aycock@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:jessicam.aycock@cms.k12.nc.us))*

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## **New – Pride of Providence Marching Band Fall Season Updates**

The Pride of Provide Marching Band is hard at work on the 2023 production of “Lighthouse” for the competitive marching season. Our first competition is a doubleheader at Hickory Ridge High School and Mount Pleasant High School on **September 30**.

We are hosting our very own Providence Cup marching band competition on **October 28** at PHS. We have a stacked roster of competitors planning to attend and internationally known judges flying and driving in. Save the date!

This year will also launch the first year-long Jazz Band class Providence has seen in a while. David Vergato and Nicholas Blackwood will co-teach the course. We are thrilled to add this new element to the fine arts course list.

You can find all band-related events, dates, and contact information on our [website](#). Follow us on [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#) for all band updates and recordings of our performances.

*(Submitted 8/16/2023 by Nicholas Blackwood, [nicholasw.blackwood@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:nicholasw.blackwood@cms.k12.nc.us))*

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## **New – Upcoming NJROTC Events**

Upcoming Providence NJROTC events include the Matthews Alive! parade on **September 2**, NJROTC Parents’ Night on **September 7**, and a roadside cleanup on **September 9**.

These events are fun ways to earn community service hours, which go toward cadets’ quarterly grades. These events also give cadets’ parents insight into NJROTC and our curriculum. If you have any questions, please contact [providencehighnjrotc@gmail.com](mailto:providencehighnjrotc@gmail.com) or [phsnjrotcbooster@gmail.com](mailto:phsnjrotcbooster@gmail.com), or reach out through the PHS NJROTC Instagram page [@providencenjrotc](#).

(Submitted 8/16/2023 by Matthew Draper, [matthewandlisadraper@gmail.com](mailto:matthewandlisadraper@gmail.com))

## COUNSELING DEPARTMENT AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

### **New – Scholarship of the Week: Morehead-Cain Scholarship to UNC Chapel Hill**

The Morehead-Cain scholarship to UNC Chapel Hill is the oldest, most prestigious merit scholarship program in the United States. The Morehead-Cain selects scholars based on four criteria: moral force of character, scholarship, physical vigor, and leadership. Annually, Providence High School is given the opportunity to endorse four worthy students that best embody the criteria Morehead-Cain is searching for in its applicants. The application deadline for the Morehead-Cain is **October 1**, and schools are required to let nominees know by **September 1**. To help the PHS scholarship committee pick our endorsed students, you must submit the application no later than **August 29 at 2:30 PM**. If you are serious about the Morehead-Cain, you must also complete your undergraduate application to UNC Chapel Hill by the **October 15** deadline. Please click on <https://forms.gle/9SMHMk5s9PThhLiV6> for the application to apply to be a PHS endorsed nominee.

(Submitted 8/16//2023 by Ginger Obringer, [virginiaa.obringer@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:virginiaa.obringer@cms.k12.nc.us))

[School Counseling website](#)

[Information on College Visits](#)

[College and Career Center website](#)

[Job Openings](#)

[Upcoming College Visits](#)

*Our scholarship list is in Naviance. Under the College tab, click Scholarship List and then click Local and Regional Scholarships.*

## ATHLETICS

[PHS Athletics website](#)

[PHS teams spirit wear store](#)

[Follow PHS Athletics on Twitter - @ProvSports2023](#)

[Follow PHS Athletics on Instagram - @providence.panthers](#)

### **Upcoming Events: August**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
Men's JV Soccer @ Cuthbertson JV (5:30 PM) V (7 PM)	Volleyball @ Sun Valley JV (5 PM) V (6:30 PM)  Women's V Tennis v. Charlotte Catholic (4 PM)	Men's V Soccer @ Parkwood (6 PM)  Women's Golf v. Butler @ Raintree (3:30 PM)	JV Football @ South Meck (6 PM)  Volleyball @ Myers Park JV (5 PM) V (6:30 PM)	V Football v. South Meck (7 PM)  Field Hockey v. Covenant Day* V (4:30 PM) JV (5:45 PM)	Men's & Women's Cross Country, Providence Invitational @ McAlpine Park

			Women's Tennis v. Butler (4 PM)		
			Field Hockey v. South Meck* V (4:30 PM) JV (5:45 PM)		

\*MSP=Matthews Sportsplex

## **New – Providence Athletic Club and Sports Updates**

### **Player Registration**

This year CMS has changed its process for athlete registration. The Dragonfly site will be used to collect all documents, including physicals, proof of residency, and other required documents. This site will also be where the required CMS athletic participation fee will be collected. All this information must be completed prior to first games, but many coaches may require this information to be completed shortly after tryouts. The registration site is [dragonflyathletics.com](http://dragonflyathletics.com). Please start this process now so there is no delay in students' participation in PHS sports.

### **Providence Athletic Fee**

The Providence athletic fee, which is paid by student athletes, is the primary fundraiser for Providence Athletics and supports all PHS sports. Athletes are asked to contribute \$80 if they play one season and \$130 if they play two or three seasons, and all have the option to contribute more. The Providence athletic fee can be paid through <https://www.pay4schoolstuff.com>.

### **Providence Pajama Pants Are Back**

Get your cozy, comfortable pajama pants. They come in ladies' and men's styles, and all sizes are \$40. The sale ends **September 10**, and delivery will be at the end of September. Click [here](#) to order.

### **PAC Membership via Hometown Fan App**

Purchase your PAC membership and get admission to all home athletic games. Membership is valid for the entire school year: all sports, any season, multiple membership options. It does not include club sports and home playoff games.

The funds raised go directly to Providence Athletics to support field and facility maintenance, athletic equipment purchases, equipment maintenance, scholarships, continuing education for coaches, student athlete recognition, transportation to games, and senior recognition.

To purchase your membership, please follow these steps:

1. Download the Hometown Fan app at <https://www.hometownticketing.com/resources/hometown-fan-app/> and search for Providence Athletic Club, or go to <https://charlottemeck.hometownticketing.com/embed/all?schools=203>.
2. The app will generate a QR code for every home sporting event as your admission to the game.
3. Family memberships: each family member will use the same QR code to access all events. This will allow four, five, or six QR code scans for each event.
4. There is a \$3 convenience fee added to the cost of each membership.

Please contact membership chairperson Heidi Peltz at [heidipeltz3@gmail.com](mailto:heidipeltz3@gmail.com) with questions.

### **Athletic Ticket Purchases**

Tickets for Providence Athletics events can be purchased through this link:

<http://charlottemeck.hometownticketing.com/embed/all?schools=103>

Download the Hometown Fan app at: <https://www.hometownticketing.com/resources/hometown-fan-app/>.

### **2023-2024 Corporate Sponsorship Campaign**

If you would like to be a Providence Athletic Club corporate partner, please reach out to the following people for details on how to get involved.

- PAC president: Tony Tomljanovic, [ttomljanovic@carolina.rr.com](mailto:ttomljanovic@carolina.rr.com)
- PAC sponsorship lead: Kim Henry, [khenry696@gmail.com](mailto:khenry696@gmail.com)

### **Harris Teeter VIC Card PAC Support**

Please support the Panther Athletic Club by linking your VIC card to #1062. You can link this number to your card at any Harris Teeter or go to <https://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education>. A total of five school organizations can be added to each VIC card.

### **Sports Photos**

To learn more about sports photo options with Providence athletics visit [ProvidenceSportsPhoto](https://www.providencesportsphoto.com). For assistance, contact Rusty Transou at [rtransou@gmail.com](mailto:rtransou@gmail.com).

### **New Additions to PHS Athletic Program**

We are excited to welcome these new members of the PHS athletic program.

- Athletic director - Jonathan Castator "Coach Caz"
- Men's soccer coach - Michael Kovach
- Women's soccer coach - Rodney Jackson
- Women's volleyball - Maya Hamlett
- Wrestling - Matt Greiling
- Rugby - Demond Burwell
- Swimming - Brian Cattaneo

### **Live Stream PHS Sports**

Providence is thrilled to announce its partnership with the NFHS Network to livestream all events in our stadium and main gym through the NFHS Network, including football, basketball, cheer, volleyball, wrestling, lacrosse, soccer, track & field, and swimming. Please access the link below, subscribe to our channel, and select Providence High School as your school of choice. A percentage of each subscription will return to Providence Athletics to support our programs and student athletes. <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/schools/providence-high-school-charlotte-nc>

### **2023-2024 Head Coaches Contact Information**

Below is the link to our web page with contact information for all Providence head coaches. Please reach out if you have not been connected with the sport you are interested in participating in.

<https://providenceathleticzone.com/athletics-information/providence-athletic-department-directory>.

### **2023-2024 Providence Athletic Forms Page**

Be sure to visit the Providence athletic forms page to get all the information needed for athletic participation. <https://providenceathleticzone.com/athletic-forms>.

## **2023-2024 Providence Athletics Schedule Page**

The 2023 fall sports schedules are being posted on our Providence Athletics calendar page. Please visit the following link to view up-to-date schedules as they unfold throughout the school year:

<https://providenceathleticzone.com/events>.

## **Student-Athlete Scholarship Opportunities for Senior Student Athletes**

### **NCHSAA Scholarships**

The application period has opened for many NCHSAA scholarships. Please visit the below link if you are interested in learning more about the scholarships available and to apply.

<https://www.nchsaa.org/students-parents/nchsaa-endowed-fund-scholarships>

### **Liz Murray Scholarship (sponsored by the Hood Hargett Breakfast Club)**

The Hood Hargett Breakfast Club awards a monthly scholarship throughout the school year, with the first application deadline in early September. Once your application is submitted, it will remain in the applicant pool for the remainder of the school year. Click the link below for the application and contact your head coach or the PHS athletic director with questions.

<https://hoodhargettbreakfastclub.com/hhbc-scholarship-fund/liz-murray-scholarship-application/>

## **Thank You to 2023-2024 Providence Corporate Sponsors**

Your support helps PHS provide the best interscholastic athletic experience for our student athletes! Please thank the following area businesses and corporate sponsors for their commitment to Providence Athletics during the 2023-2024 school year by supporting their businesses.

- **Modish Nail Salon & Spa**
- **Dawson Modern Dentistry**
- **Finest Athletics**
- **800 Degrees Carolina**
- **CPI Security**
- **Smoothie King @ Steele Creek**
- **Empower Home Team - KW Southpark**
- **Jones Civil Design + Build**
- **Brown Moore & Associates PLLC**
- **Nothing But Noodles**
- **Jersey Mikes**
- **The Wizard of Sod**

*(Submitted 8/16//2023 by Sarah Novak, [snovak428@hotmail.com](mailto:snovak428@hotmail.com))*