



PCMS College and Career Fair

By Paola Torres

The College and Career Fair was such an exciting time! There were so many colleges nearby to consider for the future. Most of the universities provided scholarships and boarding. Some of the college representatives also mentioned that ACT or SAT scores were not necessary. They were looking for students that participated in extracurricular activities and did community service. There was so much more than universities at the College and Career Fair; there were other programs to consider for students who weren't interested following the common route including the US Navy, US Marine Corps, BOCES Career Services, the FBI, and even a culinary school! There were so many colleges and such little time that it was impossible to get to each one!

Harvard University

Harvard University is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is about a three hour car ride. It was very clear what Harvard University was looking for: a unique student, someone who stood out from the crowd and could provide something new to the school.

The person representing the university asked the people pop questions such as "Who was the 12th president?". Everyone took out their phones and answered his question. He then pointed out that in a world where everyone knows the answers, "What can you do to be different?" To get into Harvard it is definitely complicated. They have a total of around 22,000 students out of the hundreds of thousands that apply. Scholarships given by the college are based on grades and the income of the family. Their motto is *veritas and it stands for truth in Latin.*



Concordia College

It is not easy paying for college tuitions especially if you family has low income. That is why Concordia provides financial aid for about 90% of their students. They are located in Bronxville, New York which is a twenty-five minute distance.

The representative also mentioned that not all of their programs require the SAT's or ACT's. Their programs range from: biology, business, education, English, health studies, history, interdisciplinary studies, music, nursing, psychology, radiologic technologies, social studies, and social work. They also offer a wide variety of men's and women's sports. Their tuition is \$30,250 not including financial aid. They also focus their attention on students and have very small classes of 16 students. They are very accepting and are a diverse college.



Berkeley College

This college has many different locations including three in New York and another in California. The representative for Berkeley came specifically from their location in White Plains, New York which is about fifteen minutes from Port Chester. Their residences include one to three bedrooms and they house two to six students depending on the bedroom number per residence. They provide more than \$51 million in total for scholarships. They don't require the SAT's or ACT's, but if you want a larger scholarship then you must take those tests. The representative for this college was very welcoming and provided a lot of information. He gave his personal experience on the college, and what the college looks for. He mentioned the college believes students are so much more than a grade or number on a paper. They look for people who will put in hard work to be in the college.

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PCMS College and Career Fair (continued)

Pace University

This university will probably have any career you want to pursue. Pace is located in Pleasantville, New York about twenty minutes away. It also has a campus in New York City which is about one hour and a half away. Their average amount of financial aid given to students was \$22,774. There were also 92% of freshmen receiving financial aid. Similar to other universities, their classes are small with only nineteen students. They do require the SAT's with a mean of 1130 and the ACT's with a mean of 24. They also require an average GPA of 3.3. For a person looking for adventure in their free time the Pleasantville campus is for them. They have access to activities like hiking, skiing, kayaking, and others.



Manhattan College

A college located right in the city gives the student the opportunity to see new places and step out of their comfort zone. This is what Manhattan college has to offer, located near the Bronx Zoo it is a thirty to forty minute ride. Their campus is twenty-three acres and they have access to the arts, culture, and entertainment. They are also very conscious and aware of the poverty situations in the world. They offer service programs for the students to volunteer and travel to third-world countries to help out. They have 250 to 300 internship opportunities for students. They also offer sports such as football, baseball, and cross country. They offer many programs and clubs for students to interact and communicate.

CUNY

Most colleges leave you with a high debt at the end of your college career. Well not CUNY! Around 80% of their students graduate debt-free. They are located all over New York so there is not one exact location. Most students pay no tuition. There are about 70% who receive this honor. They provide many majors ranging from different professions. They have twenty-four different locations (yes, twenty-four, even though it is hard to believe). They offer sports for men and women, which gives students the option to stay active and pursue a sports career. It is definitely important to look into a specific location if you are considering this college.



Elmira College

If you are more into a small, calm and quiet college this one is for you. Elmira college is located in Elmira, New York, four hours away. This college also offers a wide variety of sports and scholarships. They are a liberal arts college. This means they focus on undergraduate study and offer a broad range of courses. A commuter student pays \$41,900 with no financial aid, and for a boarding student their tuition is \$53,900. This college offers a family weekend, where parents can visit their child and tour around the campus. This college also provides internships and honors programs. Their mascot is also the soaring eagle.

Johnson and Wales University

JWU does more than 240,000 hours of community service per year. They have many different college locations, but the nearest one is in Providence, Rhode Island and is about a three and a half hour ride. Their mascot is the wildcat and they offer many different women's and men's sports. Some of their sports include ice hockey, sailing, and rowing. This university also has sororities and fraternities that the students can join. They give students the option to create clubs and organizations. This is great for a person who likes leadership and participation. They are very student inclusive and offer financial aid to about 92% of the students. This university is also great for students who want to get to know a place to work because they offer internships.

SUNY Oswego

This college is located in Oswego County, New York and are five hours away. The university is a place to consider for their view. They are located on the shore of Lake Ontario. They also provide scholarships to about 45% of their freshmen. They provide numerous majors and minor programs, which includes more than 110 including liberal arts, sciences, school of education, school of business, school of communication/media/arts. They provide many programs, so it is a university that will most likely provide you with your career interest. Their scholarships range from \$750 to \$4,700 annually and are based off of SAT's, ACT's, and your GPA.



Girls Lacrosse

- ◆ It was a true honor to be able to Coach Port Chester's first girls' lacrosse team. Lacrosse is a very difficult sport to learn, but if you give it your all and practice consistently it's a lot of fun! The players on my team worked extremely hard all season to develop their skills and I have never been prouder of a group of girls before. I hope we have another successful season next year so that the program continues to develop. ~Coach Diaz
- ◆ I really loved playing lacrosse. It was a really good experience for me. I decided to play this sport because it was something new, and I wanted to try it out. I never played this sport or imagined it would be such a good, rough, and exciting sport to play. Something I really loved about lacrosse was that I got to meet new people and work together, as the team we one day will become. ~Jennifer Reyes, Grade 7
- ◆ Lacrosse was the first sport I have ever played on a team for, and I truly am thankful for the experience. The girls are all my friends and I'm glad I've gotten to share this new and exciting "adventure" with them. ~Elizabeth Richardson, Grade 6
- ◆ This was an awesome year playing lacrosse and also my first year. I loved this sport and I hope it continues on next year. I learned what teamwork really is this year. ~Sofia Alarcon, Grade 6
- ◆ Lacrosse was a very interesting sport that showed me teamwork, skills, and my talents. I got to meet lots of friendly and kind teammates. My first year was something I had never experienced before. I am hoping to join for next year. Coach Diaz was a very inspirational person that taught me many things even in the hardest times. ~Yannely Sanchez, Grade 6



First Row: Michelle Salazar, Gina Japa, Sofia Alaron, Anahi Cruz-Sanchez, Nicole Aguilar, Anahi Vargas, Arlette Peralta

Second Row: Yannely Sanchez, Michelle Ramos, Nacxiry Handel, Allyson Lunarejo, Jennifer Reyes, Daniela Paiz, Rachel Ventura, Elizabeth Richardson

Third Row: Guiliana Salgado, Nicole Navoa, Josselinne Ayavaca, Leticia De Oliveira, Kamila Thomas, Hayden Slayton, Emely Del Pezo, Leslie Rodezno, Sharon

Missing: Sanai Ash, Leslie Avalos, Sharon Borches, Samantha Mendoza, Amy Mungia, Camila Orellana, Brenda Valenzuela, and Milly Wong

Boys Lacrosse

I started playing lacrosse in 7th grade and it quickly became my favorite sport. It's fast paced, with lots of goal scoring, hitting and skill. One of the characteristics of lacrosse that makes the game great is that you don't have to be fast, or tall, or strong to be good; like some other sports.

If you have good stick skills, there's always a place for you on the field. The game of lacrosse has opened many doors for me and provided me with opportunities that I never would've had otherwise. I'm happy that I get to share that passion with others and coach kids to develop that same passion.

— Coach Capalbo

Boy's Lacrosse Team Roster

Aguilar, Francisco
Amaya, Jefferson
Ariguda, Daniel
Barajas, Andres
Barajas, Sebastian
Barragan, Isaac
Condo, Jonathan
Criollo, Eddy
Davis, Danny
Del Monte, Edward
Dempson, Isaiah
Duran, Alejandro
Garcia, Nicholas
Germisa-Shuili,
Arnold

Jolmino, Byron
Joy, Kevin
Lachapelle, Armani
Leyva, Alejandro
Lopez, Cristian
Loprena, Daniel
Marin, Erick
Maysonet, Aiden
Medina, Felix
Molina, Kevin
Molina, Marvin
Moyano, Edward
Ramos, Dylan
Valasquez, Jorge



A Reflection on My Middle School Years

My name is Amber Molina. I've been in PCMS since 6th grade. Throughout the years I've been here I have developed many skills, and have gone through many challenges. First I would like to start by saying my accomplishments. One accomplishment of mine is how I conquered my fear of public speaking. I was able to speak at a board meeting without being afraid. Another accomplishment of mine is getting accepted into high ELA. I was not the best reader throughout elementary school and struggled a great deal in that area. For me to be placed in an advanced English class was a dream come true. I also got the opportunity to participate in the Changing of the Guard in Washington D.C on our 8th grade trip. Lastly one of the biggest accomplishments is being elected as student body president. These are just a few of the accomplishments that I have made that have helped build the type of character that I am today.

I have changed from a shy, scared, 6th grade girl into someone who is determined for success and is outgoing. There are many things I would not have done in 6th grade that I do now. I've gained much more confidence in myself through challenges I have faced while in PCMS. I am most proud of myself because I haven't given up when faced with problems. I now try to find other ways to get a positive outcome unlike before where I would just quit. Port Chester Middle School has prepared me for high school by advancing my learning skills, and helping me build a positive character. The teachers, staff, school counselors, and administrators have taught me life lessons that I could use to have a successful school year. In closure, I would like to take this opportunity to end the school year off strong! ~Amber Molina

As the school year comes to an end, I begin to reflect about my accomplishments: How I have changed, things that I am proud of, and how this school is preparing me for a successful future year. I have changed because I've focused more on my academic classes. I'm proud because for the upcoming year I got into 3 accelerated classes. The school prepared me to have a successful future because it showed me the expectations of high school. I would also like to pass my Regents exams to get into geometry next year. In closure, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my teachers for helping me throughout the school year.

A medida que el año escolar llega a su fin, comienzo a reflexionar sobre mis logros: cómo he cambiado, cosas de las que me siento orgullosa y cómo esta escuela me ha preparado para el éxito del año futuro. He cambiado porque me he centrado más en mis clases académicas. Estoy orgullosa porque para el próximo año me metí en 3 clases aceleradas. La escuela me preparó para tener un año futuro exitoso porque, me mostró las expectativas de la escuela secundaria. También me gustaría pasar mis exámenes de regents para entrar en geometría el próximo año. En el cierre, me gustaría aprovechar esta oportunidad para agradecer a mis maestros por ayudarme durante todo el año escolar.

Melina Santos



A Reflection on My Middle School Years

As the school year culminates I begin to reflect about my accomplishments, how I've changed, things that I am proud of, and how this school year is preparing me for a successful future year.

First, I would like to share with you my accomplishments. I made it into The Thespian Society, I received a nomination for the National Junior Honor Society, maintained a high grade point average, (despite taking two accelerated classes), and I also got to perform our school play, School of Rock for the first time in the entire state.

I have began to care more about the quality of my work and my grades for myself, and not just to impress or satisfy anyone else. I am most proud of how far I've come and how much I've achieved in the time that I've been at PCMS. I have definitely improved my grades and managing my time and my work. The school prepared me to have a successful future year by offering different opportunities for people to take part in. For example, Drama Club, One World, Science Challenge, etc.

In closure, I would like to use this opportunity to express what I have done to encourage other kids to make better choices and show them what possibilities can come with the opportunities given to them.

~Sana'i Ash



As your middle school years come to an end, you really start to realize how much you have changed and grown mentally, physically, emotionally, and socially. It's truly remarkable! It all started in sixth grade. I was chubby, extremely red, 4 feet and 9 inches tall, and weighed 80 lbs. Mentally, I was pretty smart, but got confused easily. Emotionally I was pretty care-free and had no idea anything bad (besides vegetables) existed in the world. I used to horse around and got upset very easily. Sixth grade was when I became really good friends with two of my current best friends, Nick and Matty.

Now onto my second year of middle school, I hit my first growth spurt and grew 5 inches. I became skinnier and started to gain muscle, and weighed about 100lbs. Also I started to keep my hair longer than normal. I got interested into sports and I played football, rugby, and ran track for the first time in my life. I also joined the school play and did show choir. I ended up in all accelerated classes which was a challenge! I got good grades and paid attention most of the time. Towards the end of this school year I realized that sometimes bad things happen to people I care about and that all of a sudden I was introduced to a different type of world that younger me didn't know existed. It really took me by surprise.

Now back to the present year, I hit a major growth spurt I am now 5 feet 9 inches tall, I weigh 150lbs, and I've gotten way stronger.

Most of my classes are accelerated and next year I am taking geometry, earth science honors, and pre IB and AP English. I was a captain of the football team. I am now in National Junior Honors Society and Thespian Society. I again did the play and show choir. I started to mature a bit more. I became more expressional and sentimental with my feelings and learned how to handle certain situations better. I ended up being close with people who I never thought I would be. I became even closer with a lot of my good friends and made new ones.

Overall this adventure at the middle school has been amazing. I grew, matured, learned, and I am leaving here as a better person thanks to all my friends, teachers, and guidance counselor. I can't wait to begin my new journey at the high school. I will never forget my years at the middle school.

- Steven Hightower

Sixth grade has been an eventful year. It is very different from elementary school, and it has taught me many things. First, I have learned to be a hard worker, to never give up, and if you get frustrated, know that everything will be alright in the end. Since fifth grade, I have become more independent, and responsible. In middle school you have a lot of more responsibilities. I have also learned to be respectful, because in middle school you meet many more people and I think it is important to be kind to everyone. I am most proud that I was able to never give up, or get too comfortable in my work. This school year has prepared me for future years because it taught me to always try your best in everything you do, but to not worry too much. I would like to give the advice to the incoming students of, like I said earlier, be respectful, responsible, and to persevere through challenges. In closure, I would like to take the opportunity to thank my teachers, and my family for helping me thrive this year.—Gwen Dominguez Grade 6

7th Grade Field Trip: Dig Inn Restaurant, Rye Brook

The Dig Inn casual dining is an outstanding place. The place is a great refresher compared to Chipotle, Chop't and Starbuck which are more unhealthy than most people would think. For example, Chop't seems pretty healthy due to the salads. In contrast to that most of the dressings are filled with a lot of sodium and sugar.

Dig Inn is an honest company that tells you exactly what is in the food. I personally think face-to-face relationships are essential to great restaurants. Many things on the menu are amazing. No matter what you get it will be great. The salmon there was one of the best salmon I've ever had! The price was great for an expensive fish. Most places cost \$30 just for the salmon. My favorite dish was the potato fingerlings. The potatoes are cooked and then chilled. Next they put on a special kind of salt called maldon sea salt which is like about the size of coarse salt. They also make their own Herb marinade. The potatoes are served cold which kind of threw me off, but in the end a delicious dish. I would recommend this to anyone that enjoys fresh, honest food!

Jonathan Munguia

The field trip was awesome. I liked the two women that talked to us and the people who served the food. Both seemed very happy and were very nice to us.

None of them seemed grumpy, so they made the field trip very fun and up beat. The food looked and smelled very fresh, organic, and clean; plus it was so yummy! At my table we talked about how the food smelled and looked. The only thing we could not stop doing was eating the yummy food but we soon got full. There was something unexpected too, like the straws made out of plant material. It was cool because they were recycling. Another thing that was unexpected was the Mac and Cheese had cauliflower in it. No one knew it till the women told us. I really liked how the restaurant itself looked. I really liked the windows. It was very bright in there because they had so many windows. I liked that they had plants growing in the restaurant. The best thing that I liked was seeing the food being made in the back. Overall I loved how the restaurant looks and how the food smells and was presented.

- Michelle Salazar

My experience at the Dig Inn restaurant was absolutely amazing! Everyone was extremely nice to not only me, but to everyone that was there. Jeanine was really kind to us. By explaining how to make the food to us, I now understand more about what food could actually be (not the fried stuff). It's really astonishing that they have their own farm that they get fresh and organic food from. Knowing that the food is fresh and organic really adds a good feeling into what you eat! Not everyone knows what their food, especially fast food, which is not as fresh as Dig Inn! I've never actually seen food made in front of me at a restaurant. But now that I saw what the process actually is to make good, food is amazing and I give every person that is a chef or someone that even cooks props for what they do. I loved the Dig Inn trip. The experience was something that I will never forget. I will definitely be back with my friends and my family.

—Mark Scocchera



PCMS Astronomy Club with Ms. Rufo



Have you ever wondered what it would be like to brush your teeth in zero gravity? Or what it would be like to really see the rings of Saturn, or the cloud belts around Jupiter, or the Moon so close that it seems like you could reach out and touch it? If you have, come join the Astronomy Club! It is the newest club at PCMS.

This year in Astro Club we are learning all about rocketry and the principles of flight. Students have been building their very own ESTES Rockets. Each week students build a new piece of their rocket and learn about how an actual NASA rocket works. We will be launching our rockets on June 9th behind the middle school. The rocket that goes the highest in the sky will win a prize! While we build our rockets we have a great time getting to know each other and we are making new friends outside of our regular classes. Our PCMS students are budding NASA engineers!

Astronomy is fun, but it is even more fun when you do it with other people! The Port Chester Middle School Astronomy club is advised and run by Ms. Rufo. We have big plans for next year! Next year we will be figuring out how humans could ever live on Mars. We will look deeper into the possibility of living on Mars. We will be building our own working solar panels and wind turbines. Plus, we will be diving even deeper into the principles of flight with a study of airplanes and even MORE rockets!! If this sounds fun to you, come on Fridays afterschool to room 116 to learn more! No prior knowledge of astronomy is required—just curiosity. To keep up with all that we are doing, follow us on Instagram: @PCMS_Astronomers and on Twitter: @PCMS_Astronomy!!!

Astronomy club is an extraordinary and fun club. Led by our Astronomy teacher, Ms. Rufo, with her guidance we learn simple Astrophysics. We are applying what she is teaching into building model rockets. The competitive atmosphere pushes us to be the best we can. All thanks go to Ms. Rufo for creating and teaching this amazing club.

- Christopher Haggerty



In Astronomy club we are building rockets. Every Friday we do something different for the rockets. The first day we put on the wings the way we wanted them. We also put the nose of the rocket on, (the pointy thing on the top of the rocket). We put a Parachute streamer (it looks like confetti) so that the rocket will slow down and land gracefully and it will also look pretty when it does so. Astronomy club is very fun and I am very glad that I joined.

- Lily Haggerty



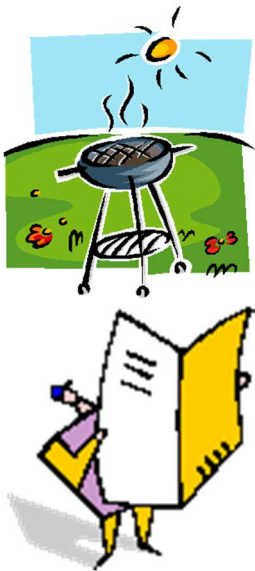
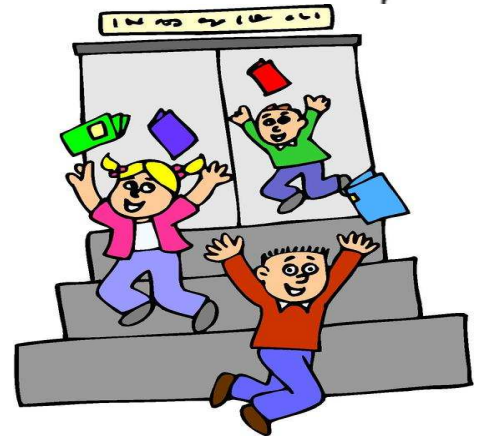
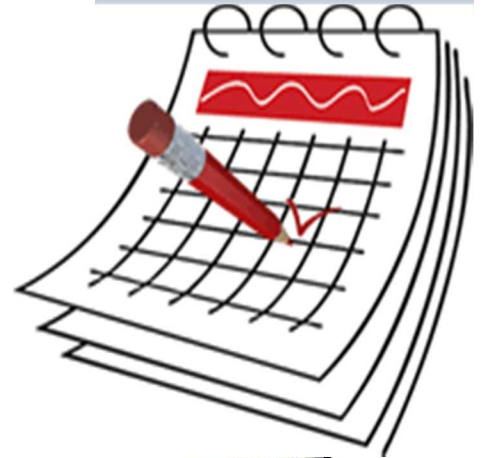


The 7th Grade students participated in an Egg Drop this May. They designed and tested out different devices to protect an egg from breaking during a three story drop. Over 90% of our student creations were successful!



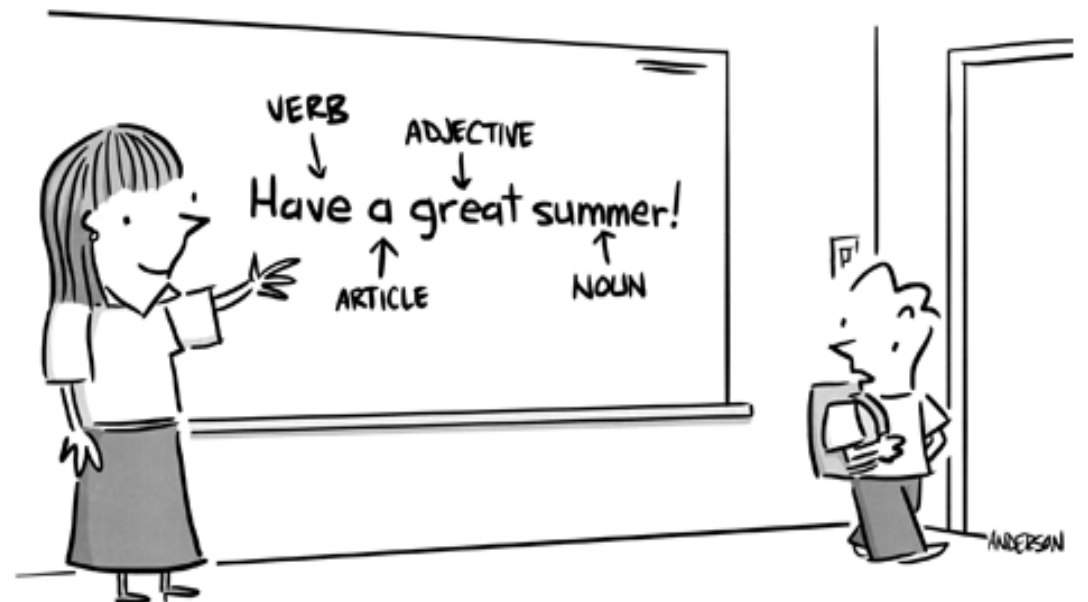
UPCOMING EVENTS AT PCMS!!!

- ♦ 7th Grade Lake Compounce Trip— June 7th
- ♦ Final Exams: June 19th—June 22nd
6th and 7th Grade: 8:10am arrival
8th Grade: 12 noon arrival
- ♦ 8th Grade Dance—June 22nd
6:00pm—9:30pm
- ♦ 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony—June 23rd
9:30am PCMS Auditorium



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"You just can't help yourself, can you?"