

Senior Mentorship Program: Description & Expectations for PCRHS Senior Mentors

Dear Parent of a Senior,

As a school, it is a joy to see your Senior make it closer to the finish line. We also acknowledge the challenges that can occur along the way from academic, financial, social, or emotional that can make getting to the finish line seem close or far. That is why the Faculty and Staff of PCRHS are pleased to let you know that we want to extend ourselves to be an extension of your village to your Senior. We will do this by having a Senior Mentor assigned to your Senior at the beginning of their Senior year. This is what is called our Senior Mentorship Program!

Our Senior Mentors consist of our PCRHS Faculty and Staff who have voluntarily signed up to be a Senior Mentor. Once your Senior is notified who they're Senior Mentor is, they will meet on a weekly basis to connect and receive additional support throughout their Senior year so they can finish strong! They will also be an additional support to you when you have questions. When the Senior Mentor doesn't know the answer, it's ok, they or you can always reach out to one of the Counselors (Miss Patrice Holmes – Academic Counselor; Miss Chelsea Ward – College & Career Counselor; Mrs. Kandace Kyere – Social Worker) from the Counseling Department who many times will share information with your Senior that all Seniors need to know as it pertains to Academic, College & Career, or Social/Emotional services.

Below is a list of things to know about what a Senior Mentor's role is in your Senior's high school career. If you have any questions about this, please see Miss Holmes, who oversees this program. You can find her contact information at the end of this handout.

Description of a Senior Mentor:

1. Definition of a mentor: “a trusted counselor or guide; tutor, coach; an experienced and trusted adviser” (referenced from Merriam-Webster & Oxford dictionaries)
2. Definition of the role of a mentor: the knowledge, advice, and resources a mentor shares depend on the format and goals of a specific mentoring relationship. A mentor may share with a mentee (or protege) information about his or her own career path, as well as provide guidance, motivation, emotional support, and role modeling. A mentor may help with exploring careers, setting goals, developing contacts, and identifying resources. The mentor role may change as the needs of the mentee change.” (referenced from website: www.washington.edu/doi/what-role-mentor)

Expectations of a Senior Mentor:

1. Has to be either a PCHRS Faculty or Staff member in order to be a Senior Mentor.
2. PCRHS Faculty & Staff are not required to be a Senior Mentor, but highly encouraged. The benefits are PRICELESS!!
3. Meet with Student/Mentee(s) once a week face-to-face or by other appropriate forms of communicating when face-to-face isn't possible at least 20 minutes.
 - ✓ The Mentee is required to meet with Senior Mentor. If challenges arise, please see Miss Holmes, Senior Mentorship Program Director.
 - ✓ A Senior Mentor can have more than one Mentee based on the Senior Mentor's availability.
 - ✓ Due to scheduling and time restraints, meeting for 20 minutes may be most practical. Do more when possible. It's understandable if the Senior Mentor can't, due to their scheduling and prior responsibilities. Great communication is needed upfront between the Senior Mentor and Mentee.
 - ✓ Senior Mentors are welcome to meet more than what's stated in the expectations. When not able to connect face-to-face, at least email, call, or text to have some form of communication with the Mentee each week. Exchange contact information with each other at the beginning of the mentoring meetings.
 - ✓ Studies show consistent mentoring can help improve social skills as well as alleviate behavioral and attendance issues.
 - ✓ Being INTENTIONAL + authentic QUALITY TIME = effective MENTORING

3. Complete a once a month, but brief, survey update on how things are going with the Mentee.
 - ✓ Until we can have a time to meet together to discuss best practices, questions on mentoring, etc – the monthly survey helps with feedback and ways to create more effective mentoring.

4. Senior Mentors will be an extension of support, communication, and encouragement to the Mentee as well as the Mentee’s parents/guardians when needed. This includes:
 - ✓ Contacting the Mentee’s parents/guardians letting them know who their student’s Senior Mentor is. This is to help be part of “a village extension” (what Miss Holmes’ likes to call Senior Mentors) to parents/guardians as needed.
 - ✓ Emails will be sent to Senior Mentors to keep them updated with needed information for Mentees covering things from our College and Career Counselor, Chelsea Ward or Academic Counseling, Miss Patrice Holmes, as well as additional family resources from the Social Worker, Mrs. Kandace Kyere – all in efforts to ensure Mentees are on track to graduate on time and be prepared for college and any productive next steps in life!

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