

Fall 2017

Junior Newsletter



Where are our PHS 2017 alumni attending college?



2017 Senior Survey Results

Total Responses	407	
2-Yr Colleges	164	40%
4- Yr Colleges	176	43%
Vocational/Trade	4	1%
Military	23	6%
Work	12	3%
Year Off	9	2%
Other	10	2%
Undecided	9	2%

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PSAT Test

The practice SAT test
Wednesday, October 11th, 2017

Cost is \$20 (\$25 after 10/1/17)

Register on the PHS Website

PONDEROSA HIGH SCHOOL | CLASS OF 2019

Class of 2019

Junior Year

5 things to do this year to prepare for college:

1. Get the best grades possible
2. Take all your standardized tests (see Junior timeline) →
3. Get involved in extracurricular activities
4. Research careers
 - A. Attend the 3rd annual EDUHSD Career Expo on **March 14, 2018**
5. Research colleges
 - A. Visit colleges you are interested in.
 - B. Come to the College & Career Center when college admissions reps visit



Junior Timeline

- September: If you are considering college athletics, register with the NCAA and let your Counselor know.
- October: Take the PSAT, the practice test for the SAT.
Attend the Regional College Fair at UMHS.
- November: Take the ASVAB, a career aptitude test offered by the military.
- Springtime: Take the SAT and/or the ACT - sign up online.
Attend the 3rd annual Career Expo & Job Fair
- Ongoing: Attend college visits in the College & Career Center.
Research colleges online.
Visit colleges during holiday breaks & summer.
Look for scholarships & contests with cash awards.

Is Community College for You?

Are you one of those students who know exactly what schools you want to apply to, but are worried about paying for it? Or are you confused as to where you want to go or what major you'll pursue? You might want to pencil community college into your plans:

Are you unsure of your major?

Because of its affordable tuition, community college allows you the chance to explore a variety of subjects without the pressure of going into excessive debt.

Are you concerned about financial aid?

Did you receive your award letter from your dream college, but can't justify the expense? Pay for just two years there instead of four. Attend a community college for the first two years, then transfer.

Are you anxious about leaving home?

You might not be ready to take the huge leap to on-campus life. An easier transition might be from high school student to community college commuter to four-year scholar.

Do you want to start a career quickly?

Community and technical colleges offer many programs that allow you to join the workforce with an associate degree or certificate. You'll find exciting programs like automotive technology, graphic arts, nursing, information technology, and culinary arts at two-year schools.

But aren't community colleges just an extension of high school?

Community college is college - it has courses and facilities just like a university, and is filled

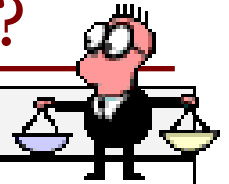
with students who want to learn just like you. In addition you can find pre-college, skill-building classes if there are areas where your skills are lacking, and classes to learn or upgrade job skills.

Community college has a program to meet most every educational need.

Still unsure?

Whatever your college situation, factoring community college into your plans has the potential to save you money and still give you the education you deserve. Visit the College & Career Center or talk to your Counselor if you have questions.

SAT vs. ACT: How do the tests compare?



	SAT	ACT
When is it administered?	Seven times per year	Seven times per year
What is the test structure?	Two-section exam: Math and Evidence-based Reading and Writing.	Four-section exam: English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning. An Experimental section is added to tests on certain dates only, and is clearly experimental.
What is the test content?	Math: up to Trigonometry. Science: none. Reading: long critical reading passages, reading comprehension from significant historical documents. Writing: Optional essay.	Math: up to Trigonometry. Science: charts, experiments. Reading: four passages, one each of Prose Fiction, Social Science, Humanities, and Natural Science. English: stresses grammar.
Is there a penalty for wrong answers?	No	No
How is the test scored?	200-800 per section, added together for a combined score. A 1600 is the highest possible combined score.	1-36 for each subject, averaged for a composite score. A 36 is the highest possible composite score.
Are all scores sent to schools?	Yes. If a student requests a score report be sent, the report will include the scores the student has received on every SAT taken.	No. There is a "Score Choice" option. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores AND which scores the schools will see.
Are there other uses for the exams?	Scholarship purposes.	Scholarship purposes. Certain statewide testing programs.
Best time to register?	At least six weeks before the test date	At least four weeks before the test date
Need more information?	The College Board www.collegeboard.org	ACT, Inc.: www.actstudent.org
Cost of test	\$60.00 (includes essay)	\$62.50 (includes writing)
Number of free score-sends	4	6

Sending your SAT / ACT scores



Here are some money-saving tips for you as you decide where to send your SAT & ACT scores.

SAT / CSU's:

The CSU's have a special code for CSU Mentor (3594) and if you send your score to this code, your single score-send is automatically shared by ALL the CSU's.

ACT / CSU's:

ACT does not have a special system-wide code, but if you send your scores to just one CSU, they will automatically be shared among all 23 CSU campuses.

SAT & ACT / UC's:

If you send your scores to just one UC, they will be automatically shared among all the UC campuses.

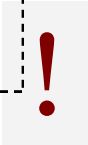
Colleges will keep your scores for 3 years

Of course you are welcome to send scores to individual CSU's and UC's if you'd like, but if you're looking to save a little money these tips may be just what you need!

Test Dates for this School Year

ACT
 September 9, 2017
 October 28, 2017
 December 9, 2017
 February 10, 2018
 April 14, 2018
 June 9, 2018
 July 14, 2018

Register now
 for a spring test date!



← www.actstudent.org

www.collegeboard.org →

SAT
 August 26, 2017
 October 7, 2017
 November 4, 2017
 December 2, 2017
 March 10, 2018
 May 5, 2018
 June 2, 2018

Ponderosa High School Graduation Requirements

English	40 credits
Social Studies (World Hist., U.S. Hist., Gov't., Econ.)	30 credits
Math (must include Algebra 1)	30 credits
Physical Science	10 credits
Life Science	10 credits
Health	5 credits
Computer Technology (ICT)	5 credits
Physical Education	20 credits
Fine Arts/ Foreign Language/CTE	10 credits
Elective	80 credits
Total:	240 credits

A-G College Entrance Requirements

- A. **English**—4 years
 - B. **Math** —3 years**
(Including Algebra 2)
 - A. **Social Science**—2 years **
 - D. **Lab Science**—2 years **
(Biology, Chemistry, Chem A, Physics, Anatomy & Physiology, AP Biology, AP Environmental Science)
 - E. **Foreign Language**—2 years **
 - F. **Visual Performing Art**—1 year
 - G. **College Prep Elective**—1 year
- **Competitive schools recommend taking at least one additional year.



Explore Your Options

If you haven't been to the College & Career Center lately, your Junior year is definitely the time to stop by for a visit. Have you given much thought to your possibilities for a career path?

Don't forget about the ROP program for job skill training. Taking an ROP class is an excellent way to enter the workforce with a highly marketable job skill.

We have information on colleges, community colleges, technical schools, and apprenticeship programs. Many college

representatives visit the College & Career Center to talk to interested students during lunchtime.

Military recruiters also visit twice each month during lunchtime. Juniors interested in the military academies or ROTC scholarships need to make contact this year to make sure all requirements are being met.

Listen to the bulletin for weekly events, college information, and guest speakers in the College & Career Center.

Want to try a class at Folsom Lake College?

You are eligible to enroll in college courses at Folsom Lake College or El Dorado Center if:

- You have completed the 10th grade and are 16 years old by the first day of instruction
- You have a minimum high school grade point average of 2.7
- You demonstrate exemplary academic achievement in the subject to enroll