

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS UNITED IN EXCELLENCE

June 2018 | Top 18 of 2018

Dr. Barbara A. Johnson | Superintendent

A Year in Review...

As we end the 2017-2018 school year, our thoughts are of warm beaches, leisurely days, outdoor concerts, and idle time with friends and family. During this time of relaxation, I encourage everyone to take a moment to reflect upon and store the proud moments of this school year. To that end, below is a list of the *Top 18 for 2018*:

1. Prince Edward County Public School (PECPS) students participated in the 2017-2018 Area Youth Art Exhibit sponsored by Longwood University College of Education and Human Services at the Longwood Center for Visual Arts.
2. PECPS Marching Eagles attended the "Showcase of Bands" and the Marching Eagles swept their competition by winning first place in every category of judging. Not only did the Marching Eagles win every category, they also won the title of "Champion" of the class 1A competition.
3. Coach James Baker received the VHSL Regional Award of Merit for Coaches.
4. A Prince Edward County High School (PECHS) student won an all-expense paid trip to Washington, DC in June 2017.
5. Two PECHS students were recipients of the Lee-Jackson Scholarship for the fall of 2018 enrollment.
6. PECHS Chemistry Olympiad Team won both the Team Award and the School Award for the Chemistry Olympia Exam for the second year.
7. PECPS students performed the original musical *B. Rose! The Musical*, which was written and directed by Ms. Debbie Rush. The team took second place in the Virginia High School League Region 2A Theatre competition.
8. Our building trade students built a beautiful float for the homecoming court in our spirited parade, and they are participating in the "Birdhouse Build" for Habitat for Humanity.
9. The middle school football team is the 2017 District Champion for the Southside Middle School Conference.
10. The Prince Edward County Elementary School (PECES) is in partnership with the 4-H Club to develop a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) club for students.
11. PECHS Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter were awarded a grant from Tractor Supply Company Grants for Growing Chapter.
12. PECHS Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) team had winners in the State Leadership Conference and four team members are now eligible to compete at the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Baltimore this summer.
13. Two PECHS seniors were selected as Centennial Scholars at James Madison University.
14. PECHS Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) team received a silver medals and over \$8,500 in scholarships from The Art Institute, Culinary Institute of America, Culinary Institute of Virginia, Johnson and Wales University and Sullivan University.
15. PECHS Medford League basketball team is the Heartland Conference League Champions for the third year in a row.
16. PECHS varsity girls' basketball team won the James River District Champions and 1,000 points were scored.
17. PECHS and Prince Edward County Middle School (PECMS) band students were selected to participate in the All-District Band.
18. PECES received a grant for \$4,980 and the PECMS received \$4,950 from The Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, Lowe's Toolbox for Education.

Finally, as we enjoy our respite, do not forget to **READ, READ, READ**. PECES teachers partnered with several businesses to collect and distribute books to elementary students for summer reading and division reading lists are posted on our website and the local library for all students. So, take this opportunity to relax, rejuvenate, and let your books take you on fun adventures.

Happy Summer!!!!

Dr. Barbara A. Johnson | Superintendent

Class of 2018



Did you know?

PECHS is currently home to the Professor in Residence (PIR) Program through James Madison University. There are only 6 PIRs around the state assigned to various middle and high schools through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at JMU.

Our PIR, Dr. Hood Frazier, holds a PhD in English Ed. He has worked with teachers and students at our high school this year in areas such as poetry and writing. He has also been a resource to new teachers and the counseling department.



Finally, he has worked with students applying to colleges and helped organize a bus trip to JMU for prospective students. He was instrumental in securing scholarships for some of our students who plan to attend JMU. This year, two Prince Edward students received a Centennial Scholarship, which includes tuition, room, board, and books for all four years! **#EaglePride**

This is our second year receiving the First Generation Scholarship which is ONLY awarded to a student from a PIR school.



STEM

May has been an exciting month for students and teachers at all levels as they have explored several new STEM resources. Students love working with new resources and are creatively learning new skills while demonstrating content knowledge learned throughout the year. Here are some examples of how STEM supports content curriculum and the Virginia Standards of Learning:

- **LEGO Construction Sets** build upon valuable 21st century skills by encouraging collaboration, creativity, problem-solving, and communication. Students observe and investigate simple to complex machines, and discover mechanical principles through exploration, investigation, and solving tasks. They learn about energy, balance, motion, stability, buoyancy, patterns, scale and proportion, and key vocabulary presented in the standards. These advanced LEGO kits allow students the opportunity to advance their skills in engineering, coding, and computer science.
- **KEVA Planks** introduces students to engineering skills and further support twenty-first century skills. Students learn recognition of patterns, designs, geometrical shapes, spatial reasoning, and content-specific vocabulary.
- **SNAP Circuits** build upon students' knowledge of the basic principles of electricity, circuits, and motors. Collaborating in teams, they build circuits and actively problem solve when their circuits don't work as expected. Finally, students learn how to read the circuit schematics and how to follow specific directions provided with the SNAP kits.





Alumni Spotlight

Adam Freeman | Class of 1992

Stand up comedian, mechanic, and martial artist are just a few of the hats that Adam Freeman has donned, but you will know him best as the super friendly security guard who directs traffic with a smile every morning in front of the Elementary school.



How fortunate are we that this Eagle Alum has chosen to serve in our school system? While a student at PECPS, Officer Freeman was involved in Football, Basketball, Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor track. If you haven't met Officer Freeman you are missing out. His personality is contagious and all you need is five minutes with him to know he is fantastic. Stop by the Elementary School some time and say "Hello"! **Always Purple & Gold!** Adam Freeman is certainly Soaring to Excellence.

#EaglePride



Connections

written by parents for parents
Summer is here ... Now what?

Free Events

LCVA Summer Art Studio - Open weekdays from 11am - 2pm from Monday, June 11th to Friday, August 3rd. The staff at Longwood Center for the Visual Arts has many themed art projects relating to books. Art projects change every two weeks, but you can go multiple times for the same projects as you might not finish them all in one visit.
More information: <http://lcva.longwood.edu/>

Central Virginia Regional Library Programs - summer reading program and weekly events such as movies, Lego Club, Story Time, Crafts.
See the Event Calendar at <http://cvrl.net/> for complete details.

State Park Programs (*depending on location there may be a parking fee) - We are fortunate to have 5 state parks in our region. Each one has different things to offer. Check out the Events Calendar linked on each park's page. You don't want to miss the Fire Fly Festival at High Bridge in June or any of the Routes of Rhythm concert series that is happening at multiple parks.

Find the following local parks through this website:
<http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/find-a-park>

High Bridge Trail, Farmville
Sailor's Creek Battlefield, Prince Edward County
Holiday Lake, Appomattox-Buckingham County
Bear Creek Lake, Cumberland County

Stars under the Stars - outdoor movies at Crute Stage on Main St.

June 8: The Sting (1973, Rated PG)

July 13: 101 Dalmatians (1961, Rated G)

August 10: Tombstone (1993, Rated R)

See <https://www.facebook.com/starsunderthestars/> for movie information.

Virginia Children's Book Festival - READcart- Traveling Library will appear around town throughout the summer. For other locations and more information see: <https://www.facebook.com/vachildrensbookfestival/>

Kids Bowl Free @ Main Street Lanes - Sign up at <https://www.kidsbowlfree.com/>, then bring your coupons that are emailed to you each week to Main Street Lanes Weekdays 11am-7pm, and weekends 11am-5pm. May 1- August 31. **You will have to purchase the rental of shoes.* There are also parent packages available, see online for details.

Create your own adventures

Walk the **Sarah Terry Trail at Wilck's Lake** and explore the **Margaret Watson Bird Observation Platform**. Parking is off 3rd St. between the hospital and the library. Go to the library before or after to check out books about the birds and plants you saw along the trail.

Go for a hike on the **High Bridge Trail** - with many access points, you can take a short or a long walk - just make sure you bring water. More information on parking locations: http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/high-bridge-trail#general_information or at our other area state parks.

Paint rocks and hide them. It's that easy, find some rocks, paint them, and then put them out for others to find them. **Farmville VA Rocks!** is a facebook group where people share pictures of rocks they have found or hidden and clues as to where you might want to go look for them. Find them, keep them, or hide them for someone else to find. Something fun to do on walks. More info at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/farmvillevarocks/>.

Players on the Plaza - Live entertainment on the Downtown Plaza. Many Saturdays during the summer. You can combine a concert with walking, shopping, or eating downtown.

Local Adventures with a fee

Summer movies at Sunchase - Family Friendly Movies for \$2 at 10am, Wed. and Thurs. during the summer: See <https://www.facebook.com/sunchasecinema8/> for movie details.

Summer Drop-in Classes at Five Pointes Dance Center - Come once or come all summer, drop-in classes are pay as you go where you can learn new dance styles, maintain skills if you're already a dancer, or just keep fit over the summer. Drop-in classes on Wednesday evenings for ages 8-12 in ballet, tap, funk jazz/hip hop, and acrobatics. Call the studio at 434-392-6754 for more information. Also ask about adult classes.

Farmville Clay for Kids - offers pottery classes for kids 3 and up at various times. See <https://www.facebook.com/farmvilleclayforkids/> for more information.

Motion Gymnastics & Tumbling Center - offers play gym (all ages) and open gym (ages 5 and up) on Fridays and Saturdays. Ask about Summer classes. See <http://www.motiongymnasticsandtumblingcenter.com/> or their Facebook page for more information.

Workshops at Red Door 104 - Bring the kids and make gifts for Father's Day. See <http://www.reddoor104.com/> for more info and pricing.

Live at Riverside Park Concert Series hosted by the Farmville Jaycees. Music and family entertainment and food by local vendors. Starting at 6pm at Riverside Park on Main Street. June 1st, July 13th, August 3rd, September 7th.
More information: <http://farmvillejaycees.com/>

This list is just a snapshot of items. Take a picture of your fun and send it to us. We'll post it on the Prince Edward facebook page. -- **Pam Tracy & Sarah McElfresh | Parents**



FREE Summer Meals!

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Monday June 11 - Thursday June 28
Monday July 9 – Thursday July 26

Location: Prince Edward County Elementary School
& Prince Edward County Middle School
Breakfast 7:30-9:00 | Lunch 11:00-1:00

- Meals served Monday-Thursday.
- No meals served Fridays or week of July 4.
 - Everyone ages 1-18 welcome.

Come have a free meal, bring your siblings and friends!!
For more information call (434) 315-2148.

*The USDA is an equal opportunity provider



Embrace your impact.
Accept the urgency.
Get focused.
Lead fearlessly.
Engage, excite, educate.
Stay the course.

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