



Minutes

June 9, 2024

Welcome –*Debbie Clary, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 1PM.*

****Notification of the board meeting was advertised on the Pinnacle Classical Academy website and the front doors of the school building were open.**

In attendance:

Attending: Board Members - Debbie Clary, Wes Westmoreland, Amy Dulin, Pauline Cahill, Ken Mooney, and Jeremy Boone

Administration - Shelly Shope, Laura Beth Richardson, Angela Brooks, and Jeff Ziegler

Five members of the public were present: Madelyn Hicks, Will Brooks, James Beam, Cindi Welch, and Tatjana Ledbetter

Conflict of Interest Statement *In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. If any board member has any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the board today, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict at this time, and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.*

Adoption of Agenda *Motion made by Wes Westmoreland and 2nd by Pauline Cahill, all Approved.*

Approval of Minutes *Jeremy Boone made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 2024 Meeting, Ken Mooney seconded the motion, all approved.*

Public Comments *Persons wishing to appear before the Board during this portion of the meeting should register their name and the subject they wish to address with the Secretary prior to the beginning of the meeting. Each presentation will be limited to three (3) minutes. The Board is interested in hearing your concerns, yet speakers should not expect comment, action, or deliberation on subject matter brought up during the public comment segment. Topics requiring further investigation will be referred to the appropriate board committee.*

Special Guest

Board Chair Debbie Clary recognized members of the staff voted on by the senior class as senior speakers...

Madelyn Hicks and Will Brooks presented Class of 2025 Senior Project

Motion was made by Pauline Cahill to approve the class of 2025 Senior Project as presented (location of the scoreboard to be determined at a later date with input from admin) and 2nd by Wes Westmoreland, all Approved.

Administration Reports -

Dean of Elementary Education Report to the Board of Directors Presented by Mrs. Wendy Clary June, 2024

Action Items:

- None

Modulars are SOLD!

- Mama Lissa's Daycare will be the new owners of all 4 units.
- Used/old furniture was donated to Libertas Academy.
- The units will be moved within the next few weeks.

PEAK

- PEAK will be cleaning out their things from the modular they used for storage. The clothing and tables will be taken to the K-3 gym in preparation for the summer uniform sale.
- PCA Uniform Sale will be held on July 27th, 9:00-11:00 at the K-3 campus gymnasium

K-3 Teacher of the Year

- Erika Warthen-Ms. Warthen is our exceptional children's teacher at the K-3 campus. She serves students who are self-contained and she also serves students who are pulled out of the classroom during the day to work on IEP goals. She is an amazing communicator and goes above and beyond to share information with the parents of her students. She is a nurturing encourager who makes sure to celebrate the big and small "grows and glows". Our teachers truly appreciate the knowledge and resources that she brings to the table. She is a definite asset to our Pinnacle Team and is an honest representation of a professional educator.

Teacher Retention

- Summatives were conducted with teachers, teacher assistants, and support staff and compensation packages were explained and signed off.
- Employees of the Month:
 - Jessica McNeilly (1st Grade Teacher)-May
 - Heather White (2nd Grade Teacher)-April
 - Joy Justice (1st Grade TA)-March
 - Wendy Whitaker (Kindergarten TA)-February
 - Robin Kester (Administrative Assistant)-January
 - Laura Ballard (Art K-5)-December
 - Haley Haire (1st Grade TA)-November
 - Amy Horton (1st Grade TA)-October
 - Hannah Jackson(1st Grade Teacher)-September
 - Kimberly Guffey (1st Grade Teacher)-August

Enrollment

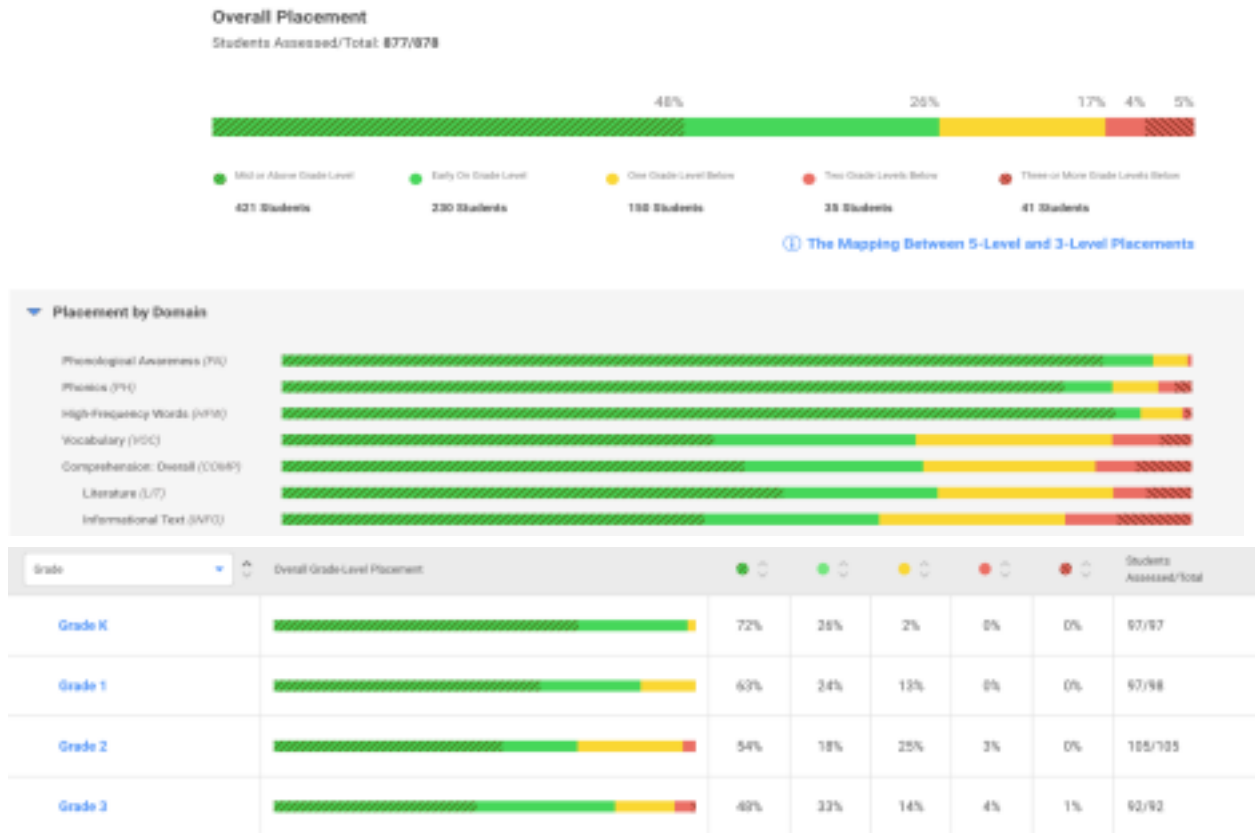
- Postcards were mailed to incoming kindergarten students with a picture and a sentence about what they like best about Pinnacle Classical Academy.
- Kinder Cookout will be held on July 25th.

Personnel

- Mrs. Scism (former STEM teacher) will be a 3rd grade teacher next school year.
- Miss Taylor (former 2nd grade teacher) will be moving to 4th grade.
- Mrs. Shirey (former 4th grade teacher) will be moving to 2nd grade.

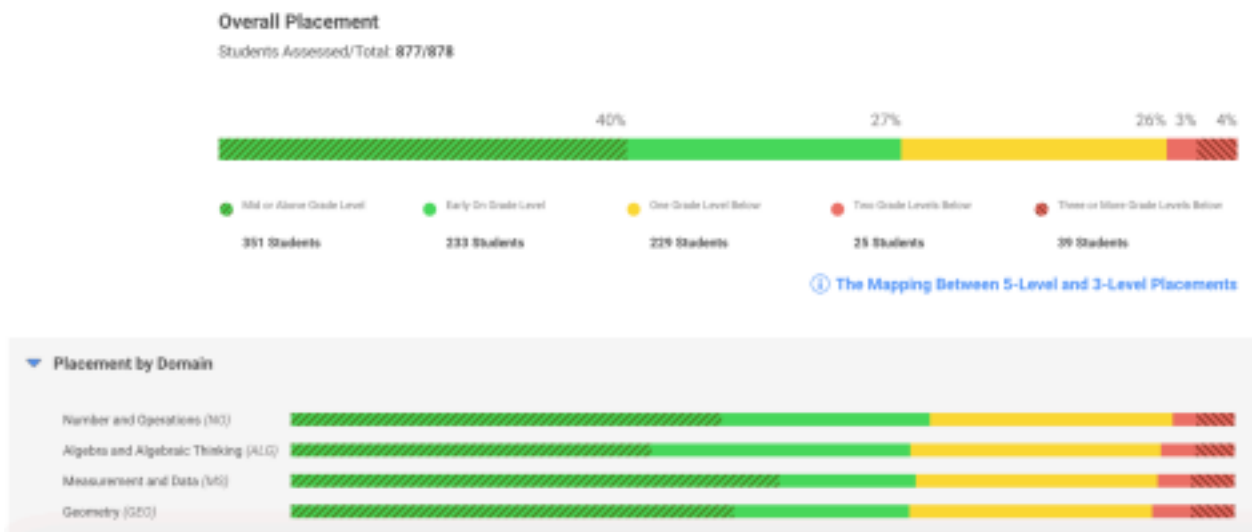
Testing/Data

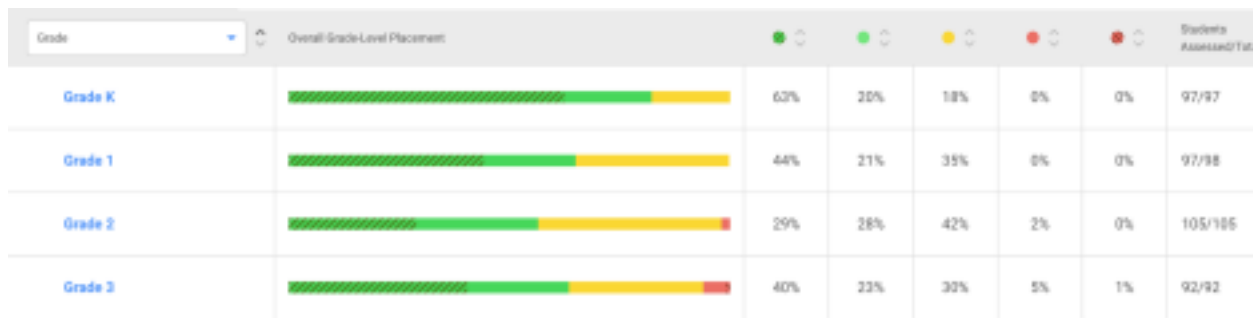
- iReady End of Year Diagnostic Results
 - K-3 Reading
 - ***The top bar represents grades K-8 Reading.**



- iReady End of Year Diagnostic Results
 - K-3 Math

***The top bar represents K-8 Math.**





Upcoming Dates:

- Reading Camp-June 10th-June 20th
- Math Camp-July 8th-18th
- Kinder Cookout-July 25th

4-8 Report to the Board of Directors

**Presented by
Mrs. Laura Beth Richardson
June 2024**

Curriculum/Academics/Data

2023-2024 EOC Scores

The following data will be used to inform and direct our next steps as we plan for the 2024-25 school year. A special thanks to our testing coordinator, Ms. Frazier, for all of her planning, organization, and prompt feedback throughout the end of year testing season.

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
4th Grade Math	69%	79%	71%	68%
5th Grade Math	59%	65%	63%	68%
6th Grade Math	77%	80%	78%	77%
7th Grade Math	83%	74%	77%	75%
8th Grade Math	62%	68%	70%	70%

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
4th Grade Reading	76%	73%	82%	71%
5th Grade Reading	58%	61%	52%	72%
6th Grade Reading	70%	73%	79%	61%
7th Grade	79%	81%	84%	86%

Reading				
8th Grade Reading	72%	73%	90%	74%

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
5th Grade Science	82%	71%	67%	66%
8th Grade Science	86%	91%	93%	95%

- **Areas of Celebration**
 - 7th grade reading, 8th grade science, 5th grade reading and math scores have increased from 2023 scores.
 - Many students who have not passed EOGs in the past passed for the first time this school year.
 - Teachers are overall more conscious of their data. Due to teachers hosting data discussions with individual students, our students have had more experience with setting and working towards attainable goals.
- **Opportunities for Growth**
 - While a great deal of growth has been achieved, focusing on achieving higher proficiency ratings in all areas with the exceptions of 7th grade reading and 8th grade science will be our goal in the coming year. Adjusting the dynamic/focus of PLCs as well as providing teachers with professional development and strategies to meet the needs of their students are the beginning stages of the plan to improve proficiency in 4th-8th grade.

Beginning Teacher/New Hires:

- Another teacher has completed their third and final year of the BT program. A total of 9 teachers will enter their final year of the BT program this fall. A special thanks to all of our seasoned teachers who serve as mentors each year. The guidance, support, and encouragement they provide to our beginning teachers has not gone unnoticed.

Hiring/Personnel

- The following individuals have been hired on the 4-8 team for the 2024-25 school year. We have many upcoming interviews scheduled that will hopefully lead to the remaining 4-8 positions being filled.
 - Kayla McNeilly- 5th grade
 - Jessica Coleman- Middle School PE

Extracurricular Activities:

- **4th, 5th, and Middle School Awards Ceremonies**
 - We had a strong finish to the school year that included impressive amounts of parent support and student achievement! The Lyceum housed all 4th-8th grade students, families, and staff (at their designated times). Awards included A honor roll, A B honor roll, highest average, most growth, etc. Special awards such as the history and geography bees were also included.

9-12 Report to the Board of Directors
Presented by
Mrs. Angela Brooks
June 9, 2024

Curriculum and Academics:

- We had 29 seniors graduate on June 1st, 2024 at Pinnacle Classical Academy’s Lyceum. That is 100% of the Class of 2024. There was a very good turnout for both Senior Awards Night and the Graduation ceremonies. We are very proud of our Pinnacle graduates and are excited to see what the future holds for each of them.
- Testing for the 2023-2024 school year has concluded. We are using this data to reflect on our instructional methods for the 2023-2024 school year and will use this to help focus and drive instruction.

2023-2024 EOC Scores

	Goal based on EVAAS	2023-24	% Difference
Biology	70%	71%	+1
Math III	70%	72%	+2
English II	85%	82%	-3

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	
Biology	57%	53%	67%	71%	+4
Math III	52%	70%	81%	72%	-9
English II	90%	83%	80%	82%	+2

- Highlights:
 - Overall, High school has made very good progress and we feel very confident about each of our subject areas; Biology, Math III, and English II.
- Areas for Improvement:
 - Math III is going to be our focus for the 20204-25 school year as we are transitioning staff.
- We have several camps that will be going on this summer to help students in several different areas. For rising seniors we are holding a Summer Essay Workshop June 3rd-5th. This is giving our rising seniors a chance to work on and complete their college essays. In addition it teaches them strategies about applying for college, the best way to send scores, etc. The camp has been very well attended and had ----- participants.
- Band Camp will begin on July 29th and last through August 2nd. This will be led by Mrs.

Owens is a great opportunity for our students to learn a few more musical techniques. I am sure that our scholars will have a wonderful time.

Personnel:

- We have hired the following individuals to join the 9-12 team in the 2024-25 school year:
 - High School Math: Margot Alexander
 - High School English: Elizabeth Decker

We are currently still seeking qualified candidates for our Classical position.

Extracurricular Activities:

- Academic Awards Ceremony:
 - We have had a wonderful 2023-2024 school year and had a wonderful award ceremony to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of our students. The Awards Ceremony was held at the Lyceum on Thursday, May 23rd at 1:00. Many parents and family members were able to attend this special event.

Community Outreach:

- PCA's National Honor Society participated in Relay for Life on Saturday, May 18th from 5:00-9:00 pm. They worked very hard this year and raised \$3,300.00 for cancer awareness for the American Cancer Society.
- The Phi Rho Robotics team recently participated at an Earth Day event in Kings Mountain on Saturday, April 20th. This was a great way for our students to display their achievements and accomplishments as well as educate the public about the importance of robotics. The Robotics team has also recently received a \$500.00 sponsorship from Bosch. We are excited for our team and this community and business partnership.
- Student Government raised \$530.00 to support North Carolina's Children's homes from their blue t-shirt day earlier this school year. Our students are happy to be able to contribute to such a great cause.

Special Awards and Recognitions:

- Madelyn Hicks and Will Brooks, both seniors, will be PCA's nominations for the Morehead Scholarship at Chapel Hill. Students will begin working on the application process and send their completed application over the next few weeks.
- Douglas Womack, junior, was selected to be the student ambassador for the HOBY Youth Leadership Seminar. This will be a 3 or 4 day seminar in which students participate in facilitated dialogue and abilities-based workshops to develop awareness of their leadership strengths and an understanding of their leadership values.
- Kate Saravia, junior, will be attending a science camp at Gardner-Webb University this summer. This will be a wonderful opportunity for camp and we are excited to hear about her experience.
- Justhin Canatra, alumni, received a \$1,000.00 scholarship through Making It Work. His scholarship was sponsored by Nippon Electric Glass. This is a wonderful opportunity for Justhin as he is going to attend NC State University and we are excited to be able

to celebrate with him.

Senior Activities:

- The Class of 2024 received over \$3,000,000.00 in scholarships and awards. We are very proud of the Class of 2024 and wish them all the best!

Graduation Data

Plans of graduates at time of Graduation

	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Attending 4- year College or Universities	61%	63%	48%	58%	76%
Attending 2- year College or Universities	18%	10%	28%	18%	10%
Military	3%	10%	0%	3%	0

Workforce 18% 17% 24% 21% 14%

Scholarships Awarded

	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Local Scholarships	\$4,500	\$14,500	\$22,700	\$23,300	\$28,700

University Scholarships	\$3,414,868	\$4,079,320	\$3,068,600	\$7,287,596	\$3,080,730
Total	\$3,419,368	\$4,093,820	\$3,091,300	\$7,310,896	\$3,109,430

- We had 19 students graduating with either their Associate in Science or Associates in Arts Degree as well as their high school diploma. In addition, we have one student who has completed the Business Administration Certificate. That is 69% of the Class of 2024.
- Of the 29 anticipated graduates 86% of the Class of 2024 has received some college credit either through Advanced Placement classes or through Cleveland Community College. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students and will be beneficial as many of them continue

additional educational opportunities upon graduation.

Board Report
Dean of Academics
June 2024

Last spring, the board voiced support for the administration's request to explore curricular enhancements. In making such enhancements, we are drawing on materials in use at other classical and high-performing schools, preventing Pinnacle Classical Academy from being permanently tied to a sole curricular provider whose quality may decline over time.

Deciding to focus on one subject area per year, we have concentrated on improving our science curricular materials. We decided to focus on science this year because of the STEM focus in our charter and because North Carolina is in the midst of implementing a new standard course of studies in science.

We conducted research into the science materials used at the following schools:

- the nation's top schools on the Classic Learning Test (CLT)
- the nation's top schools on the CLT 10 the nation's top schools on the CLT 8
- the state's top schools on the grade 5 science EOG
- the state's top schools on the grade 8 science EOG
- the state's top schools on the Biology EOC test
- the nation's leading classical charter school network
- the Classical Latin Schools Association

Having conducted the research, the administrative team decided on the following overarching curricular enhancements and informed the chair of the curriculum committee:

- to pursue the incorporation of additional CK Sci (Core Knowledge Science) materials in grades K-8, in a manner consistent with the state testing focus on reading and math, with the K-3 CK Sci units replacing the current Listening & Learning science domains (in other words, science units will replace literacy units with a science theme)
- to continue and strengthen the focus on EOG science preparation in grades 5 and 8

In addition, the administrative team proposed chemistry and environmental science resources to teachers for their consideration, recognizing these teachers' expertise in their areas.

As a result:

- with the strong support of the chemistry teacher, *Principles of Chemistry* (Classical Academic Press) will be used as a chemistry textbook
- with the strong support of the environmental science teacher, *Planet Earth: Land, Water, Sky* (Classical Academic Press) will be used as an electronic supplemental resource

Classical Foundations Program (CFP) Update

April 2024

(tabled, updated on May 30, 2024)

1. The Foundation for Economics Education arranged for Howard Beatty to be our

spring Classical Foundations Program on March 26. His talks to students and faculty were well received.

2. Dr. Christine Basil Boor will be our commencement speaker on Saturday, June 1, 2024. She is the Vilma György Pallos Endowed Chair in Classical Education at Belmont Abbey College, the first endowed chair established in the college's 148-year history. Dr. Boor received her B.A. in Political Science and Government from Belmont Abbey College and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from Baylor University, where she wrote her dissertation on Aristotle's political thought. As a professor in Belmont Abbey College's Honors College, Dr. Boor has taught classes in political thought, the trivium, and ancient Greek literature, history, and philosophy. She is overseeing the College's new Master of Arts in Classical and Liberal Education.

3. Hadley Heath Manning, a Shelby native, has agreed to be our commencement speaker on Saturday, May 31, 2025 (the Saturday after Memorial Day). Her biography:

Hadley Heath Manning is vice president for policy at Independent Women's Forum and Independent Women's Voice and a Senior Blankley Fellow at the Steamboat Institute.

Hadley has testified before Congress and state legislatures on various policy issues. She also appears frequently in radio and TV outlets across the country and is a regular guest on the Fox Business Network. Her work has been featured in publications such as the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, POLITICO, and many others.

In 2016, Hadley was named to Forbes' 30 Under 30 list in Law and Policy.

Hadley graduated with distinction from the University of North Carolina as a Morehead-Cain Scholar with a double major in economics and journalism. She now lives in Denver, Colorado, with her husband and children.

<https://www.iwf.org/people/hadley-heath-manning/>

4. Students in middle school and high school watch a brief presentation each month by T.K. Coleman; each presentation is devoted to one of the school's ten values. May's theme was pride.

**Headmaster Report to the Board of Directors
Presented by Dr. Shelly Shope
June 2024**

Action Items:

-

Curriculum and Academics:

- **Testing**
 - **EOG / EOC Testing Results** - Data listed separately

■ 2024-2025 Areas of Focus

- 3rd Grade Reading
- 6th grade Reading
- Elementary Math (3rd, 4th, 5th)
- A few individual teachers will require additional support to get scores where we need them to be

■ Areas to celebrate

- The following teachers will receive a performance bonus based on their results. a total of \$13,500 was awarded in Performance Bonuses.
 - Hastings - 3rd grade reading - 82%
 - Gambrell - 4th grade math - 88%
 - Inman - 6th grade math - 83%
 - Waters - 6th grade math - 81%
 - Hicks - 7th grade reading - 95%
 - Waldrep - 7th grade math - 92%
 - Harrell - 8th grade reading - 85%
 - Peeler - 8th grade science - 90%
 - Waldrep - Math I - 83%
 - Barger - Math I - 88%
 - Laughlin - ENG II - 85%
 - Welch - Math III - 82%
- All end-of-the-year and summer program testing is complete. We tested 100% of our students.
 - Thank you for approving our summer program each year. This provides an opportunity for our students to remediate for 8 hours, and then retake the state test. This retest counts in our school's overall proficiency. This year we had 95 participating students which is the most students we have ever had to pursue this opportunity. Almost 50% of the students that participated achieved proficiency when tested. This helped our school proficiency greatly!
 - AP: AP tests are complete. We will have AP test scores in July.
 - Some of our juniors will have the opportunity to take the ACT at PCA this summer. We are excited to provide this opportunity.

● Special Populations

- All EC referrals are complete. Final reports are being completed.
- All 504s are being uploaded into the new system.

● Retentions

- Unfortunately, we have some students who are not ready for the next grade level. These decisions are not made lightly, and are communicated to the parents throughout the year. Our teachers have held conferences with parents to discuss the possibility of retention and have parent signatures documenting these conferences. We will be retaining 21 students. (This is lower than last year when we retained 23

students.)

- Kindergarten - 2 students
- 1st Grade - 1 students
- 2nd Grade - 0 students
- 3rd Grade - 2 students
- 4th Grade - 1 student
- 5th Grade - 0 students
- 6th Grade - 2 students
- 7th Grade - 0 students
- 8th Grade - 0 students
- 9th Grade - 2 students
- 10th Grade - 1 students
- 11th Grade - 0 students

Policy and Procedures:

- Please see the attached proposed changes to the Student Code of Conduct.
 - Consequences for violations
 - Searches
- Per statute, we will be including the Parent’s Bill of Rights (see attachment) in our Parent / Student Handbook and on our website.

Finance:

- Financial information is attached. We continue to be in a strong financial position.

Human Resources:

- We are working to select top quality candidates for the upcoming school year. We are pleased to have quite a few candidates reach out to us saying that they have heard great things and what to be a part of Pinnacle.
- Positions for the 2024-25 school year have been posted online and we have started interviews to find the best possible candidates for our school.

Legal / DPI:*

- **Submissions to DPI**
 - All submissions to EpiCenter are up to date and approved

Athletics:

- Report is attached

2024-25 Enrollment

- As of May 2nd, we have received 350 Initial Applications for the 2024-2025 school year.

Total #s for 24-25	Waitlist	# of Classes	
112	0	5	22.4
120	0	5	24

108	3	4	27
101	16	4	25.25
105	1	4	26.25
113	0	5	22.6
110	0	4	27.5
102	1	4	25.5
109	4	4	27.25
112	0	4	28
89	3	4	22.25
63	4	3	21
45	1	2	22.5

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PCA Athletics

6/4/2024

Tryouts Completed for the following Fall Sports:

- MS Women's Volleyball
- MS Men's Soccer
- MS Men's Cross Country
- MS Women's Cross Country
- JV Women's Volleyball
- Varsity Men's Cross Country
- Varsity Women's Cross Country
- Varsity Men's Soccer
- Varsity Women's Volleyball

Upcoming Archery Dates @ PCA

- June 8th, 2024 (NC S3DA State Championship) @ PCA

Athletic Department

The Athletic Department plans to spend the summer working on the following items:

1. Fall Scheduling: We are in full swing with scheduling athletic contests for the upcoming fall season. We continue to work diligently to schedule games with teams closer to home, aiming to increase rivalry, boost attendance, and reduce the strain on our families.

2. DragonFlyMax: The Athletic Department continues to work tirelessly to increase our efficiency with collecting required athletic documents for participation. Transitioning from an entirely offline collection process to a completely digital one has had its challenges, but this move was necessary given our growth. The process continues to improve as we make slight adjustments to ensure compliance with all conference and state guidelines.

3. Fundraising: The Athletic Department will soon begin working on our 2024-2025 business sponsorships. We plan to offer three locations for sponsors in the upcoming school year:

- Soccer Field
- Baseball Field
- Gym

4. Athletic Committee: The Athletic Department is still working on recommendations for members to serve on the PCA Athletic Committee. We welcome suggestions for potential candidates. At the next board meeting, the Athletic Department plans to present five names for your consideration.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. Have a

wonderful June!

With great respect,

Brandon E. Gosey

Action Items:

1. *Motion was made by Wes Westmoreland to approve two policy changes to the Student/Parent Handbook as presented, and add the North Carolina Bill of Rights, 2nd made by Pauline Cahill, all approved.*

Committee Updates:

1. *Facilities: An update was given about construction progress.*
2. *Report from Athletics was given*
 - a. *The archery held at the 4-12 campus was very successful*

Adjournment *Pauline Cahill made a motion to adjourn and Ken Mooney seconded. Meeting was adjourned.*

Dr. Christine Boor was elected unanimously to become a member of the PCA Board of Directors via email. We are very excited to have Dr. Boor join Pinnacle Classical Academy's Board of Directors and are looking forward to her level of expertise in the classical arena.