



Palmer Ridge High School

Lewis-Palmer School District #38
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Palmer Ridge High School Profile 2011-2012

COMMUNITY: Palmer Ridge High School is a public and college-oriented high school which officially opened its doors on August 14, 2008. Our current student enrollment for 2011-2012 is approximately 1126 in grades nine through twelve. The school calendar is 173 days in length. Palmer Ridge utilizes an alternating block schedule, a daily schedule of four, ninety-two minute periods. Students are limited to taking seven classes per semester.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Ignite, Engage, Encourage, and Expect Excellence

- IGNITES a passion for learning,
- ENGAGES learners with multiple opportunities,
- ENCOURAGES each student to be challenged in his/her own unique abilities and interests, and
- EXPECTS EXCELLENCE in learning, citizenship, and habits of the mind in a dynamic world.

VISION STATEMENT:

The Staff of the school is passionate about learning; dedicated lifelong learners; collaborative with each other, focusing on improved student achievement; and firmly committed to a Professional Learning Community that is focused on using student data to improve individual student achievement.

The Curriculum and Instruction prepares students for their futures in a dynamic world; is balanced and meaningful; is active and purposeful, utilizing innovative programs that focus on high levels of student achievement and growth; addresses multiple learning styles; and is student-centered, based on the individual student data and goals.

FACULTY: The Palmer Ridge staff is well educated and qualified. There are 103 total staff members who work with Palmer Ridge students. All teachers and administrators have Colorado certification, forty-six have master's degree and three have a Ph.D. Two assistant principals, one dean and four counselors provide students with support services.

DISTRICT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must have 25 credits to graduate.

English	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Mathematics	2 credits
Science	2 credits
Physical Education	1.5 credits
Health	.5 credits

The following minimum course requirements are recommended for students planning on attending a college or university: 4 English credits, 4 math credits, 3 science credits, and 2 world language credits. Included in the above areas are English I, II, III, geometry, biology, civics, and American History. PRHS highly recommends that perspective college or university students take additional credit in English IV, Algebra II, Chemistry, and an additional (third) year in world language.

GPA and Class Ranking

Grade Point Averages and Class Rank are based on grades 9-12, and calculated using a 4.0 scale. Beginning with this year's class of 2012, all Advanced Placement courses are weighted on a 5.0 scale. Students must finish the course and take the AP exam to have their grades weighted. Semester grades are used.

GRADING SYSTEM

Grade point averages are often used to determine eligibility for college or university entrance or for standing on the honor roll, principal's list, or minimum graduation standards. Grading system is as follows:

Grading Scale All Classes except AP:	A = 4 points	B = 3 points	C = 2 points	D = 1 point	F = 0 points
AP Grading Scale (if AP exam was taken):	A = 5 points	B = 4 points	C = 3 points	D = 1 point	F = 0 points

POST GRADUATE PLACEMENT

Approximately 87% of our 2011 graduates are attending a four-year or two-year college. Of the college-bound students, 66% attend in-state colleges and 34% attend out-of-state colleges. .5% entered into military services.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE OFFERINGS

Palmer Ridge High School participates in the College Board's National Advanced Placement program. PRHS currently offers classes in AP Biology, AP Calculus, AP Chemistry, AP English Language & Composition, AP Literature & Composition, AP Photo, AP European History, AP Statistics, AP U.S. Government & Politics and AP U.S. History.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

The concurrent enrollment program is for eligible juniors and seniors, whereby they may earn both high school and college credit by taking community college courses at Pikes Peak Community College.

On-site courses eligible for college credit through CU Succeed Program.

AREA VOCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Area Vocational Program (AVP) is offered through Pike Peak Community College and the International Beauty Academy. It provides occupational skill development and training for junior and senior high school students.

OTHER PROGRAMS OFFERED

Options 38 – A district alternative educational program.

Special Education – Subject requirements are established by the program coordinator and the student's individual need.

HONORS COURSES OFFERINGS

The following honors courses prepare students for the AP exam or are taught at the college level: Honors American History, Honors Civics, Honors English 1, Honors English 2, Honors English 3 and Honors Modern World History.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

Students participate in the following standardized tests: ACT, ASVAB, CELA, CSAP, EXPLORE, PLAN, PSAT, SAT and Advanced Placement exams.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Palmer Ridge provides a full complement of both boys' and girls' interscholastic sports, special interest clubs and organizations. Student involvement remains a key theme in all of the school's activity programs.

Many of our band and choir students have been selected as all state musicians, and our performing ensembles have consistent superior ratings. The "Bear Necessity Theatre Company" has several productions annually, and has developed an outstanding reputation for its artistry.

PROGRAM AND TEST RESULTS

PLAN TEST SCORES						
Year	# of Tests Takers	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2010-11	299	18.6	19.8	19.1	19.8	19.5

SAT TEST SCORES				
Year	# of Tests Takers	Reading	Math	Writing
2010-11	33	565	590	565

ACT SCORES (State Mandated)						
Year	# of Tests Takers	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2011	273	22.0	22.6	22.5	22.2	22.5

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS	
Year	
2011	247 students took 347 AP exams with 77.4% scoring 3 or better.

