



# PINE FORGE ACADEMY

PINE FORGE | PENNSYLVANIA | EST. 1946

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February 2017

Dear Families:

As you prepare to enjoy Home Leave, here are a few reminders and announcements for your consideration.

1. **SENIORS/CLASS OF 2017 and CHOIR MEMBERS** - Please make a doctor's appointment to get the TYPHOID immunization during this Home Leave or on another weekend prior to the international trip that you will attend. The TYPHOID immunization is required in order to travel to Jamaica, West Indies. The USA Travel Advisory, Allegheny East Conference of Education, and the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists require students, faculty and missionaries to have these medical precautions.
  - a. Nurse Booker is **LEGALLY UNABLE** to take students under the age of 18 to secure this immunization.
  - b. Students who do not already have the Hepatitis A shot **MUST SECURE** this immunization before traveling on this international trip.
2. **ALL STUDENTS** - Pine Forge Academy's Board of Trustees with the Academy Curriculum Committee has voted to retroactively apply a 5.0 GPA/grade weight scale to all Academy courses beginning August 2016 effective immediately. A 5.0 GPA/grade weight scale better represents students' academic accomplishments. A weighted GPA takes into account course difficulty rather than providing the same letter grade to GPA conversion for every student. Usually, weighted GPA is measured on a scale of 0 to 5.0, although some scales go up higher. An A in an Honors or AP class or Dual Credit course may translate into a 5.0 weighted GPA, while an A in a low level class will give you a 4.0 weighted GPA. Here are the grade weight rules the Academy will apply hence forward:
  - a. All courses will be designated as '4.0', '4.5', or '5.0'.
  - b. Only courses designated as weighted courses are eligible to receive a designation above '4.0'.
  - c. As the degree of difficulty increases from '4.0' to '4.5', to '5.0', the number of weighted points, which can be earned for a particular grade, increases.
  - d. Weights are assigned based on the scale below.
  - e. If you would like to request an updated grade sheet/transcript from the Registrar, you may do so by email request only.
  - f. Please note that this policy change only serves to HELP students who are enrolled in challenging courses and does not HARM students in any manner. The Academy Curriculum Committee deemed it important to make this change mid-year to benefit all students enrolled in courses at MontCo this school year.

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Grade Scale	A	B	C	D	F
Regular	4	3	2	1	0
Honor	4.5	3.5	2.5	1.5	0
AP/COLLEGE/DUAL CREDIT	5	4	3	2	1

3. **ALL BOARDING STUDENTS** - Please be reminded that the pick up deadline for Home Leave on Wednesday is 6 pm. Families who pick up students after that time, will receive a late pick up charge. The dorm re-opens on Monday, February 20, 2017 at 4:00 pm.

**Lastly**, the Academy faculty will participate in a professional development event at the Hill School on Wednesday, February 15, 2017. The schedule for Wednesday will be as follows:

Wednesday, February 15, 2017	
<i>Modified Wednesday Schedule</i>	
<b>7:45 AM</b>	Teacher Arrival at the Hill School
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Hill School "Mini" Campus Tour
<b>8:25 AM</b>	Teacher PD
<b>9:35 AM</b>	Teacher PD
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<i>Student Breakfast</i>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Classes Begin
<b>2:00 PM</b>	Classes End - Modified Wednesday Schedule
<b>2:00 PM</b>	<i>Student Lunch.</i> <i>Students begin to depart the dorm.</i>
<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>ALL FACULTY AND STAFF MEETING IN THE LIBRARY.</b>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Dorms Close.</b>  Deans will have remaining students pack up and prepare to leave BEFORE 5:00 pm so that students who are still here at 5:00 pm can wait in the Computer Lab of Wagner Hall during our All Staff and Faculty Meeting.
<b>Enjoy Home Leave!</b>	

Nicole Hughes, Headmaster

CC: H. Fordham, J. Dent, K. Fielder, J. Pottinger, All Faculty and Staff

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