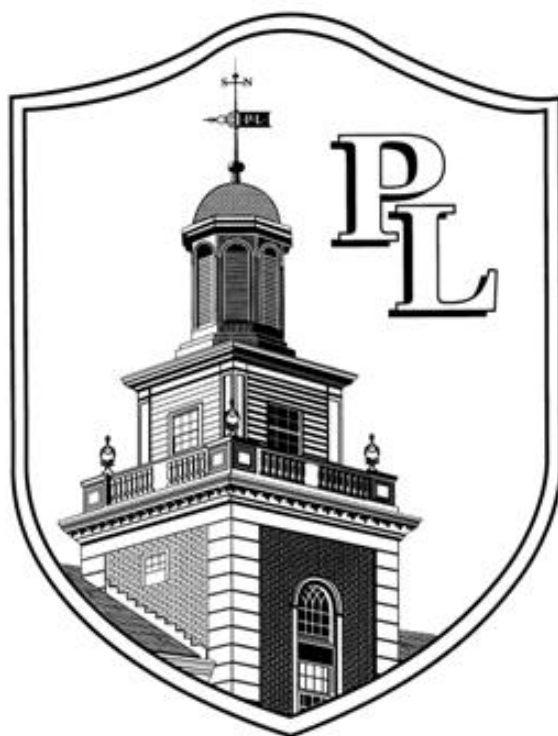


POMPTON LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

Extracurricular Clubs and Activities



ASSEMBLY PLANNING COMMITTEE**Advisor – Mrs. Cheryl Schlick**

This committee is open to all students interested in helping to plan and organize assemblies throughout the school year.

THE CARDINAL NETWORK**Advisor – Mr. Robert Edgar**

The Cardinal Network is a news organization for Pompton Lakes High School with the primary function of collecting and curating content for the school website, social media feeds, and Cardinal News morning announcements. Students involved in *The Cardinal Network* serve as interns and report to their advisor. Each student is designated a specific task, including, but not limited to, canvassing the PLHS staff and student body for content and writing short blurbs and captions for the procured content. These stories can include features, entertainment, sports, and/or general news such as student accolades. The purpose of *The Cardinal Network* is to inform the community and school of what is happening in PLHS and beyond while highlighting student achievements and giving student journalists an exposure to central elements of 21st century journalism.

CHANGE-OF-TOWN OFFICERS (CTO) DAY**Advisors – Mr. Christopher Patrick and Mr. Paul Smith**

This annual event is held in partnership with the Borough Hall, Mayor, and Town Council of Pompton Lakes. Juniors and seniors may run for the mayoral and town council offices. On CTO Day, elected students fulfill the responsibilities of the positions for which they were elected. CTO Day affords participating students a wonderful opportunity to learn about local government and relative issues. In recent years, the CTO Day tradition has been extended to allow students to serve in the roles of the school faculty and staff.

CLASS OF 2023 ♦ SENIOR CLASS**Advisors – Mr. Scott Mahoney and Mrs. Christine Parisi**

Senior year is an exciting time at Pompton Lakes High School. As a school rich in tradition, students anticipate the special events that go along with the privilege of becoming the leaders of PLHS. The school year begins with homeroom in the auditorium as seniors begin each day together as a class. Seniors quickly realize that planning for their post-high school experience begins almost immediately. They spend the year enjoying the senior experience, including the senior lounge, senior privilege, first seating at all assemblies, total dominance at the pep rally, ownership of the five golden rings at the holiday assembly, and all culminating senior activities. At PLHS, senior year is a most memorable experience hopefully treasured by all.

**CLASS OF 2024 ♦ JUNIOR CLASS****Advisors – Mrs. Caterina Hoffman and Mr. Christopher Patrick**

The junior class focuses on fundraising and preparing for the much-anticipated senior year. Students work to ensure that they have raised the proper funds for their upcoming senior traditions and activities such as senior t-shirts, prom, senior trip, senior dinner, and senior breakfast. The juniors are also responsible for organizing the winter formal/homecoming dance.

CLASS OF 2025 ♦ SOPHOMORE CLASS**Advisor – Mrs. Nora Baena-Cano**

The sophomores welcome the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities as upperclassmen. During their second year at Pompton Lakes High School, the sophomores continue to fundraise to offset the cost of their senior activities, especially the senior trip. Class leaders are elected to help brainstorm ideas and organize fundraisers. Yet, all members of the sophomore class are welcome to volunteer.

CLASS OF 2026 ♦ FRESHMAN CLASS**Advisor – Mrs. Bernadette Wines**

The primary goal of the freshman class is to raise money. The majority of the money raised is earmarked to defray the cost of the senior traditions and activities. The remainder of the money is used for dances and various class activities that take place throughout the course of the four years of high school.

COALITION OF STUDENT AMBASSADORS (CSA)**Advisors – Mr. Justin Jones and Mrs. Christine Parisi**

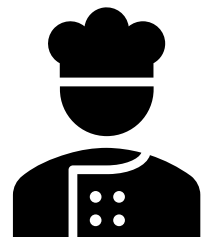
The Coalition of Student Ambassadors, or CSA, is comprised of select students from all four grade levels. Students are invited to join CSA based on recommendations from the principal and other activity advisors. CSA activities have included visiting other high schools and hosting other high schools for the purpose of comparative analysis and idea sharing. CSA members also serve as hosts and hostesses at premier school events.

COLOR GUARD (BAND FRONT)**Advisor – Mrs. Gigi Bognar-Doherty**

Anyone can join Color Guard as long as they are prepared to work hard and have fun. Depending on the number of interested participants, auditions may be necessary. Members are required to attend a few summer rehearsals plus a weeklong band camp in August. They should be able and willing to perform with confidence and personality. The first few practices in the summer are spent learning the basics of flag work and marching skills. Band Camp is very important because a large portion of the field show is learned that week. Anyone who joins Color Guard becomes part of the Marching Band and is required to attend all of the Marching Band events and rehearsals. (Please refer to the Marching Band section for further information.)

**CULINARY ARTS CLUB****Advisors – Mrs. Gail DeGraw and Chef Matthew Foley**

The Culinary Arts Club is a club for those students interested in participating in food-related events. The goals of the club include building social skills through a shared interest in food, further developing a valuable life skill, and developing character through food-related service events. The club is open to all students no matter the skill level. The club typically meets twice per month throughout the school year. Bon appétit!



ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB**Advisors – Mrs. Amanda Brown and Mr. Kevin Wortman**

The goal of this club is to help students learn about their environment and share their appreciation for nature with the Pompton Lakes community. Students in the club achieve this mission by participating in recycling at PLHS, community service projects, field trips, and fundraising.

FASHION CLUB (PILOT)**Advisor – Mrs. Katie Miceli**

The Fashion Club unites students who wish to promote and enjoy fashion-related activities. This club offers a space where fashion-loving students may share ideas, run promotions, discuss current trends in the fashion world, host events and fundraisers, work on projects, and introduce fashion-related careers. The Fashion Club fosters creativity and innovation.

**FOOTBALL REFRESHMENT STAND****Advisor – Ms. Brooke Collins**

The new "Snack Stand Club" is open to all Pompton Lakes High School students who wish to help work the Football Refreshment Stand. Students who work there arrive about an hour before the game to help set up, and they stay for about a half-hour after the game to help clean up. Snack Stand Club members enjoy selling a plethora of items, including candy, hot dogs, and a fan favorite – hot pretzels. All profits are used to support student activities. The students really enjoy working together and have fun keeping up with the "halftime rush."

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA (FBLA)**Advisor – Mrs. Lori Conte**

Perhaps one of the most competitive and involved clubs at Pompton Lakes High School is FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America). FBLA provides students with the opportunity to express their leadership skills by competing in regional, state, and national competitions. These competitions offer students the opportunity to compete with students from around the state and even other countries. However, FBLA is not only about competitions. Students are able to grow and learn through the many workshops provided at conferences as well as activities providing service to the community and local businesses. FBLA also provides students with an opportunity to socialize and develop friendships through social activities. Being a part of FBLA will supercharge your high school career and give you opportunities to develop your skills and abilities outside of the classroom environment.

**GAME CLUB (PILOT)****Advisor – Mr. Lucas Jeron**

The PLHS Game Club is a group for students to come and share their love of games with each other. With a wide interest in board games, card games, tabletop games, and video games, there are plenty of options no matter what kind of games students might be interested in. Students are encouraged to bring their own games to share with others, and many teachers are kind enough to bring their own to share with students, allowing for many opportunities between students and teachers to play together.

GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE**Advisors – Dr. Lisa Bracamonte and Mr. Christopher Nappa**

The main goal of the club is to provide students and allies a safe, welcoming space to fully express their individuality, share experiences, and to promote tolerance and acceptance throughout the school community. This all-inclusive club meets regularly after school throughout the year, participating in activities (for example, movies, crafts, games, and team-building activities) to support all students in building alliances across sexual identity and gender orientation lines.

GIRLS WHO CODE**Advisor – Ms. Noelle Serra**

The Girls Who Code Club typically meets once per month. At the initial meeting, club members begin to build relationships and discuss coding experience and potential projects. During club meetings, the group explores different platforms such as Girls Who Code, Code.org, and Tynker. Outside of the club meetings, members are expected to explore some coding on their own. Girls Who Code (GWC) is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to closing the gender gap in technology and computer science. The goal is to support and increase the number of women in computer science by equipping young women with the necessary computing skills to pursue 21st century opportunities. You do not need any coding experience to join and get started on learning this rare yet highly demanded skill!

**IMPACT LITERARY MAGAZINE****Advisors – Mr. Matthew Hennessy and Mr. Kevin Sullivan**

Impact, the school's literary and art magazine, is an annual publication that is published at the end of each school year. Any student or faculty member may submit original writings and/or artwork for inclusion in the magazine. *Impact* publishes not only the work the students have done in school but also original work created at home. Students may submit visual art of any medium and all forms of creative writing. Students who would like to join are encouraged to talk to an advisor and attend the weekly after-school meetings.

INDOOR DRUMLINE (PILOT)**Director – Mr. Lucas Jeron****Percussion Instructor – Ms. Kaitlin Morrell**

The Pompton Lakes High School Indoor Drumline is a competitive standstill Percussion group, utilizing percussion instruments typically found in a marching band. Instruments include Battery Percussion (Marching Snare Drum, Tenor Drums, Bass Drums, and Cymbals), Keyboard Percussion (Marimba, Xylophone, Vibraphone, and Bells), Auxiliary Percussion, and Electronics (Keyboard Synthesizer, Guitars, and Samples). The Indoor Drumline rehearses and performs in gymnasiums in the winter and competes throughout the winter and early spring. Students who participate in Marching Band are encouraged to join Indoor Drumline to learn new instruments and continue working on their skills year-round.

**INTERACT****Advisors – Ms. Gineen Ricciardelli and Mrs. Elvira Zulali**

This club fosters leadership, responsible citizenship, and teamwork in an effort to benefit the community. An international understanding of peace is promoted as well as empathy for other people.

JAZZ BAND**Advisor – Mr. Christopher Nappa**

This ensemble meets regularly and explores a variety of jazz music, including as Swing, Funk, and Latin. Students learn how to improvise in different keys and have solo opportunities in performances outside of school.

MARCHING BAND**Director – Mr. Lucas Jeron****Assistant Director – Mr. Christopher Nappa****Percussion Instructor – Mrs. Jessica Nappa****Brass Instructor – Ms. Gaia Hutcheson**

The Marching Band is open to anyone who has experience in playing a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument; Color Guard also forms part of the Marching Band. (Please refer to the Color Guard [Band Front] section for further information.)

Interested students can still play a sport and be involved. The band season is year-round; however, the heaviest commitment is in the fall, when the band plays at the football games and at band competitions on weekends. In the spring, the Marching Band attends various parades and goes on a trip during spring vacation. Members of the Marching Band are required to attend a few summer rehearsals plus a weeklong band camp in August, when a large portion of the field show is learned.

**MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS****Advisors – Mr. Michael Riordan, Mr. Stephen Tarsitano, and Mr. Robert Texel**

The morning announcements are broadcasted daily over the large displays in every room in the school and can also be accessed remotely via the web. The Cardinal News Team, consisting of anchors, sports, weather, world news, and entertainment newscasters, delivers the announcements every day during homeroom. It is important to listen to these announcements for meetings and information on other school activities. The morning announcements also give students an opportunity to develop their public speaking and broadcasting skills.

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY (NHS)****Advisor – Mr. Christopher Patrick**

Membership in the National Honor Society is a great accomplishment. To be eligible for induction, a student must be a junior or senior who has a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.6 and has demonstrated leadership, character, and service. If a student qualifies academically, the student will be notified in September and asked to apply for membership. Members provide tutoring and participate in community service projects.

PEER HELPERS**Advisor – Mrs. Christine Parisi**

The Peer Helpers organization uses upperclassmen to welcome the new and the incoming freshman students to the high school. They run the eighth grade and freshman orientations that help acclimate the students to high school life. The Peers also meet with the freshmen during Physical Education classes throughout the school year to discuss academics, social pressures, and answer any concerns the students may have.

PERFORMING ARTS**Advisors – Mr. Lucas Jeron, Mrs. Cheryl Schlick, and Ms. Noelle Serra****PIONEER YEARBOOK****Advisors – Mrs. Iris Mayer, Mrs. Susana Ruesta, and Mr. Kevin Sullivan**

Working on the Pompton Lakes High School yearbook is a rewarding experience. In April, students are encouraged to talk to the advisors if they are interested in participating. Opportunities for responsible students include working on the business and ad staff, learning layout and design, the different writing avenues, and photography. Since there are so many volunteers, the junior and senior editors have a heavy workload but the commitment is shared equally so no one becomes overwhelmed. Along the way, students have a great deal of fun planning, working together, and sharing wild ideas, many of which wind up in the book. The best feeling is when students see their hard work in our award-winning book at the end of the year.

PLPC – YOUTH TASK FORCE (HAWC - HEALTH AND WELLNESS COALITION)**Advisor – Ms. Gineen Ricciardelli**

The club was designed to raise awareness for drug and alcohol prevention that is focused on youth peer leadership. The group focuses on changing the school environment through school and community-based events related to underage drinking and drug addiction. Some of the activities planned are school assemblies, a Knock-Out Opioid Day, Prevention Awareness Week, Sticker Shock, Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week, and attending Teen Leadership Summits. Members are provided with an opportunity to join a group that prohibits participating in unhealthy behaviors and making bad choices. Members gain a positive self-image, a healthy team spirit, and positive leadership skills that they may use throughout their lives.

PSAT AND SAT COURSE**Instructors – Mr. Paul Koontz and Mr. Stephen Tarsitano**

This *free* course is offered to PLHS students who are interested in the techniques and skills that can help improve PSAT and SAT scores. There are different sessions scheduled for math and evidence-based reading and writing, so a student seeking to improve in one area may attend only those specific sessions or choose to attend both. Over the years that this class has run, it has proven to substantially improve students' PSAT and SAT scores, helping them gain acceptance to their dream schools.

SPRING SHOW**Advisors – Mr. Christopher Nappa and Mrs. Jessica Nappa**

The Spring Show group produces the talent show and the spring musical, two of the most highly anticipated spring activities. Practices for such shows are flexible, and auditions are open to any PLHS student. Membership is open to students in grades 9 through 12 who display an interest in any aspect of theatre, drama, or music.

**STAGE CREW****Advisor – Mr. Matthew Palmieri**

The Stage Crew builds the sets for various productions, including the fall drama and spring musical. It is open to all students from 9th through 12th grade. To sign up, listen to the announcements about participating in the fall drama and spring musical. All you need is the time and the desire to be a part of the crew.

STEM CLUB (PILOT)**Advisor – Mr. Paulo Pinto**

STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. As such, the STEM Club at PLHS is intended to help students who are interested in exploring these fields beyond the regular classroom. STEM Club members may work on projects and engage in group study in a competitive yet social environment. Students who are interested in pursuing a STEM-related career may share information and experiences with one another, especially with regard to colleges, universities, and technical schools which offer STEM programs and degrees. Students who want to surround themselves with others who are interested in STEM and have lofty aspirations for their success in school and life should join the STEM Club.

STUDENT COUNCIL**Advisors – Ms. Brooke Collins and Mrs. Bernadette Wines**

After a student enters Pompton Lakes High School, it is important that he or she joins in the many extracurricular activities our school has to offer, whether it is a club or sport. Among these activities is the Student Council, an organization that regularly meets to discuss the means or activities that could make the school a better place to be. The officers of the Student Council include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian. Elected officers meet with the elected homeroom representatives from the Student Council. The Student Council has an agenda to fulfill every year, including the Homecoming Dance and Football Game, various fundraising activities, and the annual Blood Drive.

TEEN CERT**Advisor – Chef Matthew Foley**

The Teen Community Emergency Response Team (Teen CERT) program educates teenage volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and families. The program trains students in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Teen CERT offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, allowing them to focus on more complex tasks.

VOLLEYBALL CLUB**Advisor – Mr. Scott Mahoney**

Club Volleyball was created to provide students with the opportunity to participate in organized recreational volleyball. All interested students will be divided into teams and placed into round robin games. No equipment or previous skills are required to join. The club will meet approximately two times a week during March and April in the high school gym with sign-ups starting in January. Come get in shape and have fun playing club volleyball.

**ZONTA CLUB (Z-CLUB)****Advisor – Mrs. Lori Waldron**

Zonta Club (Z-Club) is a non-profit community service organization. Members receive credit hours for any type of volunteer work. Students can find their own projects or can earn hours for projects set up through the club's advisor. Membership requires a ten-hour minimum service requirement per year. Students are invited to join as early as their freshman year. New members are recognized at a dignified induction ceremony in the fall. Z-Club is a high school affiliate of Zonta International.

