

PINE HILL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

School Newsletter
1st Qtr., Aug. - Oct. 2024



Welcome Panthers

2024 - 2025 Teacher of the Year:
Mrs. Esther Masiello-Herbert



Save the Date



August

06 1st Day of School

September

02 Labor Day Holiday

03 Power Up Asynchronous Learning Day

13 Fall Semester Progress Report #1

October

1-31 Bullying Prevention Month

10 Student Holiday

11 Power Up Asynchronous Learning Day

14-15 Student & Teacher Fall Break

23-31 Red Ribbon Week "Life is a Movie, Film
Drug Free"



Reflect, Refine, and Rise!



Meet your Counselors

Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. Rivera are here to help you succeed. Mrs. Bryan serves 7th grade and half of 8th grade. Mrs. Rivera will serve 6th grade and the other half of 8th grade. You can find them both in room #424 on the 8th grade hall. We are excited to see our returning students and welcome our new students to Pine Hill Middle School.

August Lesson

This month's focus will be Middle School Keys to Success along with Get to know your Counselor.

September Lesson

This month students will learn how to goal set and learn about having a growth mindset.

October Lesson

This month students will be discussing bullying prevention along with Vaping 101 lesson.

Counseling Services



- Individual Counseling
- Small Group Counseling
- Classroom Social Emotional Lessons
- Crisis Intervention
- Academic Advisement
- Referrals to Community resources



NEED TO KNOW

SECOND STEP

Social Emotional Lessons done weekly during homeroom

PINES Library Access for Youth Student Library Card Program

WHAT IS THE PLAY CARD?

The Augusta-Richmond County Public Library System and the Richmond County School System recognize the importance of literacy to a student's academic success.

We have partnered to offer the PINES PLAY (PINES Library Access for Youth) Card - a digital library card/account especially for students in grades K-12 in Richmond County public schools.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A PLAY CARD?

- Check out books, audiobooks, CDs and DVDs, plus ebooks and digital resources with no overdue fines.
- Access more than 11 million items through PINES, the statewide network of public library systems.
- Connect to free homework help, tutoring, and test prep resources online anytime from home, school, or the library.
- Use your student number as a library card at your local library and online!
- Use computers and internet at your local library.

HOW DO I GET A PLAY CARD?

All Richmond County public school students will automatically be issued a PINES PLAY Card Account unless they opt out of the program.

Got Questions?

Call your school or our library!
Augusta Public Library
823 Telfair Street, Augusta, GA 30901
(706) 821-2600



TESTING SCHEDULE

Panorama Survey

This Social-Emotional survey is taken twice during the school year to help our school determine what the current needs of our students are. The Fall window for completion is September 3 - 20. Please encourage your student to take their time completing it and answer each question to get accurate results.

I-READY

The Beginning of the Year (BOY) screener will be completed between August 12 - September 30. Please make sure your student is in attendance every day so they do not miss this important benchmark screener.

GIFTED TESTING INFO:

Testing will take place from January - March 2025. Students who qualify for testing will be sent home with a permission slip in November 2024. If your student qualifies for Gifted Services those results will be mailed to the address on file. Please keep your address up to date in Infinite Campus so you don't miss those results.

For more information call: Mrs. Rivera, 706-592-3730 ext. 3007

PSAT 8/9

Attention 8th grade parents, your student will be participating in the PSAT this year. This assessment will be taken between October 16-28. More specific dates will be sent home closer to the day.



Community Resources

Dream Center programs provide free assistance to those struggling in the surrounding communities in the form of food, clothing, counseling, healthcare resources, and more. This support allows families and individuals to focus on their personal growth, family health, and stability while having basic needs met on a consistent basis.



Volunteers Needed

Interested in Volunteering? Want to be more involved in your students academic achievements? Reach out to our Parent Facilitator Mrs. Thirsteen Hawkins-Bing via phone: 706-592-3730 or email: hawkih@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us She can get you signed up and trained to assist in any way you can.

CONTACT US

Email: info@augustadreamcenter.org

Office: 706-364-2860

Address: 3364 Peach Orchard Rd.

Augusta, GA 30906

Hours: Monday - Thursday from 9 am – 4 pm

Weekly Programs:

Tuesday 10am - Noon: Food pantry and Clothes Closet open to the public

Thursday 5pm - 6pm: Food pantry open

Sunday 5pm - 6pm: Clothes closet open to the public, hot meal served along with inspiring message

1st Saturday 10am - Noon: All programs are open to the public along with free basic healthcare services from 10am - Noon.



The Pediatric Clinic is a free, student run, physician supervised health service that aims to promote the health and well-being of the underserved children of the Augusta community by cultivating collaboration and learning amongst health care providers.

We serve uninsured and underinsured children and teens under 18 years of age in Augusta, GA. We provide free wellness check-ups, sports physicals and sick check-ups. We also provide free laboratory exams.

We accept appointments or walk-ins. You can call or text them at 706-940-2527



COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES



Please call the School Counselor for a list of providers that accept Medicaid only. 706-592-3730



PHMS Mental Health Counselor: student must meet with designated School Counselor 3-4 times before a referral can be sent for services.



Hospital Homebound Information:
Mrs. A. Bryan, 706-592-3730

These local agencies offer parents and students resources to help with Mental Health needs. These agencies listed below are currently accepting New Patients (as of January 25, 2023) and accept private insurance:

Augusta Center for Psychological Services (706) 729-9595. 3642 Walton Way Ext., Augusta, GA 30909. BCBS, Amerigroup, Wellcare, Tricare, Medicare, Medicaid, & PeachCare.

CSRA Center for Care and Counseling (706) 305-3137. 4344 Columbia Rd., Suite 203, Martinez, GA 30907 (additional locations, faith-sensitive). *Sliding fee scale of \$40-90 per session.*

Family Counseling Center of CSRA (706) 868-5011. 3711 Executive Dr., Martinez, GA 30907.

Georgia Family Crisis Solutions (706) 869-7373. 4145 Columbia Rd., Augusta, GA 30907. All major insurance. BCBS, Aetna, Cigna, United Healthcare, & EAP(s).

MCG Psychiatry & Health Behavior (706) 721-6597. Stoney Bldg., 997 St. Sebastian Way, Augusta, GA. Takes Medicaid, Medicare, & commercial plans (NO CIGNA, NO WELLCARE/PEACH STATE, AMWELL). *Offers med management, individual and group therapy, Suboxone provider, & TMS/ECT.*

Transitional Family Services of Augusta (706) 364-1404. 3643 Walton Way, Augusta, GA 30909. Medicaid, WellCare, Amerigroup, & Peach-State/Cenpatco. *Send referrals through email or fax for MH services.*



There is hope.



988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

PEP22-08-03-013
33377A

CRISIS NUMBERS

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1-800-273-8255 (TALK)

**GA Behavioral Health Link Crisis &
Access Line* 1-800-715-4225**

SC Crisis Line 1-833-364-2274

**Trevor Project (LGBT Suicide
Prevention Line) 1-866-488-7386**

Trans Lifeline 1-877-565-8860

**Crisis Text Line Send a Text Message to
741741**

**GA Peer2Peer Warm Line (non-crisis
peer support) 1-888-945-1414**

These local individuals offer assistance with Mental Health services as well:

Kim Batten, PhD (762) 383-0978. 211 Pleasant Home Road, Suite G1, Augusta, GA 30907. BCBS, Humana, United Health Care, Aetna, Cigna, Medicare, Tricare, Caresource, Wellcare, & PeachState.

Sid Gates, LMFT (706) 364-0252. 3633 Wheeler Road, Suite 100, Augusta, GA 30909. Couples therapy. Aetna, BCBS (HMO, PPO, POS, Federal), Cigna, Tricare, Magellan, United HealthCare, United Behavioral Health, Value Options, & EAP(s).

Allison Layman, LPC (706) 432-6866. Lifestance Health. 3633 Wheeler Rd., Suite 365, Augusta, GA 30909. Aetna, Beacon Health Options, BCBS (Federal, Anthem), Cigna, Humana, Kaiser, Magellan, Medicare, Tricare, & United HealthCare/Optum. Office Address: T 706-721-4581 augustahealth.org 1447 Harper Street – MOB 4th Floor Augusta, Georgia 30912

Shannon Stephens, LPC (706) 364-0252. 3633 Wheeler Road, Suite 100. Augusta, GA 30909. Aetna, Anthem, BCBS, Coventry, Humana, MHNet Behavioral Health, Magellan, Nova Net, Optum, PsychCare, Tricare, UMR, United HealthCare, Value Options, & Workplace Solutions (APS).

Samantha Watson, PsyD & Greg Swanson, PhD (706) 855-7784. Comprehensive Psychiatric Services, 3633 Wheeler Rd, Suite 110, Augusta, GA 30909. Accepts all private insurance. *Patient must call clinic directly to set up appointment. Waitlist is typically three months out.*

ALAS FREE Mental Health Clinic, 706-940-2527. At the free clinic, they provide psychiatric evaluations and medication (no controlled substances) management services for adult patients aged 18 years and older. We are a new addition to the ALAS free health clinics, founded by residents of the AU Health Psychiatry Department. Our appointments are currently being conducted via telehealth calls on the final Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., and we do have a waitlist in place.

Meet your 7th & 8th Grade School Counselor

MRS. BRYAN



I have a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Masters Degree in Education in School Counseling. I have been a Counselor at PHMS for almost 10 years!

I am married and have 3 beautiful girls that keep me busy.

I love camping and can be found almost every weekend either camping or on the softball field with my girls.

You can reach me via email at bryanal@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us and phone number is (706) 592-3730 ext. 3022

Hello I'm your 6th & 8th
Grade School Counselor

Mrs. Rivera



About Me

I am a wife, and mother of 2 (1 daughter & 1 son). Both students attend Richmond County Schools. I graduated from Butler High School

My experience

I have a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology & Masters in Education in School Counseling. Both were obtained at Augusta State University

Fun facts

I am Bilingual in English and Spanish, my happy place is the beach and I love stationary

My Contact Info.

phone: 706.592.3730 ext. 3007
email: riversu@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us
Feel free to reach out if you have any questions

I look forward to working with you
to have a successful 2024-2025
school year!