

PAINTBRANCH HIGH SCHOOL



Academy of Science & Media

Dr. Shawaan Robinson

Welcome to the Paint Branch Open House.

Tonight we will get to showcase our programs, clubs, athletics, and more to our NEC 8th grade families with our PB Passport Experience following our presentation in the auditorium.

If you have any questions, find a student ambassador or staff member to assist you.

All questions about the evening can be directed to our signature coordinator, Ms. Megan Tomas.

Videos will be posted on our website following the evening.



Access our Open
House Site



Access our
School Map

Open House 2025

1st Floor



HEALTH, P.E. & ATHLETICS

1003 Main Gym	Athletic Showcase Desalyn Dillard Athletic Coaches	The Paint Branch Athletic Department involves approximately 900 students on 43 teams (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Corollary Sports) across the three sports seasons. Tonight, the Poms and Cheerleaders will be practicing for upcoming competitions. Through athletics , coaches emphasize sportsmanship, team-building, and academics. Last year, 58% of our student-athletes earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher and 446 student athletes earned Minds in Motion awards from the state for earning a 3.25 GPA or higher while playing a sport. 70 student-athletes earned a perfect 4.0 GPA during the season. Our Athletic Director, coaches and students from a variety of sports teams will be stationed in the gym to answer any questions you may have. For more information about our Athletic Department, please go to our website at: http://paintbranchathletics.org/ . Follow us on Twitter @pbhs_sports
1103, 1105 & 1111	Weights, Dance & Wrestling	As you exit the gymnasium and enter the rear hallway, you will pass the Weight Room, Dance Studio and Wrestling Room. Be sure to take a look in at these three incredible spaces!

Music

1115 & 1117	Music Jorge Ayala Sammy Huh	Concert Band, Concert Orchestra, Concert Chorus, and Jazz Singers (Show Choir). Our extra-curricular groups are Marching Band (fall season), Pit Orchestra (spring), Jazz Club (year-round), and Musical Theatre (spring production). The Music Department takes an annual spring trip to perform around the country. Recent trips have taken them to Walt Disney World, Atlanta, Boston, New York, and Virginia Beach. In 2014, the music department won the coveted "Esprit de Corps" trophy in Atlanta for outstanding spirit and character. Jazz Singers, our show choir, is known for its show-stopping performances. Our ensembles perform in three to four concerts throughout the year and study music in a variety of styles. The Winter Concert is Thursday, December 19th at 7PM and Spring Concert is Thursday, May 15th at 7PM. PBHS also offers Guitar and Piano classes where students perform in bi-annual semester recitals. One of our newest courses is Music Technology where students work with microphones, electronic instruments, and computer-based music software.
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Science

The Science Department provides students with a wide range of courses to both satisfy their graduation requirements as well as explore electives in the science field. Students require 3 credits of science. Credits must include: 1 life science credit, 1 physical science credit and 1 credit in Earth/space science or a course with the topics integrated. Courses include Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science and Forensic Science. We offer five Advanced Placement courses: AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics 1 and AP Physics C.		
1123	AP Environmental Science Liane Miller	The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the risks associated with these problems, and examine solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental Science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. This course satisfies the Earth Science or Physical Science credit for graduation
	Physics Kaden Christensen Jeff Myers	Physics counts towards a student's three science graduation credits. This satisfies both a student's physical and earth/space science. There are four levels of physics classes: Astronomy with Physics, Honors Physics, AP Physics 1 and AP Physics C.
1129	Biology Brielle Wertz	Biology is a required course for graduation and part of a student's three science credits. Biology is the only course that satisfies the life science credit. The MISA test (required for graduation) is directly connected to this course. There are four levels of biology available: Biology, Honors Biology, Honors Biology Double Period and AP Biology.
	Chemistry Richard Lee	Chemistry counts towards a student's three science graduation credits. This course can satisfy either a student's physical and earth/space science. There are four levels of chemistry classes: Chemistry, Honors Chemistry, Honors Chemistry Double Period and AP Chemistry.
1317 & 1319	Academy of Health Professions CNA Karen Johnson, R.N. CCMA Nick Klimczak Foundations of Medicine Kisha Hammonds Structures & Function Thom Jensen	The Academy of Health Professions program focuses on preparing students academically and technically for many careers in health science and medicine. The program utilizes project and problem-based learning, clinical experiences as well as classroom and lab instruction to teach students academic and career knowledge related to health care. Our program offers Foundations of Medicine and Health Science, Structure and Function of the Human Body, and Medical Science with Clinical Applications. Medical Science with Clinical Applications is a double period class. First semester clinical space is set up to practice patient care skills as students prepare for their second semester internships at Holy Cross Hospital. At the hospital, students rotate through a variety of departments and participate in direct patient care. Students finishing this program may take a CNA exam to become a Certified Nursing Assistant approved by the Maryland Board of Nursing. The Certified Clinical Medical Assistant program prepares students to work in healthcare as a medical assistant. After completing Foundations of Medicine and Health Science and Structure and Function of the Human Body, students can take this double period class. The course is designed to teach students administrative, clinical, and patient care skills needed in medical assisting or future studies in nursing, medicine, or other healthcare fields. At the end of the year, students take the NHA exam certification exam.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & ACADEMIES

1026	Early Child Development Amy Brewer	Students in the Early Child Development Program of Study have opportunities to work with children in a variety of educational settings. Knowledge of physical, intellectual, language, social, and emotional development is acquired and applied through planning lessons, teaching, and observing four-year olds in the child development laboratory. Through guided practice, research, and training, students develop competence in creative teaching techniques. In addition, students may earn up to nine articulated college credits at Montgomery College. Upon completion of the program and earning the 90 + 9 Clock Hours Certification, high school graduates are prepared to pursue postsecondary education and career opportunities in early childhood education and related fields of study.
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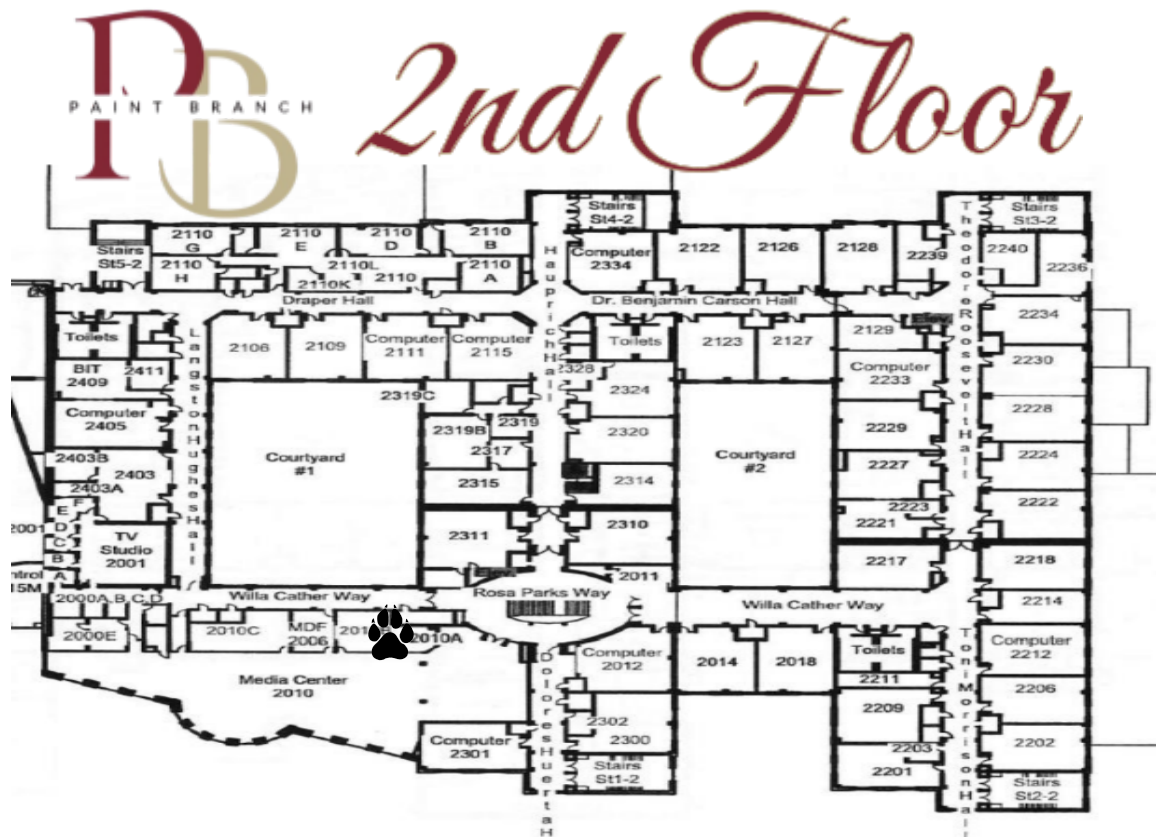
1033 The Paw	Restaurant Management Chef Chris Yep	In the Restaurant Management & Culinary Arts Program, students work in a double period class to manage the school's restaurant, the Panther Paw . They handle the finances, inventory, menu planning, food costs, food preparation, and marketing while establishing a basic foundation in the culinary arts. Students cater events within the school community and have opportunities to enter scholarship competitions. Upon completion of the two-year program outside internships are available and credit may be earned towards post-secondary study in the hospitality fields. The program is secondary accredited by the American Culinary Federation . Stop by the Panther Paw tonight for a delicious treat!
1143	NJROTC Program Commander Chan Shin	The Naval Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NJROTC) Program with over 100 cadets in grades 8 through 12, was founded in 2003, and is the only JROTC program in the Northeast Consortium. The goals of the program are to: enhance awareness of the rights, responsibilities, and privileges of citizenship, promote patriotism, develop each student's sense of personal responsibility, build life skills, provide leadership opportunities, provide information on the Department of Defense and the military, and expand a student's overall academic knowledge. These goals are achieved through classroom instruction, military drill, physical exercise, and field trips to defense-related installations. Optional extracurricular activities include Drill Team, Drill Team with Arms, Color Guard, Air Rifle Team and various athletic teams.
1130	Japanese Mikiko Korn	Paint Branch High School is one of the four high schools in Montgomery County that offer a Japanese language course. We offer Japanese Level 1, Level 2, and Levels 3 & 4, and AP . At each level, students learn about Japanese history, culture, daily expressions, and unique features of the language. Students also experience cooking Japanese food , participating in Japanese festivals, meeting guest speakers, and speaking/corresponding with Japanese native speakers . In the summer of 2017, 2019 and 2025, a group of PB students traveled to Japan for two weeks . They visited Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka. They then attended a Japanese high school for a week while living with their host families.
1344E	PLTW Engineering and Computer Science Stacey Sanders	Paint Branch High Schools partners such as Project Lead The Way, Amazon, MIT, Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, and more. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics says there will be a 10.5% growth in STEM jobs from 2020-2030, a STEM position is a smart career choice. A good portion of those jobs fall under computer-related positions. In fact, as of 2018, the percentage of computer-related STEM jobs was just about 55% and is expected to grow to 57% by 2028. Our goal is to create a more diverse STEM workforce while giving students access to high-quality STEM education, STEM literacy, innovation and post-secondary employment preparation.
CTE (Career & Technical Education Programs)		Please note that at Paint branch we have 10 MSDE Approved CTE programs Listed here. These programs count as completers for students while providing them with the academic and technical skills, knowledge and training necessary to succeed in future careers and to become lifelong learners. 1. College and Career Research Development 2. NAF Academy of Finance 3. PLTW Engineering 4. CODE.ORG Computer Science 5. Video Productions 6. Professional Restaurant Management Culinary Arts (ACF) 7. Early Childhood Development 8. Academy of Health Professions (CCMA and CNA) 9. NJROTC 10. Apprenticeship Please check out our website for more information on our CTE programs.

ACADEMY ROW in the Main Hallway

AVID Kaycee Crump	The mission of Paint Branch AVID is to ensure that ALL students, especially the underserved will: succeed in rigorous curriculum, complete a rigorous college preparatory path (specifically honors, Advanced Placement, and dual enrollment college admission courses), enter mainstream activities of the school, increase their enrollment in four-year colleges and become educated and responsible participants and leaders in a democratic society.
English Dana Birdin	English teachers and sponsors of our award-winning Newspaper , teach students the skills and concepts that connect effective communication to research, language use, presentation techniques, media literacy, desktop publishing, multimedia technologies, and web page design. Paint Branch offers honors level English classes at all grades and Advanced Placement classes in Grades 11 and 12
ELD Elizabeth Maione	Students for whom English is not their first language receive extra support through both co-taught classes and English Language Development class. Paint Branch has more than 200 students who qualify for ELD services, but it's worth noting that of students who do not qualify, a majority also speak another language. Paint Branch is proud of the diversity in our student body!
Health & Physical Education Tim Gilchrist	The Health and Physical Education Department offers an array of classes to meet individual preferences while emphasizing fitness and physical literacy. The department provides Basketball, Strength Training and Conditioning, Foundations of Fitness, Football, Soccer, Volleyball, Dance, Functional Fitness and Net Sports The department also offers the mandated 1.0 credit course in Honors Health Education that is required by the state. Health and PE teachers are committed to teaching students how to utilize resources that promote lifelong wellness, movement and health literacy.
Math Leonard Salahud Din	Our goal is to create a mathematically proficient student through engaging and challenging lessons. Student Collaboration, with an emphasis on structured discourse and academic language, and effective use of technology, including Box Lights and graphing calculators, enrich the range and quality of math investigations. The strategies we use are varied to build new knowledge and reinforce prior knowledge. We offer two levels of the Advanced Placement Calculus exam and the Advanced Placement Statistics exam, in addition to a dual enrollment Multivariable Calculus course, all which allow students to earn college credit while in high school. Beyond our rigorous course sequence, we welcome students from all grades to join our award-winning Math Team and invite junior and seniors who meet requirements to apply for the Paint Branch Mathematics Honor Society.
Special Education Cate Darichuk & Audrey King	The Special Education Department provides support and services for students with IEPs (Individualized Education Programs). Paint Branch High School currently serves students coming from middle school Resource, LAD, and LFI programs. The mission of Bridge Services is to meet the needs of high school students with disabilities who may be challenged by social vulnerability, interpreting social cues, coping with anxiety and school stressors, establishing relationships with peers, coping with changes in routine, problem solving, abstract thinking, organizing, and sensory sensitivity.
Social Studies Andrew White	Our mission is to help create historically literate and well informed citizens of our global community who actively participate in a diverse democratic society . We engage students in critical and creative thinking and give them opportunities to interact with each other, source materials, and ideas. Using strategies based on brain research, teachers involve students in writing, speaking, organizing information graphically, and transforming information. Students use and develop these skills daily in Social Studies classes. Social Studies classes at Paint Branch include six Advanced Placement courses including Human Geography, United States, and World History, Government, African-American Studies and Psychology which are available for students starting in the 9 th Grade. The Social Studies department also offers electives in Latin American History, American History through Film, Law and Sociology.

World Languages Megan Tomas	Paint Branch offers Spanish and French to students in levels 1 – 5 and AP, and Japanese to students in levels 1 – 5. We are one of only four schools in the county to offer Japanese. Classes are conducted in the target language with much emphasis on interpersonal communication and study of cultural diversity to help students acquire skills and attitudes necessary for effective participation in an economically, socially and politically interdependent world. Honors courses begin at level 3 and AP Language and Culture are available for French and Spanish students. The language program is complemented by trips and exchanges, where students get a chance to practice their skills in a total immersion environment.
Journalism Brian Woodward	In Journalism, students learn a variety of skills related to being a 21st Century student-journalist. In Journalism 1, students write, edit, and publish news, feature, and opinion articles; develop, record, and publish podcasts; conduct interviews for student and staff profiles; and work on skills related to desktop publishing. Senior journalists who have taken at least two years of journalism are eligible for Media cords at graduation and the Journalism award at PB's annual Senior Awards ceremony. You can view student articles, photojournalism stories, profiles, pdf versions of our print issues, and podcasts at pbmainstream.com
Academy of Finance Karin Anderson	The Academy of Finance (AOF) enriches students' knowledge of career opportunities and skills related to Business. AOF students are prepared to make sound choices for their financial future, both personally and professionally. Some classes required are: Financial Planning, Banking and Credit, Accounting, and Entrepreneurship. In addition, students work a 200-hour paid internship. AOF has guest speakers, field trips to various leadership conferences, and their own additional graduation including scholarship opportunities. A branch of Sandy Spring Bank right here at Paint Branch offers internships through our very own Panther Trust. A student who plans to major in another field should understand how to manage a budget, set SMART Goals, write a business plan, or market a product. Paint Branch is proud to be building one of the best and longest-lived Business Programs in the County.
Theatre, Perspectives & Forensics Amber Perkins	The curricular Theatre program at Paint Branch is completely separate for <i>Perspectives</i>, our Theatre Troupe. <i>Perspectives</i> brings together all different types of students to produce theatre. Students learn every aspect of theatre and that no part is greater than any other when creating the whole. Students learn to work together, to take pride in hard work, to bounce back from setbacks, and to accept responsibility. <i>Perspectives</i> prides itself on its ability to foster an appreciation for all art forms and all people. We each bring a different perspective, and together create art we can be proud of. The Forensics Public Speaking Team is a place for students to write and give speeches, orally interpret published works, or write and perform their own writing. We compete with other schools in the county, and received 3rd place in the 2023-2024 school year. It is a way to learn more about public speaking and acting with much less commitment.





MEDIA

2010	Media Center Monique Zastrow	The Media Center welcomes classes from all disciplines and provides research guidance and information literacy instruction in support of the school curriculum. The collections include fiction and nonfiction books, as well as online resources such as eBooks, audiobooks, and research databases. Students can check out materials for academic purposes and leisure reading, use any of the available computers and printers, or take a brain break in the Mindfulness corner. The Media Center is open for student use before school, during lunch, and during class time with a pass from a teacher.
	Art Emily Aumaitre	Digital Art is taught to introduce students to the latest software, skills, and concepts used in the graphic arts industry. Photography is offered on levels 1-3 in our fully equipped photography lab and students learn to compose and develop images with traditional and digital technologies. Ceramics provides hands-on experience with clay, making functional and decorative objects. Studio Art provides a variety of experiences in 2D Art. AP Studio is an advanced class assisting students develop their portfolios for college. Functional Arts & Crafts gives the students the opportunity to work with a variety of 3D materials.
2001	TV Production Thomas DeGroff	Students produce daily live news shows and feature magazine shows on a 21 st century set designed by Michael Farber, a set designer for NBC, which air throughout the school. Students will also get the opportunity to work on our state of the art NewTek Tricaster live production video switcher , a switcher used throughout the country for live sports. Paint Branch was the first and only high school in Montgomery County to stream its daily show on the Paint Branch website. Please view our television student's daily work at: [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/paintbranchhs] as well as classroom productions, animations and student produced news packages and news stories. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the 48 Hour Film Festival in March, an international competition. In addition, students in other classes use the communication suite to produce radio shows and silent movies to show concepts they are learning. Advanced television students use the latest digital cameras (15) to film their stories and complete post-production in eight editing rooms on the advanced software of Adobe Premiere , part of a suite that includes Photoshop, and After Effects (8) .