



## **PIONEER ACADEMY 1-12**

**[pioneer.carsoncityschools.com](http://pioneer.carsoncityschools.com) 775-283-1300 [facebook.com/phspanthers](https://www.facebook.com/phspanthers)**

**09/08/2021**

Dear Pioneer Academy Students and Families,

Pioneer has many examples of student achievement success to celebrate from the previous year. Even though the Nevada Department of Education froze the Star Rating system for all schools due to the COVID-19 health crisis, there is much student success to share. With the frozen status, this means the previous star rating from three years ago will carry on this year despite the accomplishments and improvements of all schools in our state.

Since Pioneer High School was changed into the Pioneer Academy 1-12 this year, our Academy will have three different ratings as three different schools. The NDOE recognizes the Pioneer Academy 1-12 as; 1-Pioneer High School (Online and In-Seat), 2-Pioneer Online Middle School, and 3-Pioneer Online Elementary School. These ratings will hopefully be available by the next school year once data is collected.

### ***Pioneer experienced the following successes and highlights in the last 3 years:***

- Pioneer High School Raised it's Star Rating During the Last Recorded Rated School Year
- PHS Students Increased the Graduation Rate to 83% in 18-19 School Year
- PHS Students Significantly Increased their Achievement in ACT Scores in Math, English, and Science in the 19-20 School Year.
- Pioneer Students Earned their Associate's Degree from WNC through Jump Start before a High School Diploma
- Students in the PHS J4NG Program Reflected a 100% Graduation Rate
- Project Lead the Way Level 2 Engineering Design was Added to the Schedule
- PHS Students earned Honors and Advanced Diplomas and Dual College Credits
- The ASU English III Poetry Course was Installed to Offer Additional College Credits

***\*You can visit the NDOE website to learn more about the Pioneer Star Rating at the following link: [\(NDOE Accountability Report Link\)](#)***

With all this progress and accomplishments, we believe that a family's choice to attend PHS is one of the most important aspects of student success. We also believe that offering a small campus, small class sizes, and different interventions and hybrid scheduling is important to your child's success in school. Our commitment is to continue this format again at Pioneer this year.

### **District and School Goals:**

- **Serve Grades 1-12 Online and In-Seat**
- **Increase Overall Daily Attendance**
- **Graduate More Students on Time in 4 Years or Less**
- **Graduate Students College and Career Ready**
- **Increase Achievement and Attendance on ACT**
- **Utilize More Dual College Credit Options**

Our 1<sup>st</sup> priority goal is to increase student attendance. We will need your help with this one and will be inviting you to participate throughout the school year. Student achievement increases when attendance increases, it is critical that your son/daughter is here each day. Last year, a large percent of Pioneer students were Chronically Absent. **This means that these students missed 18 or more days of the entire year of school.** This negatively affects a student's chance to graduate on time. Chronic Absenteeism can also lead parents to truancy court, possible fines, suspension of a student's driver's license, and possible community service for students.

### **How you can Help Support Our Goals**

Make sure your son/daughter goes to school ready each day. Any students who misses 10% of the school year or 18 days or more, is deemed Chronically Absent. Referrals to the Truancy officer and court citations are a possibility on three or more truanies. ***Excusing your son/daughter does not exempt them from being absent. The only absence that does not count against your child is a school field trip. All medical, excused, suspensions, and unexcused absences count towards being chronically absent.***

### **Pioneer Academy Highly Qualified Staff Status**

Eleven of Eleven Pioneer classroom teachers in the 2021-2022 school year are highly qualified in their positions.

If you have any questions, please feel free to stop by the school or call our office at 283-1300. We are looking forward to a great first year as the Pioneer Academy 1-12! Please visit our website and facebook pages listed at the top of the letter for more information.

Sincerely,

Jason Zona, Principal  
Pioneer Academy 1-12