



---

**17 IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

- January 17.....CHESS CLUB starts back up
- January 20.....NO SCHOOL, observance of Martin Luther King day
- January 21-22.....NO SCHOOL, Teacher Workdays
- January 22.....PTO Used Uniform Sale, 12-4:00pm (school cafeteria)
- January 29.....REPORT CARDS go home (MS mailed, Elem in ParentVue)

**SAVE THE DATES:**

- ✦ February 4.....FAMILY S.E.L. NIGHT, 6-7:30pm @ Porter
- ✦ February 5.....ELEMENTARY CHORUS CLUB starts back, Wednesdays, 3:45-4:45pm

---

**PORTER'S TEACHER & SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR!**

We are excited to announce **Porter's WINNERS for the 2024-25 PWCS Teacher and Support Employee of the year!** Both will be submitted for the PWCS Teacher and Support Staff of the Year nominations.

**Porter's selection for TEACHER OF THE YEAR.....Mrs. Alyssa Fisher (Ruhlen)**

Mrs. Fisher is in her 5th year here at Porter Traditional School, teaching 8th grade Civics. She is a remarkable teacher; her students thrive every day they are in the classroom. She works purposefully with Porter's shared vision of high expectations for teaching and learning. She understands that by empowering her students to take ownership in their academic success, positive involvement increases and in turn, student performance improves.



The students truly are her priority. Here are a few comments from her students:

*"Mrs. Fisher teaches our class with respect...she likes to do fun stuff and still keep it educational."*

*"I feel as if Mrs. Fisher always takes time to thoroughly explain the content being taught...who genuinely understands the students and has a heart of gold."*

*"She is always motivated to teach, she is kind, and a person who follows the rules."*



### **Porter's selection for SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR.....Mrs. Michele Tluchowski**

Mrs. Tluchowski has been a permanent fixture in the Porter front office since the school opened in 2004. We could fill 3 pages about Ms. Michele's warm personality, her giving nature, her school knowledge, and all the many examples of how she has made Porter a better school...but this one comment from a Porter parent and employee says it best:

*"Ms. Michele knows each student, their parents, and treats everyone with respect both within our community and as prospective Porter parents. She is respectful to a number of diverse backgrounds and has the foundational experience from her time here at Porter Traditional School to be able to answer just about any question. Michele is trusted by parents and teachers, and consistently represents what it means to be a Porter employee as she positively adapts to changes in staff and students. I am grateful to have the opportunity to learn from her this school year."*

---

## **UPCOMING P.A.C. MEETING...January 16**



The upcoming Porter Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting will be open to all parents/guardians. Participants will receive 1 volunteer hour. The important agenda item this month is: how we are going to recognize honor roll and excellent attendance.

**Thursday, 1/16/25 at 6:30 pm on Zoom**

Zoom Link: <https://pwcs-zm-edu.zoom.us/j/83109882485?pwd=RXlZR3lmMzJ6MjN1QUQ5SDBiVS9XZz09#success>

---

## PTO HOSTING USED UNIFORM SALE....January 22



The PTO is hosting a **USED UNIFORM SALE** on Wednesday, January 22 @ 12noon - 4:00pm, in the school cafeteria. Come out and stock up on Porter uniform items for a fraction of store costs. All clothing items are gently used and perfect for your student(s).

## UPCOMING PTO EVENTS



The PTO has been busy planning....take a look at what is coming soon:

**Ice Skate Spirit Event – PW Ice Center**

Tuesday, January 21st @ 11:50a – 1:20p

Skip the line and prepay: <https://forms.gle/YXGUETxfbGUeqpD26>

**Gently Used Uniform Sale** ■ Wed., Jan. 22 @ 12noon - 4:00pm (Porter cafeteria)

**Texas Roadhouse Spirit Night** ■ Thurs., Jan. 30 @ 3:00-10:00pm

New [VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#) are now available on the PTO signup genius, as well.

## MS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE UPDATE

Due to the recent weather, practice and game schedules have changed slightly. Please see the **UPDATED SCHEDULE** below:

Tue.- Jan. 14..... Practice..... 7-8pm

Thurs. - Jan. 16 ..... **Practice..... 7-8pm \*\*Event/Time changed**

Tue.- Jan. 21..... Practice ..... 7-8pm

Wed. - Jan. 22..... **1st GAME..... 7:15-8:55pm\*\*Event/Time changed**

Tue.- Jan. 28 ..... Practice ..... 7-8pm

Wed. – Jan. 29..... **2rd GAME ..... 7-8:45pm**

★**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!!** ★ Coach Connor is looking for someone to RECORD STATS for each of the basketball games. If you are interested, please look at the schedule above and make sure you are available on the dates and times. Email Coach Connor with the dates you are available to volunteer and record the stats: Coach Connor email is [conner7239@gmail.com](mailto:conner7239@gmail.com).

## PORTER FAMILY S.E.L. NIGHT...February 4th

Social Emotional Learning Night..."STAND UP TO BULLYING!"



Tuesday, 2/4/25 @ c 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Come out and learn about using coping skills and how to be an upstander to bullying! We will have lots of activities, games, arts and crafts, and goodies all related to the topic of ANTI-BULLYING!

★**VOLUNTEERS**★ ARE NEEDED....use the link below to sign-up to volunteer for our SEL Night!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DACA728ABF5C52-53412020-selnight#/>

---

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



ALL current **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** can be found on the "Volunteer Opportunities" page under the VOLUNTEER tab on the **Porter website**.

✓ **FRONT DESK GREETER 2.0**....Sitting in the front vestibule/foyer area to direct visitors to the front office, once they walk through the EVOLV screener. The monthly sign-ups can be found on the Porter website under the **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** page.

✓ The **PTO VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP link** is continuously updated with new volunteer opportunities.

✓ **Front Office VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**...a **VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP** for any miscellaneous volunteer work we have for the front office.

✓ The **CAFETERIA** is **always available for volunteers**, any day between **11am - 1:45pm**. Just come into the front office, sign in, and get your 'volunteer' sticker. We do ask that you work at least 1 hour.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS**

**PWC Public Library (13 and older)**....<https://www.pwcva.gov/department/library/volunteer-and-internship-opportunities>

**Sorter for ACTS Retail store:** <https://www.actspwc.org/volunteer#How>

---

## **BE PREPARED FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Winter is here...be prepared for school closings. When bad weather or other emergency situations occur, it may be necessary for PWCS to modify normal operations by canceling school, delay opening, closing schools early, or moving to virtual/remote learning.



Here are a few tips to make sure you are ready for when the decision is made:

1. Know where to get the **INFORMATION**:  
[www.pwcs.edu/about\\_us/closings](http://www.pwcs.edu/about_us/closings)
2. Know what the **EMERGENCY CODES** mean (Code Red, Code Orange, etc): [www.pwcs.edu/about\\_us/closings/codes](http://www.pwcs.edu/about_us/closings/codes)
3. **HAVE A PLAN** for when it happens: Do you need a sitter if school is canceled? Who picks the kids up from early school closing? Does the school have a current contact phone number for you?

For additional important information about inclement weather and possible school closings, please visit our website at: [https://porter.pwcs.edu/news/inclement\\_weather](https://porter.pwcs.edu/news/inclement_weather)

---

## CURRENT PARENT VOLUNTEER HOURS as of Dec. 19, 2024

---

## PTO NEWS & RESOURCES

- PTO Page.....[https://porter.pwcs.edu/our\\_school/pto/index](https://porter.pwcs.edu/our_school/pto/index)
- PTO Volunteer sign-up.....<https://tinyurl.com/yc8n8u4w>
- PTO Membership....<https://forms.gle/KKMwWXaWcQfZxPuf7>
- PTO Calendar....[https://porter.pwcs.edu/our\\_school/pto/index](https://porter.pwcs.edu/our_school/pto/index)
- PTO Spirit Wear....<https://forms.gle/zekc3GRyQWrmow4E7>
- PTO Meeting Registration....<https://tinyurl.com/5yx85yp4>

---

## PORTER PARENT RESOURCES

- [Porter Parent Tech Resources](#)
- [Porter Master Schedule for 2024-25](#)
- [Porter Uniform Policy](#)
- [Porter Beginning of the Year Forms](#)
- [Porter Carline Procedures](#)
- [Porter Cellphone Guidelines](#)
- [Porter Previous Porter eUpdates](#)

## PWCS PARENT NEWS & RESOURCES

- [PWCS Code of Behavior](#)
- [PWCS Late Bus Status](#)
- [PWCS Mental Health Resources](#)
- [PWCS News](#)
- [PWCS ParentVUE](#)
- [PWCS School Calendar](#)
- [PWCS School Meals Information](#)
- [PWCS Staying Connected](#)
- [PWCS Tip Line](#)
- [PWCS Transportation Department](#)
- [PWCS-TV](#)

PWCS is excited to announce that the Virginia Department of Social Services in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Education has initiated **SNAP** in Schools outreach to students and families in Virginia. SNAP provides food benefits to eligible families to supplement their grocery budget so they can afford the nutritious food essential to health and well-being. To learn more or to apply for SNAP benefits, please visit the [CommonHelp website](#) or call (833) 552-5582.



PWCS recognizes that this time of year can be particularly challenging for many students. To ensure that every student has access to the support they need, we would like to remind parents that **free mental health telehealth services** are available to all PWCS students through Hazel Health – at no cost. Together, we can make a significant difference in the mental well-being of our students now and beyond.

Visit the [PWCS Hazel Health webpage](#) for more information.

## PWCS PARENT LIBRARY CONTROLS

Gives parents the option to restrict access to specific titles in circulation in our school library.

## PWCS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SERIES



**Michele Tluchowski**

Michele is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

