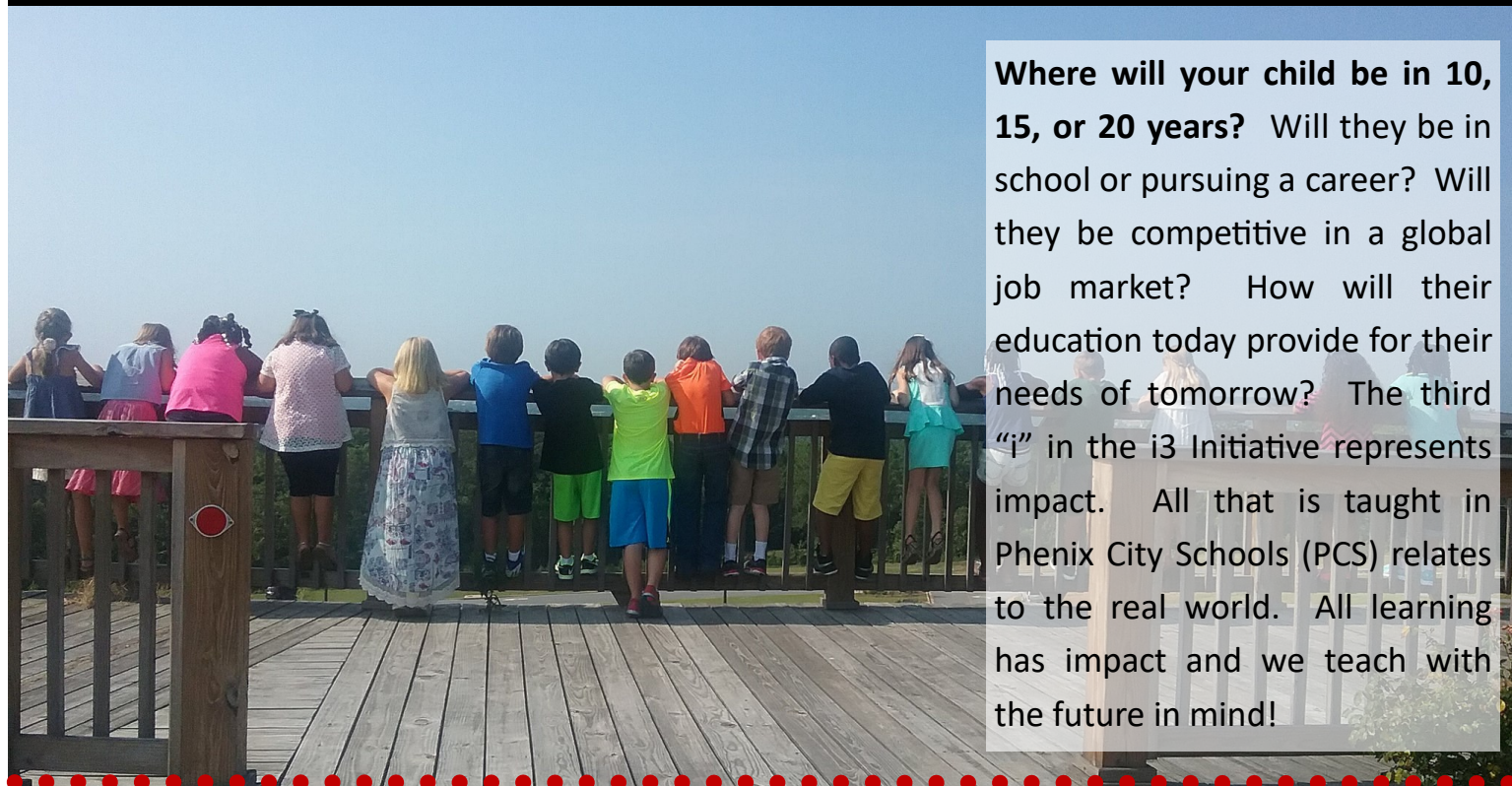


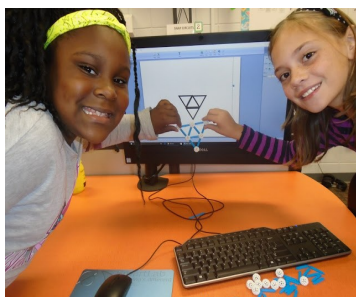
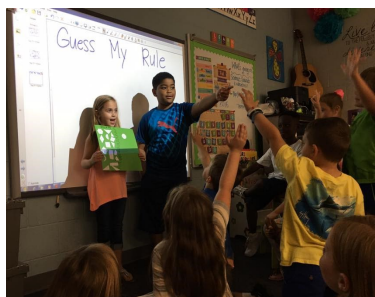
# Your Child Their Future



**Where will your child be in 10, 15, or 20 years?** Will they be in school or pursuing a career? Will they be competitive in a global job market? How will their education today provide for their needs of tomorrow? The third “i” in the i3 Initiative represents impact. All that is taught in Phenix City Schools (PCS) relates to the real world. All learning has impact and we teach with the future in mind!

While no one can predict the jobs of tomorrow, PCS is convinced that most jobs will contain an element of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Through the system’s STEMformation of instructional practices; the implementation of elementary SmartLabs, middle school STEM Labs, take-home electronic devices in grades 6-12, increased college credit course offerings, and enhanced career technical opportunities; and creation of learning academies, we are positioning our students to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Phenix City Schools strives to meet the needs of all students in every grade, every day. Our goal is for every student to excel in every endeavor and to meet the unique needs of ALL students. The intent of this publication is to highlight the extraordinary educational opportunities of PCS.





# Your Child Their Future

## Elementary School

Your child's foundation of learning is built in the elementary years. Particularly at this age, children love school and are excited to learn. In Phenix City Schools, we intend to grasp that enthusiasm for learning and build upon it, creating a strong foundation and a lifelong love of education.

PCS is committed to the recruitment and retention of highly-effective and well-trained staff. Annually, personnel participate in continuous, inquiry-based professional training, including sessions with Discovery Education STEM Innovators. All elementary schools are Alabama Math Science Technology Initiative (AMSTI) certified sites .

Additionally, each of our 7 elementary schools has a SmartLab for early STEM learning. Implemented at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year, the SmartLab is an engaging classroom where students explore STEM and media arts through technology and project-based learning. Every SmartLab is designed to be inclusive of all levels of learning and support hands-on, minds-on learning. In elementary SmartLabs, young learners discover a wide range of technologies, from learning to build simple machines to coding and creating their own video games. They engage in authentic experiences in STEM, building interest and inspiring many to pursue these fields in the years to come.

Beginning in kindergarten, all students participate in the *MasteryConnect* software program that allows teachers to effectively assess core standards, monitor student performance, and report student mastery to parents and administrators in real time.



## Middle School

### Phenix City Intermediate

Your child is about to enter an exciting, new world that features innovative strategies, hands-on minds-on activities, and cutting-edge technology. New opportunities for your child include:

**iPads** - In order to better engage students in the learning process, PCIS students may opt for an electronic, take-home device containing core textbooks, educational applications, and productivity programs. There is a mandatory student and parent meeting scheduled for you and your child that explains the expectations of iPad usage and digital responsibilities.

**STEM Labs** - Daily, all PCIS students attend classes in the Dyer Family STEM Center, where they learn to write programs and software through coding; design structures, rockets, and prosthetics in engineering; create digital art and produce television broadcasts in digital media; and virtually dissect many plants and animals in zSpace. To ensure complete exposure, students will rotate labs each 9 weeks.

Students, some who may have never traveled far from Phenix City, will also be introduced to the flora and fauna of the oceans and the gulf, as well as those species of plants and animals native to the Chattahoochee River through the interactive atrium and other student-created mediums. Lastly, students will learn much of the world in which we live via the 4' digital planet, which contains virtual reality content, iMax quality movies, and science animations.

# Your Child Their Future



**Familiar Faces** - To ease the transition from elementary to intermediate school, our new 6th graders may participate in the “buddy system.” This system allows parents to select another child, with the approval of that child’s parents, who will be their child’s buddy. These two students will have as many of the same classes as possible. At PCIS, our 6th grade students will have their own administrator, counselor, PE classes, and lunch times. They will have their own drop-off and pick-up area right outside their building. We believe this configuration will make for a smooth transition by providing all 6th grade students with familiar faces around them and all support in one area of the school.

**Accelerated Courses** - Your child may participate in accelerated course offerings in the areas of language arts, science, and mathematics. Students participating in this opportunity must master all 6th grade standards and half of all 7th grade standards in the areas of mathematics, science and language arts. In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students must master the remainder of 7<sup>th</sup> grade standards and all of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade standards in the aforementioned areas. Students receive summer reading assignments assessed at the end of the first week of school. Additionally, each student will earn a minimum of 5 hours of community service during the school year through service learning. Consideration for placement is based on a scoring matrix using the following criteria:

- First, second, and third 9 weeks’ averages in 5th grade reading and math
- Most recent STAR grade equivalency in math and reading
- Scaled 4th grade ASPIRE math and reading scores
- Class II office referrals (points deducted)
- Unexcused absences (points deducted)
- Parent Request

## South Girard School

**STEM Labs** - Eighth grade students at South Girard School continue their STEM experience in the LEGO Robotics and Coding Lab, the Engineering Lab with Whitebox Learning, and the state of the art Digital Media Lab equipped with iMacs.

**High School Credit in the 8th Grade** - Recently, the Alabama State Department of Education approved Phenix City Schools to teach Algebra I, Biology, Career Preparedness, and English 9 to 8th grade accelerated students - all for high school credit - opening the doors for dual enrollment, AP, career technical offerings, and early graduation.



# Your Child Their Future

## High School

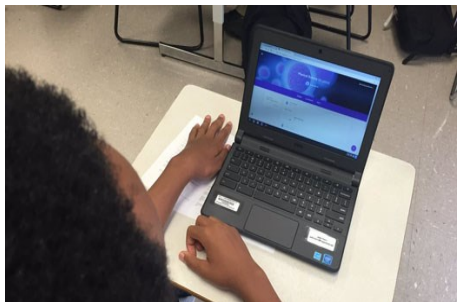
PCS's goal is to offer a near associate's degree to seniors as they graduate high school through Advance Placement and dual enrollment opportunities. PCS also offers a path for many Career Technical Education (CTE) opportunities, including receiving CTE certificates upon course completion.

[South Girard School Course Selection Guide](#)

[Central Freshman Academy Course Selection Guide](#)

[Central High School Course Selection Guide](#)

[CHS Career Technical Education](#)



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