



Pinckney Community High School Class of 2023 and Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to your Freshman year! As Director of High School Instruction and New Tech High at Pinckney Community High School, it is a privilege to introduce the New Tech option as you begin your career at PCHS. In February of 2020, you will engage in a Course Selection process that will determine your 10-12th grade pathway, and **New Tech High (NTH)** will be one of your choices. As you dive into your Freshman year, the following questions will help you to make an informed choice and to determine whether New Tech is for you:

- **Do I enjoy working with my peers on complex tasks?** – Project-Based Learning is the core teaching methodology at Pinckney New Tech. Learn more here: <https://newtechnetwork.org/resources/project-based-learning/>
- **Do I do better in a smaller learning community environment?** – Pinckney New Tech is an academy of approximately 120 students at PCHS taught by a team of 6 teachers: Mr. Hahnenberg, Mrs. Holloway, Mr. Jerome, Mr. Ozias, Mrs. Trosin, and Mrs. Walker. New Tech students engage in their core content area courses together each year and connect with cross-grade level peers through our Advisory program. By graduation, NTH students feel like a family.
- **Do I have a particular interest in using technology as a tool?** – Pinckney New Tech is one of nearly 200 New Tech schools across the country. Each New Tech school uses a common online Learning Management System (LMS) called Echo which houses project-based resources and an outcome-driven gradebook. Learn more here: <https://newtechnetwork.org/echo/>
- **Will my career interests require me to collaborate, communicate effectively, and self-advocate?** – New Tech students are taught and assessed on state and national content standards as well as collaboration, oral & written communication, and agency. Explore the outcome rubrics here: <https://newtechnetwork.org/resources/ntn-student-learning-outcomes-rubrics/>

As a New Tech teacher in Chicago and then Director of School Leadership with the national New Tech Network before joining Pinckney Community Schools, I am a deep believer that the New Tech experience prepares learners to thrive in the post-secondary path of their choosing. If at any time you have questions to support your decision-making process, or if you would like a tour of the New Tech wing, do not hesitate to reach out to me or any member of the Pinckney New Tech team. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram in the meantime!

Sincerely,
Julia McBride
Director of High School Instruction & New Tech High
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“New Tech gives you the stepping stones to be prepared for college.”

-NTH Graduate & Michigan Tech Electrical Engineering Student

NTH Class of 2019 exceeded county, state, and national SAT average!