



Columbia Central Jr./Sr. High School

1/14/20

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to make you aware of a Jackson County Initiative Columbia Central is adopting this school year. Jackson County Intermediate School District received the Marshall Plan grant. With these funds, they are working with local area businesses to help develop employability skills among our high school students. Beginning with the second semester, Columbia Central High School students will be assessed through the PACT program.

What is PACT? It is a soft skill assessment for our Jackson County high school students, starting in 9th grade.

What are the benefits of PACT?

A graduating senior has the potential to qualify for validation from our local business community. This recognition provides as an advantage for future employment opportunities in the Jackson area.

Employability P.A.C.T. students will be rated on from 9th – 12th grade-

In each class, they will receive a rating from 1 to 4 (4 being exemplary) in Personal Management (P), Adaptability (A), Communication (C), Teamwork and Collaboration (T) = P.A.C.T. The PACT score DOES NOT impact their GPA but does potentially allow them to receive PACT certification at the end of their senior year. Students will receive scores each semester on a report card separate from their academic grades.

How does a senior qualify for the PACT certification?

By the end of the third marking period of their senior year, if the student has received a score of 3 or 4 in all competencies and proficiencies (listed above), and has met the attendance requirement of no more than 4 unexcused absences and no more than 4 tardies; they are invited to sign up for a mock interview. In order to sign up for the mock interview, the student must bring a copy of their resume (in-person) to their Work Based Learning Coordinator at the school.

The end result? If they “pass” the mock interview with high marks, they will be validated and given the P.A.C.T. certification medal to wear at graduation, a letter of recommendation from the Jackson Chamber of Commerce, and the confidence knowing their business community validates them as employable!

We have enclosed the grading rubric teachers will use and some additional information for parents to review. Please feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Christi O’Neil, Principal
Columbia Central Jr./Sr. High School

