

## Panther Perks Proposal

- I. Requirements
  - A. Students whose transcripts still show failing grades are no longer eligible for perks
  - B. Students must show one of the following on MAP testing scores:
    1. Must score average or better
    2. Must show improvement from one test to another
- II. Days
  - A. Freshmen, sophomore and juniors will only receive perks on Fridays
  - B. Seniors will still receive perks M-F.

Reasoning: Freshmen on track, graduation rate, credit recovery, standardized testing and test preparation.

A review of standardized test scores indicates that Pana High School has struggled with standardized test scores, especially Math, for many years. There is a district wide initiative to evaluate our Math curriculum and instructional approach to address this concern. At the high school level we are focused on instructional methodology, course sequencing and test preparation to target improvement in our scores. The School Improvement Committee has worked to recommend a change in the daily schedule that when combined with the Panther Perk changes will allow us to provide test prep to 9th-11th graders in the second semester.

The pandemic has increased the overall number of students we have failing classes. The number of freshmen not on track to graduate has nearly doubled since the onset of the pandemic. Research has shown the freshman year sets the stage for high school. When a student fails to pass a core class as a freshman the chance of them graduating drastically reduces. However, the problem is not solely isolated to freshmen. We are seeing an increase in failing grades across the board. The combined schedule and Panther Perk changes will allow us to provide credit recovery to the students who have classes in an effort to improve our Freshmen on Track numbers and stabilize our graduation rate for the future.