



PBLA COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PERSEVERE. BELIEVE. LEAD. ADVOCATE

PORTER-BILLUPS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



Coach Ricardo Patton, Coach Lonnie Porter, and Coach Chauncey Billups



PBLA is where
DREAMS of a
fulfilling future began

MIRIAH ABRAM

2005 PBLA graduate



PBLA's vision is to be a pivotal support system that nurtures the vision of young leaders to dream big and achieve their goals.

Porter-Billups Leadership Academy

**To give deserving candidates a hand up,
not a hand out.**

Thank you for your interest in the Porter-Billups Leadership Academy. This Academy grew from a desire to see young people with ability achieve their potential. Coach Lonnie Porter, Coach Chauncey Billups and Coach Ricardo Patton grew up with limited opportunities and enormous barriers to overcome. At an early age they knew they wanted more than what they saw around them. They credit their success to God, and the teachers and coaches who challenged them at a young age to work hard and get an education. Basketball gave them that success, and the Academy is a way for these men to give back a portion of what's been given to them.

The Porter-Billups Leadership Academy at Regis University is a summer academy for 3rd through 12th graders that cultivates character development through an extensive academic curriculum and exposes young leaders to career opportunities in their pursuit of individual success.

Once the students reach college age, additional financial support is needed to ensure that FAFSA qualified students have the resources to receive a college education. Regis University recognizes this need and extends the Academy's educational opportunity to include tuition at Regis University. The ultimate goal of Academy is to awaken students to the opportunities available to them, foster personal growth and mental well-being, educate, and prepare young leaders from underserved communities to succeed in their early adult lives.

We would like to invite you to experience a small part of what the Academy offers to these young people. We look forward to answering any questions you might have.

Coach Lonnie Porter, Coach Chauncey Billups and Coach Ricardo Patton

PBLA LEADERSHIP CLASSES 4th-6th Grade

4th Grade

Jackie Robinson's Nine Values

Sandra Reese

As an introduction to leadership and the expectations of the Porter-Billups Leadership Academy, 4th graders will focus on character traits that leaders need to be effective. The class examines Jackie Robinson's nine principles to live by and looks at his biography as a guideline to determine what a leader does. Robinson's nine principles are: Courage, Determination, Teamwork, Persistence, Integrity, Citizenship, Justice, Commitment and Excellence.

5th Grade

Investigative Leaders

John Farnham

Students will learn and practice investigative skills, problem solving strategies, observation techniques, and critical thinking by participating in reading and writing activities, science experiments, escape rooms, board games, and other multi-media simulations. Students will develop their leadership skills by taking on various roles including forensic scientist, police investigator, jury member, prosecuting or defending attorney, and/or a member of a crime task force.

6th Grade

Transition to Middle School

Paul Roberts

Students entering sixth grade are embarking on a whole new adventure in school. To assist our students as they transition to middle school expectations, this class focuses on the soft skills that are not always taught, but are necessary for academic success. It also addresses other essentials such as self-advocacy, organization, time management, and problem solving. Additionally, we will explore resources to support students academically as they make the transition to taking responsibility for their own learning, creating a positive classroom environment and bully proofing.



Life Skills

John Farnham

Life Skills are essential to learn and master in order to be successful in any endeavor. This year's focus will be on how to make a lasting and positive impression. Young people today are not always perceived in a positive manner. By addressing specific skills such as dressing and speaking for your audience, etiquette in different situations, handling peer pressure, negotiating conflicts, and the art of conversation, we will focus on making positive impressions.



Outdoor

Education-Teambuilding

Alyssa Carter

A health education program that combines structured and unstructured play. Students will focus on team building from thinking critically and outside the box. They will engage in physical education as they navigate teamwork and community building through self expression as an important form of communication.

LEGO MINDSTORMS: INTRO TO EV3 ROBOTICS

Paree Gregg

The introduction to EV3 Robotics will cover the basics of robotics using the LEGO EV3 motors and sensors. Basic chassis with different types of gear ratios and exoskeleton designs will be built. Mechanical attachments such as arms and grippers will be created on top of the chassis to provide additional functionality. Students will learn EV3 block autonomous programming. Programs will be used to develop accurate driving capabilities while including sensors and math calculations. The entire class will use skills learned to compete in fun challenges during the last week.



PBLA LEADERSHIP CLASSES 7th-9th Grade

7th Grade

Human Rights Jorge Resendez

The topic of Human Rights is compelling and important. We'll discuss the rights set in place by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who led the United Nations to know there must be policies and procedures for all nations in order to care for the people of the world. These rights were written and sworn in during FDR's presidential term in the USA. Now, if these rights are abused by any nation, they take the risk of losing their place in the United Nations and are considered a nation who cannot follow rules and regulations.

8th Grade

Social Justice Angela Sidhu

Using the exemplar literary piece *Of Mice and Men*, students will integrate and contextualize current events and controversial issues through reading, writing, public speaking and presentation skills. Students will identify and research a social issue and prepare a written and videoed proposal. Students will practice AVID organizational strategies, and participate in Socratic Seminars and Philosophical Chairs as well as recreating courtroom scenarios.

9th Grade

Transition to High School

Torrence Brown-Smith

The transition to high school is full of opportunity for students and can present academic and social challenges. In this course students will develop their own organization inspired by PBLA. Through the process they will reflect on their identity and their identity within a community, learn to deeply listen, advocate, and collaborate to make change in order to enter high school as leaders prepared with a support network and toolbox to succeed.

Financial Literacy

Terry Carter-Davis and Claire Exum

Students will learn to think, speak, learn, and act as entrepreneurs. In learning the foundations of entrepreneurship, students will design and create a product from scratch using everyday materials. Students will then present their product in a "pitch contest" which will be judged by local business men and women. Overall, this course will provide students with an authentic experience in business design and ownership.

Life Skills Angela Sidhu

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Intro to Engineering STEAM Martha Britt

This Introduction to STEAM course provides an overview of the engineering process that is taught in a middle school and STEAM classroom. Emphasis will be placed on engineering and practice, regarding 'failure' and reflecting on what inspire students to engage in learning. The topics covered in this introductory course include designing and creating original ideas, objects, and structures according to certain specification using concepts and skills from math and science. The goal of this class is to grow students' capacity for creativity, fun, leadership, and confidence in the engineering cycle. Each grade will begin the summer with an engineering challenge to practice the engineering cycle. They will then each apply the engineering cycle to a different engineering project and present their work to their peers and the engineering firm Martin & Martin.



PBLA LEADERSHIP CLASSES 10th-12th Grade



10th Grade **The Complexity of Compliance** Sean Malloy

Students will be honing their skills in writing as we will practice writing in a variety of genres including personal narrative, analytical /argumentative, creative and descriptive pieces. Our journey will culminate in a project where students will brainstorm, write, edit, and assemble singular podcast episodes to be shared among their peers.

11th/12th Grade **Managing your Relationship Portfolio** William Anderson

Every person's life is made up of a collection of relationships - a portfolio. Just like with financial investments, wise choices need to be made about who is included in your portfolio. How well you manage your relationships will

determine how successful you will be in your life. This class will look at five types of relationships - Self, Family, Friends, Romantic and Professional and seek to give students insights and skills for getting the best return on their investment.



11th/12th Grade **Introduction to Social/Emotional Leadership** K'iana Roberts

People and events in history challenge student leaders to see the past, present, future, and themselves differently. Students use literacy strategies to get on a path of self-discovery using reading, writing, and discussion at a critical thinking level. We will address the social and emotional well-being of great leaders.

College Prep Ryan Turk

Seniors will research scholarship opportunities, write their college entrance common application essays, and tour the Regis University campus. They will engage in mentoring opportunities with younger students. Finally, they will prepare for their PBLA graduation speech.

Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship **YouthBiz-Out of the Box** Kelley Dawkins



Students will create business teams. They will select a product they want to create, choosing the materials and procedure they need to make 20 high quality, finished goods. Students will complete all of their own financial calculations, marketing, and advertising to culminate in a real world marketplace for students to sell their products. Finally, they will calculate their revenue, sales tax and profit.

The Pathway to Leadership through Culture and Heritage Ryan Turk

In this course, students will explore the value and importance of telling the stories of their identity and community. Students will explore their own identities and heritage and the communities that shaped them. Students will also learn about the various ways that marginalized people document their communities and the value of counter-narrative storytelling from examples in history as well as in the local community. Students will then work to document their own communities around the greater Denver area.

Life Lessons Will Baird

Ten Toes Down "The game is going to test you but never fold, stay 10 toes down. It's not on you, it's in you and what's in you they can't take away." Airmiess Joseph Asghedom

Life Lessons is focused on helping students connect to their inherent skills and talents. Students will explore multiple perspectives and skills used in wisdom, perseverance, and the art of living. Students will study Stoicism and the four-hundred-year journey of African Americans from 1619 to present. By illuminating past life lessons students will gain new ways of thinking about their future. Students will explore powerful quotations, historical anecdotes, and social commentary from: Kobe Bryant's Mamba Mentality, Robert Kiyosaki's financial literacy tenets from Rich Dad Poor Dad, Harvard Business Review articles on Mental Toughness, Michele Obama's Becoming, and Airmiess Joseph Asghedom The Life and Times of Nipsey Hussle. These life lessons will provide students the opportunity to find tranquility, fearlessness, and freedom. Learners will gain advice, inspiration, and best practices needed for aspiring leaders.

PBLA LEADERSHIP CAREER PATHS & SUPPORT

TECHotshots

CompTIA A+ certification validates the latest foundation-level knowledge and skills needed by today's computer support professionals. It is the starting point for a career in the Information Technology industry. This international, vendor-neutral certification is accredited by the International Organization for Standards (ISO) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). CompTIA A+ certification proves competence in a technician's ability to perform essential IT tasks.

Visual Art

Robin Segura & John Lake

High school students will have the opportunity to choose art as a career path exploration. Students will use the Regis University campus Art Gallery as their classroom. They will begin to express themselves through art as they explore art mediums such as print, photography, photo shop, graphic design, sculpture, painting and drawing.

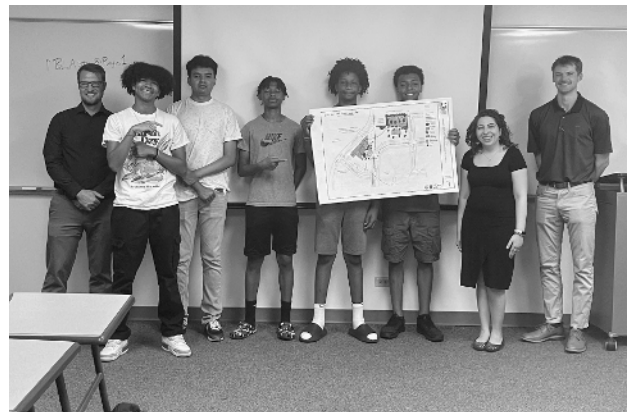


Art Class 2024 Mural Project

ACE: Architecture, Construction and Engineering

Andi Godfroy & Alec Guevara

High school students will receive instruction from various industry professionals who work in the Architecture, Construction, and Engineering (Structural, Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing) fields. Students will explore careers in these fields and see how a building project comes together. Students will also participate in project-based learning as they work in groups to design an animal shelter.



ACE Class 2024 Engineering project



Curriculum Partners



Regis University departments, including the Physical Therapy Department, Pharmacy, Nursing, Admissions, HR and Anderson College of Business Technology department have teamed up with Porter-Billups Leadership Academy to offer college and career readiness level classes and experiences that will allow students to discover new paths that Regis University has to offer.



We have partnered with Lincoln Hills to enhance our outdoor education program. The 8th graders take a field trip to Lincoln Hills to participate in outdoor activities that they might never have a chance to experience. These activities include: fly fishing, archery, an African American history hike, and equestrian skills.



The Mobile Innovation Lab is a 45 foot tour bus with a classroom inside. It is designed to tour St. Vrain and schools around the state sharing innovative learning with a goal of sparking an interest in STEM. We like to work with robotics, AR and VR, and design thinking. We are constantly looking to push the boundaries of innovation and bring experiences relevant to the world and technology around us. We like to work with robotics, AR and VR, and design thinking. We are constantly looking to push the boundaries of innovation and bring experiences relevant to the world and technology around us.