

PAI FAQ
Frequently Asked Questions
Pierce Academic Institute – For Students Who Love to Learn

What is PAI?

- PAI stands for Pierce Academic Institute
- The institute is a school within a school, with challenging classes for high-performing students

How do I get started if I'm interested?

- All students who want to be a part of PAI must apply for the program at Pierce Middle School, and their academic and behavioral performance must meet the established requirements
- Applications are available in the Pierce Counseling Office

Who is the program open to?

- Students who live within the boundaries of the South Redford School District
- Students who will be enrolled in the 6th, 7th, or 8th grade

How many students are in the PAI?

- Approximately 90 – 95 PAI students will be enrolled during the 2013-2014 school year

What are the “more rigorous academic requirements” that PAI students must meet?

All PAI students...

- Must keep at least an overall GPA of 3.0 for each semester
- Must keep up with the rigorous academic requirements
- Eighth grade students must be enrolled in Algebra I or Geometry and Spanish I (these are high school courses and students will earn high school credits)
- Must complete a minimum of 10 hours of community service at Pierce Middle School during the school year, such as tutoring, office helper, Media Center aide, teacher helper, etc.
- PAI students who are also NJHS members will complete a total of 15 hours, 10 of which will be at Pierce and will satisfy the PAI community service requirement

What happens if a PAI student doesn't do well under the “more rigorous academic requirements” that PAI students must meet?

- If a student has an overall GPA of below a 3.0, they and their parents will receive a probation letter telling them that the student is on immediate academic probation
- Once on academic probation, they will have one more semester to meet the 3.0 overall GPA standard or they will be removed from PAI

What if a PAI student has behavior problems?

- All PAI students must comply with the Pierce behavior policy
- Failure to comply with behavioral expectations can alone be grounds for removal