

**Dear Potential AP Capstone Scholar,**

The AP Capstone Program at Wiregrass Ranch High School is a prestigious program that allows driven students to build the skills necessary to complete collegiate-level research projects. The AP Capstone program is the precursor to undergraduate and graduate level research projects. The program, meant for the academically engaged student to have an opportunity to meaningfully explore their passions and interests, involves two, one-year courses:

**AP Seminar (Year One):** In the first year of the program, students build the skills required to participate in collegiate-level research. Students learn how to evaluate meaningful problems of the world, engage in scholarly discussion around those problems, and pose potential solutions through academic evaluation. Additionally, students gain core skills not explicitly taught in other AP courses, including presentation skills and visual PowerPoint design.

**AP Research (Year Two):** In the second year of the program, students complete a year-long research project that attempts to address a problem in our world through the process of research. This process is like a doctoral thesis but for a high school student - students spend the year studying a meaningful problem of their choice, designing and implementing a replicable research method, and analyzing their results before defending their work with an academic research paper and a formal presentation.

Ultimately, the AP Capstone program focuses on helping students build a research portfolio that they can use on college applications and to open doors of opportunities during their undergraduate experiences. Alumni of the program have used the research projects and portfolio they started in the AP Capstone program to achieve many amazing things in their undergraduate experiences, including:

- Earning a \$1,000,000 grant from the NIH to research pressing issues in lung cancer.
- Being chosen for an all-expense paid summer research internship in Denmark.
- Working at NASA on research conducted in the International Space Station as a college freshman.
- Becoming a published author prior to applying to medical school, law school or other graduate programs.

Applications will be evaluated on candidate GPA strength, attendance record, and depth of response to the application question. If you have questions about the AP Capstone program, please reach out to Mr. Anglin by stopping by Room 3-101 or via e-mail at [banclin@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:banclin@pasco.k12.fl.us).

**Sincerely,**  
Mr. Anglin- AP Capstone Coordinator

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**2025 Online Application:** Please complete the application found using the QR code to the right.

- If you need a paper application, please stop by and see Mr. Anglin in Room 3-101.
- Additionally, if the QR code is not working, please stop by Mr. Anglin's room for assistance.
- **Applications are due no later than 11:59pm on Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**
- AP Capstone decisions will be announced during the Week of February 10<sup>th</sup>

