

Elementary School Board Report

Heather Friday, PK-8 Principal

February 8, 2021

Pittsville School District's Vision and Mission:

Our Vision: Expecting Excellence and Innovation, Honoring Legacy, and Embracing Partnerships.

Our Mission: Expecting Excellence and Integrity from all, developing Innovative students, strengthened through Partnerships with parents and the community.

Student and Staff Notable Learning

2nd Grade Math

Students in Ms. Sischo's and Mrs. Kuehn's classrooms are learning about expanded form. Students watch instructional videos provided by Envision Math and the teachers use this resource to provide direct instruction and guided practice of skills. Students record answers on their own piece of paper while sitting at their desks. Students practice the skill, and then solve problems where they have to apply their knowledge and they need to explain their thinking.

Impactful Coaching - Staff PD

Some HS teachers, the HS principal, and myself participated in a 2 (out of 4) day workshop through AWSA - Impactful Coaching. The goal is to support one another as we continue to grow in the area of instruction. This workshop provides specific steps to improve our coaching skills.

Mr. Winters' 8th Grade Sports Literature Class / Community Connection

Students in Mr. Winters' class continue to develop their speaking, listening, and writing skills as they choose different projects throughout the semester. Students can do book reports, interviews, and write school-wide event articles to publish in the Pittsville Record. Two 8th grade students interviewed me trying to gain more insight to why I became a Principal and what my future plans are. The students were formal in the way I was invited and they asked appropriate questions, kept the conversation going, and were very respectful listeners. It was a great way to connect with the students and it provides students with authentic learning experiences. They were also going to interview other staff members as well. After their final drafts are completed, they will submit the articles to the Pittsville Record.

Ms. Van Haren to Host University Students

Ms. Van Haren will be hosting 2 students from UW-River Falls this semester to help with their field experience. They will join her class via Google Meet and connect virtually. The students will spend approximately 30 hours in Ms. Van Haren's room. Thank you to Ms. Van Haren for supporting our future teachers.

School Counselor Week - Week of February 1 - 5, 2021

I would like to recognize Ms. Ashley Raygo and Mrs. Marissa Petersen for everything they do for our students. They both teach classes during the day; they meet with individual students; they assist teachers with resources and ideas on how to help students; they connect with students and families in a positive way. They truly do more than any of us will ever know. We are grateful to have both

counselors working with our students. Thank you Ms. Raygo and Mrs. Petersen for your dedication to helping our students and families.

Innovation and Recognition

Empowering Our 3rd Grade Students

It is important to empower students and to teach them they have a voice. The 3rd graders recently made a request that we add *perseverance* to our Panther Traits. I brought the idea to the ES Shared Leadership team to discuss. After a lot of discussion, we agreed that it wouldn't be as easy as adding a trait for various reasons - one being the HS also follows the Panther Traits, so we couldn't just change the traits without collaboration with the HS staff. As a solution, I suggested that they could hang up *perseverance posters*. They voted as a grade level on their favorite *perseverance poster* and I will be purchasing them to display around the school. The 3rd graders will choose where the posters need to go, they will hang them up, and they are in the process of creating a video about *perseverance* to share with all the students here at school.

Looking Ahead

District-Wide Collaboration

3:30 p.m - 5:30 Staff continues to work on developing curriculum via our Google Site; technology PD will be integrated - specifically focusing on developing high quality Google Classrooms; collaboration time and time to work on curriculum is provided.

February 18th, the ES Scheduling Committee will be meeting to discuss the 2021-2022 master schedule. Every year a committee of teachers reviews, analyzes, and makes changes (as needed) to the schedule for the upcoming school year. Every year the focus is on increasing instructional minutes in core classes and creating a schedule that is best for student learning. Thank you to everyone who is willing to help with this. The master schedule work requires staff to see the 'big picture' while bringing their own perspectives.

The Week of March 1st, the elementary staff and students will be celebrating Dr. Seuss Week. It is a great opportunity to foster the love of reading in our students. A committee of teachers and I will be planning this year's events. I always appreciate when staff is willing to provide ideas and input.