

The PANTHER PRIDE



Pittsville School District Newsletter • Fourth Quarter, 2021-2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Parents and Community,

We are pleased to have had the time to grow with your children this school year. We are happy to be able to say almost all of our pre-COVID activities, clubs, and events have been restored and steps have been taken to address delayed experiences and learning. Parents have been patient and did their part to help keep our schools open, kids learning, and staff teaching through the peak infection times. Mary Lou Masanz, Karen Garrels, Kim Fox, Tina Tysver, and Deb Zdun worked very hard behind the scenes to keep many students and staff in school learning and teaching. If you see any of these ladies, they have earned a kind thank you through an impossible time.

The CTE Facility opened on time and under budget. Some completion work continued through the year to improve the learning spaces and several systems have been and are being fine-tuned to operate as needed. If you have not had the opportunity to visit the facility, I encourage you to make some time in the future. Many generations of students will have the advantages of modern, state of the art career and technical education learning spaces and real work world curriculum. The CTE Academy continues to grow new partnerships with area and regional businesses adding to the already robust CTE Academy experience for our students. The new 50 year roof and structure over the primary wing adds new life to the building and serve our future students for many years.

The Board approved an early release schedule for next school year every Wednesday to grow our instructional practice and improve student outcomes using the Professional Learning Community structure. Teachers will be able to meet on a weekly basis to focus on student engagement and learning, common formative and summative assessments, use of data to inform classroom instruction, consistent representative grading practices, and standards based curriculum requirements.

It has been my pleasure, and privilege, to have been part of the Pittsville School District. Your children are amazing and the staff are committed to serving them. I am grateful for everyone who welcomed me and my family into your community. The staff truly cares for and about all of the students. The School Board has focused on using data to make informed decisions to do what is best for students. I will miss many things from my time here and will always be a Panther Fan. The district leadership will continue to keep your children at the center of their professional conversations and provide their best for all who attend and live in the district.

With deep appreciation, my best for their best.

Fig

IN THIS ISSUE

2-3.....Principals' Messages

4-5.....Nutrition Nuggets

6.....Counselor's Corner



HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



What is the value of a grade in school? Do we grade students so they know how they did in class? Is it so they can be ranked and compete for scholarships, college admissions, and status? Do we give grades as a way to motivate students to do their best? The answer, according to author Joe Feldman and supported by nearly all recent scholarship in the field, is that grades are only useful as feedback for learning and need to be motivational, equitable, and accurate. We read Feldman's book *Grading for Equity* as a staff and are working to implement grading policy changes to align with his ideas.

Grades are only really useful as feedback for learning. Letting students know how they are doing and what they need to do to improve is a primary role of the teacher. Giving a final, immutable grade does not really help in this process. Feedback, whether verbal, written, or on a rubric is useful because it helps students to know how to grow. Grades, particularly those etched on transcripts, are not as useful and often have negative unintended consequences (bad grades lead to low confidence, good grades lead to fear of failure, etc.). Our grading system needs to be set up to give students feedback so they can grow.

Grades need to be motivational. Some students are positively motivated by the current grading system, but many are not. Making sure, for instance, that students are allowed to struggle when learning and not lose points in the process, is critical to a learning mindset. Making sure that early mistakes (zeros in the first week of school) do not doom students to permanent struggles in the class is crucial to motivation. We need to examine our grading policy to make sure it motivates students to do their best.

Grades need to be equitable. By this we mean that every student has an equal chance to do their best. For instance, if grades are based on lengthy homework assignments, they will skew towards students with a supportive home who can do such assignments. If grades are based on mandatory after school activities, some students will struggle to make those events. We need to make sure that whatever system we create, all students have an equal opportunity to learn and do their best. We know they will all achieve at different levels, and that is okay. We want our school to equally support all of them in that pursuit.

Finally, grades need to be accurate. The final grade in a class needs to reflect a student's achievement. Grades based on practice, effort, participation, group work, etc., can lead to a false security that students have mastered material when they have not (consider the student who fails most tests but does all of the work and is well-behaved) or a false failure where students know the material but still struggle academically (consider the student who aces test without studying but doesn't do her schoolwork). We have to devise a careful system where when parents and students review grades, they are looking at information which reflects how much they proved that they learned the material. This is not easy!

We read the book, reviewed other literature, met as a staff, and came up with several fixes for our grades for next year. We may not be able to agree on all of the ideas since grading is sacred and means different things to different teachers, but we will have improved grades next year!

Dr. Rod Watson

Congratulations to the Class of 2022



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

It has been a wonderful year of learning here at the elementary school! It's time to start planning your summer activities.

After two years of planning, the Harlem Wizards finally made it to Pittsville! It was such an amazing experience for the community. The players had a blast, the students loved to see their teachers on the court, and the audience was in awe of the moves of the Harlem Wizards. Thank you to everyone who was

a part of this event! Even more exciting news, is we raised \$3700 to use on innovative teaching tools and literacy needs. We sold over 500 tickets that night. Perhaps we should invite them back in a few years.

We are looking forward to having our 6-week summer school program again, starting June 6th. We have over 200 students registered for summer school! There are a variety of classes offered again this year. The week of June 20th Prairie Fire Children's Theatre is coming to town. Performances of *Snow White* will be held on Friday, June 24th at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 25th at 11:00 a.m.

Mrs. Friday



GROWING TOGETHER ~Mrs. Kremer

This year we have made new friends while working to increase our skills. We have explored new concepts, tried new activities including a fine motor journal with cutting, gluing, tracing, and drawing and movement activities with songs and actions (google slippery fish to learn more).

Early Childhood is a great first start to school!



ELEMENTARY PHY ED ~ Mr. Krueger

It is hard to believe another school year has come and gone. This makes 31 for me and I have to say they seem to pass faster every year. While I enjoy seeing all of the children, it is really neat to see the children of former students. It is amazing to see some of the similarities in looks and mannerisms and even more fun to share stories of their mom or dad when they were a student.

It has been a busy year in Physical Education. Thanks to the PEP Grant we received, we have the equipment to do so many different and exciting activities. This is so important because the interests of children are so different as well. It is our goal to help every child find as many activities of interest as possible so they can continue to stay active throughout their entire life.

Now, as we transition into the summer months, it is so important for our students to continue to stay active or hopefully increase their level of activity. Children should be active for at least 60 minutes every day and hopefully even more in the summertime. While it is okay to spend some time in front of a screen, we have to make an effort to limit that time. Social media is designed to keep our interests and keep us in front of a screen and it takes a conscious effort to not let that happen. Find activities that you enjoy and get out and be active. It sounds easier than it is, but you will feel better if you do.

NUTRITION NUGGETS

NEWS FROM OUR FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICE DEPARTMENT



SUMMER SCHOOL MEALS

Dear Families of Pittsville School District,

Pittsville School District will be hosting summer school June 6 through July 26 Monday through Thursday each of these weeks. Our food service department will be sponsoring a summer food service meal program during this time. Every Monday through Thursday of June 6 through July 26 (except the week of July 4 through July 8 due to the holiday) any child 18 years and younger can be provided a free breakfast and lunch served within the school. The child does not need to attend summer school to participate in this program, they only need to come to the Pittsville Elementary School food service area from 7:30am to 8:30am for breakfast and from 11:30 am to 12:30pm for lunch each of these days they would like to enjoy a school meal. All meals will be consumed on site, no pre-registration is required. The child does not need to be part of the Pittsville School District, please enter the building through the office and check in to the office before coming down for their meal. Any questions please feel free to contact myself by phone 715-884-5220 ext 121 or email andremat@pittsville.k12.wi.us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Matt Andres, Food Service Director

END OF YEAR THANK YOU

The nutrition team and I here at Pittsville Schools would like to thank all the students and families for this past year. With all the shortages and skyrocketing costs that continue to hit the food markets, we would like to thank everyone for making what has and what looks like a challenging time. We are continuing to make sure our students are provided the freshest and best foods that our food suppliers can deliver. Our nutrition team looks forward to seeing all our students smiling faces next school year.

FREE & REDUCED FORMS

These past two and half years our school district like over 98% of all schools in the United States have been using the Seamless Summer School Option (SSO) program for breakfast and lunch meals so there is no cost to the students and their families for these reimbursable meals. Currently this program is set to expire at the end of this school year meaning next school year meals will need to be paid for by families. Please keep an eye out for the new school year free and reduced forms that will be available around the second week of July. Please fill out and return these forms before the first day of school if needed.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Don't forget to fill out a Free & Reduced Meal Application for the 2022-2023 school year. Benefits do not transfer from year to year.

LOW LUNCH BALANCES

Accounts below \$25.00 will be notified weekly through the Pittsville School District's School Messenger alert system. The notice explains that your family food service funds are running low and money should be added as soon as possible. If a family account gets below zero, a notice will be sent out stating if the amount due is not paid in three working days, your children will no longer be able to participate in the breakfast and/or lunch program. If no money is received, a note will go home explaining the account is closed and Pittsville Schools will no longer be providing breakfast, lunch, or milk.

It is then the parent's responsibility to provide their child with a lunch from home. Once money is added, your children may again participate in the school's food service programs. Here are a few tips to insure your family food service account is up-to-date and in good standing.

- Check with your answering machines and email to see if your family received an alert message concerning a low lunch balance.
- If you received a notice, please send payment as soon as possible.
- When sending in a payment, please include your family name and amount sent.

USDA NEXT SCHOOL YEAR MEALS

These past two and half years our school district, along with 99% of school districts across our country, have been using the USDA SSO waiver program to provide free meals for our students. As of our current timeline this program is ending at the end of this school year. If nothing changes between now and the start of the next school year within the USDA, next school year will go back to pre-COVID meal programs. This means meals will be charged to families accounts per meal as before this program started. If any new information comes down on our end that changes this a notice will go out as soon as we know at our school level.



NUTRITION NUGGETS – CONTINUED.....

ONLINE PAYMENTS ARE EASY & CONVENIENT

Parents can make online payments from home or work, 24/7. If their child's food service balance is low, it only takes a few minutes to add money to it using their VISA or MasterCard credit or debit card (NOTE: your credit card will be charged \$2.50 for the convenience of making an online payment). Payments are made through the student's Skyward Family Access account.

- Visit our district website www.pittsville.k12.wi.us
- From the left side menu click on Skyward > Family and Student Access
- Log in to Skyward Family Access (you will need your Login and Password)
- Select "Food Service" from "General Information" menu on the left
- View Balance and select "Make Online Payment"
- Enter payment amount and select "Pay with RevTrak"
- Verify payment amount and select "Go to Checkout"
- If a new customer, select "I am a new customer" and enter your email address. If a returning customer select "I am a returning customer."

BEACH DAY MEAL

On April 29, we had our beach day lunch at the Elementary/Middle School. Students dressed the part and enjoyed their beach picnic meal on their beach towels while kicking off what was a late spring early summer. Students enjoyed fresh watermelon, hot dogs, baked potato chips, pickles, potato salad, frozen fruit bars and so much more. We look forward to next year's beach day!!!



SUPPORTING LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

~Mrs. Frericks, Ms. Schooley, Mr. Klein

Here are some strategies to support reading growth. We hope you and your children will be able to enjoy some great reading this summer!

PRESCHOOL

- Read aloud books with rhyme patterns and repetitive text.
- Use songs, chants, and nursery rhymes.
- Engage a child in conversation with open-ended questions.
- Encourage fine motor development.

KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE

- Continue to read aloud.
- Play games that build sight-word recognition (e.g., sight-word bingo).
- Demonstrate strategies for decoding and monitoring for meaning while reading.
- Engage in question-based discussion.

SECOND AND THIRD GRADE

- Help the student select reading material at their reading level.
- Listen to the student read aloud.
- Engage the student in a conversation about a text. Use open ended questions such as "What are you thinking and wondering about?" "What else did you notice?" "Say more." "What is your evidence for your thinking?"
- Continue to read to your child, including texts that are above your child's reading level.

FOURTH THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE

- Provide a homework routine and location.
- Guide and teach time-management and planning skills.
- Assist with and support the use of technology to increase engagement and ease of writing.
- Encourage reading for pleasure with both books and age-appropriate magazines.
- Children at this age often still enjoy being read to.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL

- Encourage reading for pleasure with both books and age-appropriate magazines.
- Ensure access to a library and other sources of reference information.
- Assist with and support the use of technology to increase access and ease.
- Help the student understand their learning needs. Provide them with the language necessary to advocate on their own behalf with teachers.

PTO CORNER

The PTO is pleased to welcome new board members for the 2022-2023 school year. Tracey Scheurer will be our new President. Jenny Elmhorst will be our new Secretary. Elise Hahn will be our new Treasurer. We are so excited to have these new members joining us. We look forward to the upcoming school year and all the opportunities for the PTO to continue to be involved in our school community.

The PTO was grateful to be able to show appreciation to our amazing teachers during the month. We gave teacher stipends to all the elementary teachers and gift cards to the paraprofessionals. We also delivered snacks and treats to staff as well. The PTO also donated \$10 per student to each grade level fund for field trip costs, classroom projects, and other materials for student use. The PTO has also donated playground balls for all students, cookies for Read Across America Week, and given \$1,000 in scholarships to this year's graduating seniors.

The PTO will be meeting quarterly during the 2022-2023 school year. The meetings are able to be held at flexible times. If you are interested in volunteering to chair a committee, or becoming an active member, please contact the PTO at pto@pittsville.k12.wi.us. We look forward to hearing from you and growing the potential of our PTO. Help spread the word that we need volunteers!

COUNSELOR'S CORNER – 4TH QUARTER

What Can I Do This Summer? Volunteer, Volunteer, Volunteer!

One of the most common questions I hear from both students and parents is, "How can I (or my student) win scholarships my (his/her) senior year?" My answer very simply is volunteer, volunteer, volunteer! Most scholarship committees follow the "ACE rule" (Academic Excellence, Community Service, and Extra Curricular Involvement) when selecting their recipients. As I tell students, in this current day and age, it is not enough to simply get good grades and be involved in a few clubs and/or sports. While those aspects are certainly good and looked upon favorably, what tends to set the winners of multiple scholarships apart from those who only receive one or two is the amount of "genuine" community service they have done over the course of their high school career. To be counted as high school community service, students can start volunteering as early as the summer before their freshmen year. Community service can typically be any service done for another person (non-relative) or agency that is not compensated monetarily or by other means. A great place to start at when looking for places to volunteer is the United Way of Inner Wisconsin which looks to match volunteers with local places/events in need of help; for more information visit their website at www.uwiw.org and click on volunteer. Enjoy your summer and happy volunteering!

Important Reminders for the Class of 2022:

1. *Request your final transcripts through Parchment:* All students attending a post-secondary institution will need to submit their final transcripts through Parchment, our online transcript service. (Please see the link off the high school home page to get started with this process.) Please remember to do this sooner than later as your acceptance to your school is still considered "conditional" until they receive your final high school transcripts.
2. *Complete your FAFSA ASAP:* If you have not already done so, please complete your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon as possible so you are eligible for more aid. Your 2020 taxes should be completed before you apply for the most accurate information. Applications are available online at: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>
3. *UW Placement Tests Registration:* NEW Seniors attending a UW next fall are typically asked to take placement tests to determine what classes they should be placed in. Placement tests are currently suspended, please check here for updates: <https://exams.wisc.edu/placement/regionaltesting/information.php> Each UW institution will be handling freshmen course placement on an individual basis.
4. BEST WISHES AS YOU EMBARK ON YOUR NEW CHAPTER IN LIFE

Important Reminder for Juniors: Class of 2023

Planning to attend a WI Technical College after high school? Apply Now! Many of the WI technical colleges (MSTC, NTC, etc.) accept applications from students at the end of their junior year. Applying early is **highly recommended** especially if a student is applying to a program that typically has a wait list such as health care programs. Please check the application process information on the specific technical school website for more information. If you are looking for more information check out mstc.edu

Early Fall ACT Date and Registration Deadline: Students can register online at www.actstudent.org

- a. Test Date: July 16, 2022 - Registration Deadline June 17, 2022.
- b. Test Date: September 10, 2022 - Registration Deadline August 5, 2022. Note: The registration deadline is before school begins.

College Visits

In-person college visits are back to happening at many schools. Also colleges have online virtual visits that are either pre-recorded or live. Jump on your future institutions website and check it out. In addition to that, many admissions officers are able to live meet to discuss their schools. Take advantage of the summer months, beautiful campuses, and a slower pace to make these happen!

Student Schedules for 2022-2023

High School student schedules for the 2022-2023 are available. Please check Skyward to look at your students' course schedule. It is important to look schedules over to determine if they are ready for the fall. If there are questions or changes to be made, please contact Mrs. Krystowiak.

Please feel free to contact Mrs. Krystowiak, 9-12 Counselor, if you have questions about any of the information provided at 715-884-5223 or krystemi@pittsville.k12.wi.us.



4K NEWS ~ Mr. Sanken, Mrs. Scholzen

The 2021-2022 school year went very fast in the 4K classroom. We had over 20 students in each of the two sections and we had so much fun with them. As they move on to Kindergarten, we look forward to a new school year next year. In order for us to plan for next year, we need all eligible children to register for 4K as soon as possible.

Register your child now for 4-year old kindergarten classes for the 2022-2023 school year. The registration process is available online. If you do not have access to a computer, you can stop in at the Elementary School Office on any regular school day from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. to register in person.

This registration is for incoming 4K students. Students must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2022 for enrollment in the 2022-2023 school year.

Note that as part of the registration process, you will be asked to enter vaccination records. However, you will still need to produce a recent copy of your child's vaccination records, which you should be able to get from your healthcare provider.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE REQUIRED - Birth certificates are required for all new 4K students. To complete the registration / enrollment process, you will need to upload an original or certified copy of your child's birth certificate into the Skyward Family Access Enrollment Portal when you are registering your child. After the birth certificate is verified by school personnel, the upload will be deleted from Skyward. If you do not want to upload the birth certificate, you are required to bring the original or certified copy into the Elementary School office for verification. Photocopies are not acceptable.

Enjoy your summer and we look forward to seeing all of the new faces next fall!



KINDERGARTEN CONNECTION ~ Mrs. Heinzen, Mrs. Petersen

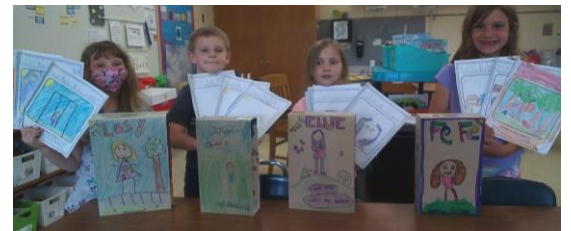
We have had an exciting spring in our Kindergarten classrooms. In math we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We are now comparing objects by their lengths, height, capacity and weight, and are learning about the tools that are used for measuring things. In Phonics, the children have become proficient at learning and working with vowels and have used a vowel shield (learning tool) to help their learning grow. The children have learned that every syllable (beat) in a word contains at least one vowel. In reading, we have been working with poetry and are enjoying listening to the rhythm and the rhyme of the poems. We recently were able to walk to the Pittsville Community Library and thoroughly enjoyed our visit there. Many of the students signed up for their own library card and will be able to enjoy books all summer long! Thanks to Mrs. Hardinger and Mrs.



Kremer for their help at the library. We also thank Jerry Minor and Angie Yerke for their tour of the Fire Station. The students were happy to be able to see all of the equipment that firefighters use and they all learned more about fire prevention at the same time. We are so fortunate to have such wonderful community resources and people who serve! We hope everyone enjoys a safe summer! Thank you for the support of our students and school this year.

PUBLISHING A SERIES IN A BOXED SET! ~ Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Stone

First graders have been busy writing realistic fiction stories. First, they thought of a pretend character, a realistic setting, and a problem! The interesting part was trying to get their characters out of trouble. Next, each first grader had to use the same character to create a series of at least 3 books. Finally, we studied and created our own boxed set for the series using cereal boxes. As you can see by the smiles on their faces, first graders really enjoyed this project! They should be very proud of their work!



NEW POETS IN SECOND GRADE ~ Mrs. Kuehn, Ms. Joosten

The second graders have been working on reading and writing different types of poetry. They are reading poetry through a poet's eye. They have written list poems, conversation poems, and comparison poems. The students have used words to create a feeling for the reader. Here are a few poems for you to enjoy!

Clouds, by Tyler Grossman

Clouds are Happy.
Rain is sad.
Wet is disappointed
Thunder is mad.
This is weather motion.

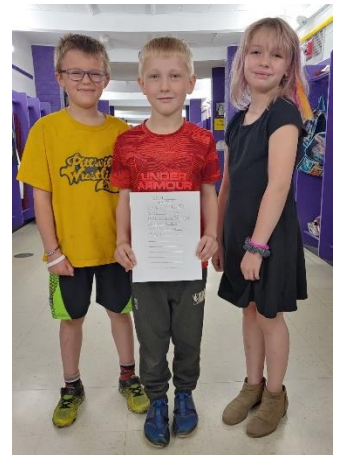
Deer, by Stryker Zawislan

Deer, deer.
You are near.
I see you very clear.
Deer, deer.

Crazy Kate, by Olivia Brem Hamm

Crazy Crazy Kate
Couldn't wait
"I can't." "I can't." "I can't..."
wait any more."
But she waits.

In Science the students have learned about Arbor Day and the many benefits that trees provide to the Earth. They also have learned how to be a good steward to the Earth. Each student was given their own pine tree from Mr. Chris Solatycki. The students were very excited to receive a tree and to be given the opportunity to plant their new tree. Thank you to Mr. Solatycki for providing this awesome experience.





SCRANTON SCHOOLHOUSE FIELD TRIP

On May 17th and May 19th, the third graders had the opportunity to visit and experience a student's life in a one room schoolhouse. The Scranton School is a project that the Pittsville Historical Society has been actively committed to. The students were greeted by their "old time" teachers and received their new identities for the day. Each student was provided with an era appropriate costume to wear for the day. They had fun learning about what life was like when attending a one room schoolhouse.

~ Mrs. Mueller, Mrs. Niehaus

4TH AND 5TH GRADE PLAYDOUGH FACTORY



The 4th and 5th graders recently finished their units working with adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions. They then had the opportunity to apply those skills in a real world, problem solving situation. Given the circumstance of a playdough fraction factory, the students had to figure out things like time spent on various parts of the work, total amounts of ingredients needed for a given amount of playdough, total amounts of playdough with given various sizes of containers, and cheapest shipping costs. After correctly completing the fraction work needed for the Math component, they were able to then make their own playdough. ~ Mrs. Denniston, Mr. Schultz



ANCESTOR APPROVED VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB

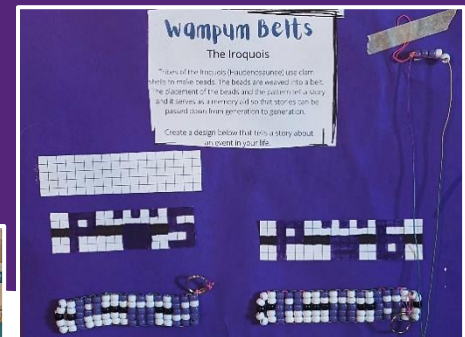
~ Ms. VanHaren

In the spring of 2022, 4th and 5th Graders participated in a virtual book club with students from Atlanta Area Charter School in Georgia. Both classes read the book *Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids* by Cynthia Leitrich Smith. The book focused on the stories of modern, indigenous kids traveling to a powwow. While sharing their reflections about the stories, students learned about the similarities and differences between kids living in a northern, rural area of the United States and kids living in an urban, southern area. Beyond things like differences in weather and traffic, students realized that kids everywhere often enjoy similar activities and have similar goals. Just don't bring up the Braves and Brewers!

Students exchanged their thoughts and opinions about the book through online message boards and shared our writings with each other in Google slides. A favorite activity was getting to meet each other online to discuss the book. The author, Cynthia Leitch Smith, even joined us for an online Q and A session at the end of the book club. Students were really interested in how she was able to work with other authors to create an anthology of different stories. Using her advice, students from Pittsville and Atlanta created an e-book anthology of their memories from the school year.

To read the Anthology, click on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/4xcypmz4>

To watch a video of the project, click on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/vnac4vya>



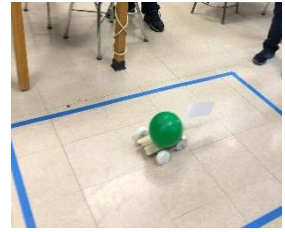
7TH GRADE ~ Mr. Laprise

The 7th grade has had the pleasure of learning about a whole host of things in their classes! They learned how to create companion books and analyze texts deeper than ever before. They learned how to solve for angles, prisms, and triangles. They gave persuasive speeches and wrote amazing arguments. They discovered the world of optical illusions and sculpting. They dived into the worlds of biogeography and energy pyramids. Finally, they researched and read about Israel, African nations, Australia and Oceania! What an incredible quarter for these kids!

All of their teachers are so proud of their growth and their potential. Truly, this is a class to watch out for in the coming years

6TH GRADE SCIENCE ~ Ms. Vacho

In the spirit of Newton's Laws of Motion, sixth graders have been on the move, building things that move, float, and carry out simple tasks in convoluted, but fascinating ways. They've investigated Newton's three laws of motion, and demonstrated their knowledge by constructing a Newton Scooter. They've explored Archimedes' principle building cargo boats that will successfully float and carry 50 pennies. They've tested Bernoulli's principle by flying different paper airplane models. Now, these sixth graders are ending the year learning about work, power, and simple machines. With physics, simple machines, and humor, they are constructing elaborate Rube-Goldberg machines that will ultimately make work easier. Or more complicated.



8TH GRADE ~ Ms. Hedstrom

Our 8th graders are wrapping up their time in the Elementary building. As I look back at my time with them it goes all the way back to 5th grade health! I am sure they would have some stories to tell. I have enjoyed getting to know them throughout the years.

Their Social Studies learning has progressed from sixth grade World History where we learned about several ancient civilizations to seventh grade world geography. We learned how climates, physical features, governments, economies, and religions can affect how different countries function. Their abilities to make connection and draw understanding about the different countries was impressive.

This year, we have focused on Civics and our constitution. We have learned about how the Constitution has shaped what goes on in our country. We have also learned about the historical purpose behind many of the amendments. We are ending our journey together learning about basic person finances. I am really impressed with how motivated they are to save! I have high hopes for their future. I have enjoyed getting to know each one.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN MATH LEAGUE ~Mrs. Grossman

On April 6th fifteen Pittsville high school students participated in the last meet for the High School Math League Competition held virtually at Pittsville. The competition has 3 categories: Algebra, Geometry, and Advanced Math. Forty different schools participated virtually with their top math students in the last competition.

The students who represented Pittsville School District in the Geometry category for this meet were Kadin Fox, Jake Hardinger, Gwyn Kumm, Arianna Kleven, Natasha Losievski, and Brad Neve. In the Algebra category, Brad Berg, Sam Bowden, Marcus Getsinger, and Hunter McDaniel competed. The five students competing in the Advanced Math category were Logan Cullen, Ben Ruchti, Ethan Strenn, Trace Wilke, and Kristin Zdun. In school size three, there were about 40 students taking each test.

For this test the results are as follows: In Geometry, Kadin placed 7th and Gwyn placed 17th. In the Algebra category, Marcus placed 7th out of 42 students. While the advanced category is usually a challenging category for Pittsville, this year Pittsville placed very well. Logan and Trace finished in 1st and 8th respectively.

There are three tests throughout the year for each category. Some students take one, two or all three tests. After all three meets, Kadin finished in 8th and Gwyn finished in 12th out of 46. In Algebra, PHS did not have any students take all three tests but Marcus did finish in 10th overall despite only taking two of the three tests. Finally, PHS found the most success this year in the Advanced category.. Logan placed 10th and Kristin placed 24th while both of these students only competed in the last two tests. Trace Wilke finished in the top three and his final place will be announced soon. This would usually happen at the banquet but that has been canceled again this year.

As a team, Pittsville finished in 16th place out of 40 for this meet bringing their final position to 15th out of 43 teams for the school year.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION 2021-2022

The 2021-22 school year was once again full of achievements from students in the technology education department. With the opening of our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Facility, students were excited to learn, design, and create. A few highlights from this year include: new machinery for students to utilize, multiple large sign projects designed and constructed by the Manufacturing class, new welding tables fabricated by our welding students, a variety of creative projects by our Women in Tech. Ed. students, two students winning the Central Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance welding competition, and multiple projects completed by our Building and Construction class.

As we look forward to the 2022-2023 school year, the technology education department is excited to announce that we recently received a Fab Lab Grant from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) to officially create a Fab Lab at Pittsville School District. The grant will provide resources and opportunities for students to continue to learn hands-on skills with state of the art equipment. The Fab Lab will also create extended learning opportunities for community members. For more information about Technology Education or the Pittsville School District Fab Lab, please contact Mr. Stephen Hadfield hadfiste@pittsville.k12.wi.us



Manufacturing Sign Projects



Women in Tech Ed



**Building & Construction Class
completing siding project for
local resident**



1st Place Welding Competition



New CNC Waterjet

SPANISH STUDENTS STUDY THE FOREST ~ Mrs. Madden

Spanish 3/4/5 students are finishing up the semester by studying the different layers of the forest. They learned about the parts of the tropical forest. They then had the opportunity to walk in the woods and study the layers of our forests. Students were able to write about the life found in the forests of Pittsville at the end of the unit.

FITNESS & WEIGHT TRAINING

Mr. Rayburn's Fitness & Weight Training class has been working hard this term. These students are learning how to perform a workout entirely based on supersets, and how those supersets can benefit overall strength.



ANNUAL NOTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION REFERRAL AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Upon request, the School District of Pittsville is required to evaluate a child for eligibility for special education services. A request for evaluation is known as a referral. When the district receives a referral, the district will appoint an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to determine if the child has a disability, and if the child needs special education services. The district locates, identifies, and evaluates all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private (including religious) schools, elementary schools and secondary schools located in the school district.

A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker, or administrator of a social agency who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability has a legal duty to refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made.

Others, including parents, who reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability, may also refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides.

Referrals must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. A referral may be made by contacting *Matthew Sherwood, Director of Special Education and Pupil Services*, at 715-884-2517, or by writing him at 5459 Elementary Avenue, Suite 2, Pittsville, WI 54466.

PITTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2	3									1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	HOL	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	PT	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	PT	16	17	18	19
21	INS	INS	INS	INS	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	HOL	NS	26
28	INS	INS	INS				25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
														30	31												

DECEMBER							JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4					1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	INS	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	INS	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	HOL	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	NS	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
HOL	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	HOL	29	30	31					26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL							MAY							JUNE							JULY						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3								1
2	3	4	5	6	NS	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	HOL	5	6	7	8
HOL	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	HOL	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30																					30	31					

The 1st Inclement Weather Day will not be made up by students or staff.

If needed, February 24 will be used for the 2nd Make Up Day and April 7 for the 3rd Make Up Day.

HOL	Holiday - No School	PT	Parent-Teacher Conference
INS	Teacher Inservice - No School	I	End of Quarter
NS	No School		

INSERVICE - No School

Aug 22-25, 29-31	Teacher Inservice
Nov 4	Teacher Inservice
Jan 16	Teacher Inservice
Mar 17	Teacher Inservice
May 30	Teacher Inservice

MONTHLY 2 HOUR TEACHER INSERVICE MEETINGS

One Wednesday per month during
Sep, Oct, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May
3:30 - 5:30 PM

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Nov 10	4:00-7:30 pm
Nov 15	4:00-7:30 pm

PCCC CLOSED

Sep 5 Nov 24-25 May 29 Jul 4

NO SCHOOL

Sep 5	Labor Day
Nov 24, 25	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 26-30	Winter Break
Feb 24	No School (Snow Make Up Day)
Apr 7	No School (Snow Make Up Day)
Apr 10-14	Spring Break
May 29	Memorial Day

QUARTERS

1st Quarter	Sep 1 - Nov 3	45
2nd Quarter	Nov 7 - Jan 13	43
3rd Quarter	Jan 17 - Mar 16	42
4th Quarter	Mar 20 - May 26	44

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - September 1

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - May 26

BOE Updated: April 11, 2022

Wood County Collecting Internet Speed Data

Access to broadband internet is vital for our student's education and the economic health of our school district. Yet many homes have speeds that fall far below federal broadband standards.

The Pittsville School District is collaborating with Wood County to promote a simple at-home speed test to collect data on actual speeds. This data will be used for future grant applications to improve internet access, particularly in rural areas of our district.

It's easy to participate – Just [click here](#) to reach the test. It takes about 2 minutes. Use your home computer, not your cell phone. Results will be mapped to identify areas of need.

If you have any questions, please contact Wood County Planning and Zoning at 715-421-8466.



MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ~ Ms. Schirger, Mr. Bertino

K-4 General Music

Students in K-4 General music have been working hard to learn fun music concepts during the fourth quarter:

- Kindergarten finished their unit on Carnival of the Animals and finished the year working on tempo (fast and slow) in music.
- 1st Grade finished their unit on Peter and the Wolf and finished the year working on dynamics, such as piano and forte.
- 2nd Grade worked on the string instrument family as well as the percussion instrument family. We had a lot of fun getting to play all the percussion instruments around the classroom.
- 3rd Grade has continued to work on their line and space notes on the treble clef staff as well as working on composing measures in a variety of meters.
- 4th Grade has continued to work on their recorders learning three new notes (high C, high D, and F#). They also wrote a composition that they can play on their recorders.

HS Choir

The High School Concert Choir had their spring concert performance on Saturday, May 14. They sang three pieces: "Ose Shalom", "What Do the Stars Do?", and "No One Is Alone" from the music Into the Woods. Even though the choir was a small group of nine students this term, they created a large and full sound. The audience had many compliments about their improvement as a choir. We cannot wait to get back to singing in the fall!

5-8 Choir

The 5th through 8th grade choirs had their spring concert on Monday, May 16. They sang a variety of music, including popular songs. In each grade level, the students helped in the choosing of one of their songs. 5th grade chose "We Don't Talk About Bruno" from the Disney movie Encanto; 6th grade chose "Count on Me" originally sung by Bruno Mars; 7th grade chose "Firework" originally sung by Katy Perry; and 8th grade chose "In the Heights (Choral Medley)" from the new musical movie In the Heights. After each grade level performed their songs at the concert, we did a combined choir piece with all the 5th through 8th grade choir with the piece "We Don't Talk About Bruno", where each grade level had their own solo part in it.

These soloists were featured during their grade level's performance: 5th - Isabella Halbur and Harper Abel; 8th - Lillian Dankemeyer, Kennedy Parkison, Cayley Gosney, Lydia Schieber. Congratulations to them on the hard work!



MATTRESS FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who came out to support us at the 2nd Annual Mattress Music Department fundraiser. We were able to raise \$2,210 for the music department.



SENIOR OUTSTANDING MUSICIAN AWARD

Every year at the spring concert, the music department awards those students who have been in choir and/or band for 4 semesters or more during high school. This is called the Senior Outstanding Musician Award. The following students were awarded with this: Connor Behselich, Torrence Dankemeyer, Caitlyn Fox, Cody Gonzalez, Rachel Schooley, Emma Tolzmann, and Amelia Veldman.

We thank them for their dedication to the music department and wish them the best in their futures!

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS – CONTINUED.....

5-8 Band

The 5th-8th grade band has had a fantastic year of growth in band! On Monday, May 23rd, these students will be performing at 6:30pm! You will have the opportunity to hear famous pop songs like "High Hopes", originally written by Panic at the Disco and a large number of pieces originally composed by the famous film composer John Williams. We hope to see you there!

HS Concert Band

Although the last concert of the year is complete, the high school concert band is still performing in the month of May! The schedule still includes two performances. The first will be at the high school graduation and the second is Memorial Day. It has been a few years since the high school band has been able to perform at these events. The students are excited and looking forward to playing for the public to enrich our community with music yet again!

HS Jazz Band

The *High School Jazz Band* just completed their final concert of the school year on May 14th with the concert band and choir! Congratulations to all students who participated! In April, the jazz band traveled to UW-Eau Claire for their annual jazz festival! The students had a memorable and educational experience! They were able to perform for two judges, attend masterclasses, and watch live performances of international jazz musicians!

Lastly, the *Pittsville Jazz Combos* are a new jazz group added this year. Combos are smaller jazz groups that excel in improvisation, musical expressional and technique! The Pittsville Combos performed at State Solo and Ensemble and scored the highest mark of a 1! Congratulations Pittsville Jazz Combos!

STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE RESULTS

Pittsville High School Music Department had quite a few events go to state solo & ensemble at the beginning of May. State Solo & Ensemble was held at UW-Stevens Point.

Here were the results:

Lillian Opie - Flute Solo - 2

Emma Tolzmann - Jazz Piano Solo - 1

Emma Tolzmann - Classical Piano Solo - 1

Emma Tolzmann - Musical Theater Solo - 1

Emma Tolzmann - Marimba Solo - 2

Emma Tolzmann, Cody Gonzalez, Torrence Dankemeyer, Erica Fox, Natalie Fuller, Connor Behselich, Lillian Opie, Catherine Schooley, Ben Ruchti - Jazz Combo - 1



Emma Tolzmann performing her musical theater solo.



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE

5459 Elementary Avenue, Suite 2
Pittsville, WI 54466

DISTRICT OFFICE

715-884-6694

Superintendent – Rodney Figueroa

HIGH SCHOOL

715-884-6412

Principal – Rod Watson, Ed.D.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

715-884-2517

Principal – Heather Friday

PITTSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nathan Bowden

Vice-President

Mandy Hoogesteger

President

Julie Strenn

Clerk

MaryAnn Lippert

Treasurer

Chris Zawislan

Member-at-Large

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

It is the policy of the Pittsville School District, pursuant to state and federal laws and regulations, that no person may be denied admission to any public school in this District or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular (which would include all Career and Technical Education opportunities), extra-curricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, homelessness status, any physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or any other legally-protected status or classification as required by S. 118.13, Wis. Stats. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race and national origin), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The District encourages informal resolutions of complaints under this policy. A formal complaint resolution procedure is available, however, to address allegations of violations of the policy in the Pittsville School District.

Any questions concerning this policy should be directed to: Matthew Sherwood, Director of Special Education and Pupil Services, School District of Pittsville, 5459 Elementary Avenue, Suite 2, Pittsville, Wisconsin 54466, 715-884-2517 Ext 255.

FOLLOW US ON



[Facebook - @PittsvilleWISD](#)



[Twitter - @PittsvilleWISD](#)



[Instagram - @pittsvillewisd](#)



[YouTube - PSD](#)

SCHOOL MAY STOP IN THE SUMMER

But Learning Never Should