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N Pittsville School District NEWS

First Quarter, 2013-14

Home of the Panther Pride

From the Desk of District Administrator Terry Reynolds...



The fall season is now upon us and school is in full swing. With the advent of the change in seasons, it is very important that everyone begin thinking about the possibility of school cancellations. As you are aware, in Wisconsin our weather can be very unpredictable and parents should begin preparing for school cancellations, postponements, etc. Do you have a child care plan if school is cancelled? If school is dismissed early, does the office, your provider, the bus company, and your child know what *your plan is?* To make plans the day school is cancelled is not a good idea, as with over 600 students enrolled at Pittsville, it would be virtually impossible to deal with all telephone calls coming in from parents. Today is a great time to review and communicate your desires by updating your emergency contact information, if you have not already done so.

The District utilizes the School Messenger (Skylert) system to notify parents of any cancellations. Parents should update any changes of their phone contact information as soon as possible in the Skyward Family Access Accounts. Please contact the School if you have any questions regarding the School Messenger system.

In other news: I had the opportunity to travel to China October 2-9 with Mr. Erik Torkelson, Mercer School District Superintendent, Mr. Richard Vought, of Vought LLC, and his assistant, Stephen Sorensen, who are both assisting our two Districts in setting up the SEP Program. We were invited to China by School Leaders from the Green Town Yuhua Schools in Shanzhou, Fuyang School Leaders in Fuyang, Guangzhau Lingnan Education Group and the Shanghai United International Schools to discuss the SEP program in China. These meetings took place October 3-9. The above China School groups paid for our travel to and from China, including all accommodations and meals while in China. This was a tremendous opportunity to allow us to meet with these school leaders, discuss our SEP initiative, and assist us in developing a trusting working relationship with them. I returned from the meetings very enthusiastic about the potential for our program being initiated in 2014.

So why develop a program in China? There are many reasons to develop this program. The first and foremost though is to provide our students and staff with the opportunity to be involved in an international education program which will better prepare our students in this age of global education. It is imperative that our students living in our small rural community be exposed to the different cultures around the world. China is and will be a major power player in our children's lifetimes and it is important they learn more about the Chinese culture and language. The SEP program will provide an opportunity for our students to participate in educational exchanges, which could include actual visits and study in China. This program would allow Pittsville students to not only experience the culture first hand, but also continue their Pittsville curriculum studies while they are in China. It is also our intention to provide exchangers with our staff and bring a Mandarin Language teacher to Pittsville for an additional foreign language program here through such an exchange. Mercer in fact has been able to initiate such a program already this year, due to Richard Vought's past connections with the China Educational group.

Another important aspect of the program is the potential to bring added revenue to the District. With the continual loss of state aid and declining enrollment, our District is facing a budget shortfall once again. The SEP program has the potential to provide the District with some relief in the future. The added revenue would allow the district to maintain current programming and attempt to save district residents further tax increases in the future. Though we are attempting to initiate the pilot program with low enrollments in China to ensure success, there is a very strong potential for growth, if we are successful in this venture.

Expecting Excellence and Integrity from all, developing Innovative Students, strengthened through Partnerships with parents and the community.



Skylert / SchoolMessenger Notification System

SchoolMessenger allows the district to quickly send mass notifications to employees, parents, and students. It can provide you with information through telephone or cell phone, e-mail, and/or text message. We will be using the system to let families know about emergency situations, weather related delays, cancellations, attendance, lunch balances, changes to athletic and other events, and general information about up-coming events.

Skylert works through Skyward's Family Access to provide you with the means to manage your contact sources and choose how you will be contacted for a variety of purposes. To check and update your Skylert contact information, go to our district home page at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us. Hover your mouse over 'Skyward' on the left side bar, click on the 'Family & Student Access' link from the pop-up menu, and login to your Family Access account. Click on the **Skylert** option listed on the left hand side. Click **Edit** to make changes to the information or to change your preference of notification delivery. You can add and remove checkmarks as you wish for the various types of contact calls, emails, or SMS text messages. Even though you may have checked phone numbers to receive SMS text messages, you must also 'opt in' to receive the services for each number.

If you do not know your Family Access login information or if you need more assistance with this issue, please contact your child's school: High School - 715-884-6412; Elementary School - 715-884-2517.

Cancellations, Delays, Early Dismissal

If weather conditions are such that you think the school schedule may be interrupted, please listen to one of the radio stations listed below. Notification of cancellations, delays, or early dismissals due to inclement weather will also be made through the Pittsville School District's SchoolMessenger alert system. Parents should have an emergency plan for dealing with these situations for the safety and health of their children. Do not drop children off at school on mornings when school is to be delayed, as there is not supervision available on those days.

WIFC	95.5 FM	WOFM	94.7 FM	WSAW	TV-7
WOSQ	92.3 FM	WEAU	TV-13	WAOW	TV-9

Farm To School: District Helps Set Record For School Local Food Purchases

Pittsville students had a fabulous National Farm to School Month in October. In fact, the district combined with the five other Wood County public school districts to serve 12,000 pounds, or \$6,500 worth of local food products to area students in September. That's a 600 percent increase from just two years ago when the schools began working with local farmers to procure locally grown and processed foods.

The exciting news continues, as Pittsville food service staff has a smorgasbord of locally grown food options for students throughout the month of November. Students will continue to find in their lunch line potatoes grown on Sunny Grove Farm in Stevens Point, as well as locally grown carrots (as carrot coins) and cabbage. Local producers will also continue to supply cucumbers, tomatoes and green peppers until the season's supply runs dry. To celebrate Thanksgiving, Food Service Director Joe Dostal will serve winter squash grown in the school garden (Nancy and Ray Stauner's land) and harvested by the Plant to Plate Expo students. Let your kids know about these fantastic lunch options!

Do you know a local farmer who wants to get involved in the Wood County Farm to School program? We'd love to hear from you! Even when the harvest season ends, the Farm to School team is looking for producers who will come to schools and meet the students. Contact Sue Anderson, Wood County Farm to School Coordinator at sue.eric.anderson@gmail.com or 715.347.6460.

Meet the New Staff....



Ms. Alix Jicinsky is a Stratford, WI native. Ms. Jicinsky graduated from UW-Stevens Point with a major in Spanish in Secondary Education along with a minor in Biology. She studied abroad in Costa Rica and Spain prior to coming to Pittsville. She enjoys travel, spending time with her two dogs (Molly and Pepper), and loves to be outdoors.



Mrs. Candice Kremer has been hired as the new Early Childhood and Special Education Teacher, and is a graduate of UW-Wood County and UW-Stevens Point with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Special Education with Early Childhood certification. Mrs. Kremer lives in Wisconsin Rapids with her husband and two children. Prior to coming to Pittsville, Mrs. Kremer taught for six years in Nekoosa.



Mrs. Emily Krystowiak has been hired as the 7-12 Guidance Counselor for the 2013-14 School Year. Mrs. Krystowiak is from Stevens Point and attended college at UW-Stout and UW-Milwaukee receiving her degrees in Psychology and Educational Psychology. Prior coming to Pittsville Mrs. Krystowiak, worked at Catholic Central High School in Burlington, WI and Crean Lutheran High School in Irvine, CA. Her husband, David, coaches football at UW-Stevens Point and they have a 19 month old son named Elijah.



Mrs. Kate Kaster has been hired as the new Business Education Teacher, FBLA Advisor, and Co-Head Cross Country Coach. Mrs. Kaster has a Computer Science degree and an MBA, and has 25 years of computer experience as a programmer/developer and systems analyst. After taking some time at home with her children, she went back to school and received her teaching certification in Business Education and Computer Science. She and her husband live in Hewitt with their two children ages 16 and 18.





“Counselor’s Corner: 1st Quarter” ~ Emily Krystowiak, 8-12 School Counselor

Pittsville Juniors attend Wisconsin Education Fair at MSTC & Tour UWSP

Pittsville juniors had the opportunity to visit with college reps from over 90 different colleges and universities across the Mid-West region at the annual Wisconsin Education Fair held at MSTC on September 20. Juniors were able to obtain information for schools they may be interested in attending. From there, they traveled to UWSP and received a campus tour. This gave them first-hand experience of what a college campus is like. Students will be discussing their experience during their Individual Planning Conference which will be held later this month.

Pittsville Schools participate in the INTERNATIONAL STAND UP to BULLYING Day

On October 23rd, students from Pittsville Schools will be sporting pink t-shirts to support anti-bullying measures on their campuses. This initiative was started to keep awareness levels high for all students so that bullying is kept at a low. This event has been going strong since February 2008 when students decided to put an end to bullying at their school. From their initiative, it has been continued at schools across the nation, including ours. Students and staff have committed to this endeavor and will do so. Our hope is that the community and families will continue to support their schools in this important project.

Teen Leadership Council Continues

TLC mentor students are continuing to meet with their assigned mentee group twice a month, once during lunch and once during RTI/PPT, to do different team building activities as well as discuss school and life topics. Mentee groups are consistent from last year being that 7th grade students are paired with 10th grade mentors, 8th grade students are paired with 11th grade mentors, and 9th grade students are paired with 12th grade mentors. TLC mentor students have met three times already this year with their students over the last month and half of school. We continue to encourage mentee’s to take full advantage of this time with their mentors.

PITTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACADEMY “Students Working Toward Success”

Pittsville High School currently has 34 students out in area communities learning life-long skills from employers willing to give their expertise and time so our students can succeed after school. This program was brought to the fore front in an effort to answer the charge given by Tony Evers, WI State Superintendent of Public Instruction, As quoted by Evers, *“Work-based learning programs enhance business/education partnerships, provide students with opportunities to reinforce skills they learn in the classroom in a work-setting, and teach the necessary employability skills and work behaviors to be effective in the workforce.”* Pittsville School District’s CTE (Career and Technical Education) Department is looking to partner with local businesses to provide non-paid internships and job shadow opportunities.

Rational: In an effort to address postsecondary and workforce concerns about the readiness of the next generation, Pittsville High School has established a two year program for all juniors and seniors, called the CTE Academy, with the following targeted goals for all students upon graduation from Pittsville High School:

- Soft skills development and application
- Financial literacy awareness and utilization
- Real world career observation and evaluation

Junior Year: Career and Financial Literacy Class

All juniors at PHS will take a Career and Financial Literacy class* that alternates with PE 11 during the fall semester (September to mid-January.)

***Job Shadow Requirement:** As part of this class, students will be asked to complete three job shadows that match up with their career interest areas. If possible, job shadows will be scheduled during October-December for a 3-4 hour time period, preferably during the morning.

The employer will be asked to sign off on a verification sheet indicating the date and time the student was there, although a formal evaluation of the student will not be required. Students will complete any health screenings, safety trainings, etc. prior to the job shadow experience, if requested by the employer.

Senior Year: Senior Capstone Class

All seniors at PHS will take a Career Capstone Class* that alternates with their required Contemporary American Problems class during the fall semester (September to mid-January.) Seniors will have three options for this course to choose from: a non-paid career internship at an offsite location, a service learning experience at the elementary school, or a virtual class.

***Career Internship Requirements:** Students will complete a 12 week non-paid career internship (September 30, 2013-December 20, 2013) at an offsite location two days a week (M/W or T/TH) between 8:00-10:00 AM. A student can choose to complete the internship at one site for the full 12 weeks or two sites for 6 weeks each. Students are expected to act in a professional manner by following all rules and dress code requirements set forth by the internship site. Additionally, students are expected to complete entry level tasks, observations, etc. as deemed appropriate by the employer. The employer will be asked to complete a formal evaluation (provided by the school) of the student at the end of week 5 and 12 which will be a large part of the student’s term grade. All liability issues will be addressed by the school to ensure our business partners are adequately covered while hosting PHS students.

If you are an employer or know of an employer that may be interested in working with the CTE Team of Mrs. Leonhardt, Mrs. Kaster, Mr. Hadfield or Mr. Urban, please contact if you have any questions at 715-884-6412.



PHS News

Greetings!

This has been a busy start to the school year at PHS. We really hit the ground running and have kept on going! With sports starting before the school year begins and an early homecoming, it feels like we are in that mid-year rhythm already. I want to give a special THANKS to the large amount of local businesses and all the citizens of the district for making two new initiatives possible:

1- We are very proud to be one of the earliest schools in the state to offer a "1:1" education. What this means is that we have issued a small laptop computer (called a "Chromebook") to each student, grades 7-12, to use at school and at home. This has increased our ability to use the internet, and the vast stores of resources that are found there, to enhance our learning. Students and staff are very pleased with this development and are quickly implementing new and innovative ways to put them to use.

2- Another very exciting endeavor that is being put into place this year is our Career and Technical Academy. This program was developed to meet the needs expressed by both educational and business leaders who saw the need to acquaint students with the skills they will eventually need in the workforce. Whether after graduation from college or high school, PHS students will be a step ahead in terms of job skills. See the enclosed article for more details.

From an academic standpoint, I would like to share a few statistics that we are proud of. Last spring, the classes of 2016 and 2017 scored 3 and 4 times, respectively, above the national norm on the Measure of Academic Progress tests that were given. That is quite a stellar accomplishment! In addition, 22 students took 37 Advanced Placement tests last spring. As a result, 64% of the tests scored a 3 or better, making those student eligible for free college credits. This total surpasses the national average, and is the second highest total in the at least the last ten years at PHS.

Our State Report Card shows that we have Exceeded Expectations with a score of 73.3, and are making plans to continue to increase our score (and our student learning) in future years. Through a program we are calling Career and College Readiness, we are working as a staff to accomplish this goal, in part, by increasing our emphasis on academic skill mastery.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Stephen Hadfield, who received the School Forest Teacher Award for his work in spearheading the building of the new shelter at the school forest, which you have "watched" being erected in previous newsletters and on the website. This very prestigious award comes from UWSP and the DNR through the LEAF Forestry Environmental Education Program. Nice work Stephen!!

*Mark Weddig
PHS Principal*

Panther Spirit Wear For Sale

If you would like to order Panther Spirit Wear you can find an order blank at the HS office, Elem. Office, or on the **Pittsville Home Page**. There are also pictures of the items for sale. An order form was sent home with the elem. students. New this year is PomPom Team Beanies (knitted hat), Spectator Scarf, Yoga Pants, Dri-fit shirts & duffle bags. Check out the items on the web page or stop in at the high school office to try on different sizes. Orders must be in by November 14, with payment, to ensure a delivery date of December 12.

Spirit wear makes great Christmas gifts. If you have any questions, please call Pam at 715-884-6412.



FAMILY ACCESS

Please remember to access the District website, go to Family Access, and log-in to update your student information. Please make sure your guardian and emergency contact information is accurate, as well as your phone number, home address, and email address. This information could be critical if we need to reach you regarding your child in an emergency, and it also enhances communication between families and the district. Accessing your account will also allow you to check food service balances, see your child's schedule, and view a wealth of other information. Thanks!

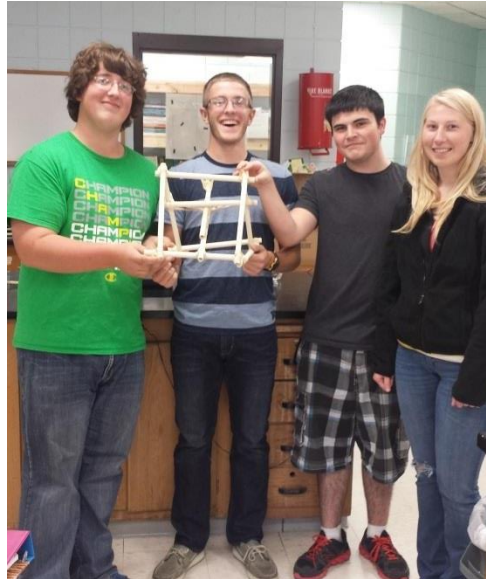
PHS Spanish

Spanish class is off to a great start! The students in Spanish 1 are currently working on talking about school. They are learning how to tell time as well! The students in Spanish 2 just finished up a project about their daily routine. Ask your Spanish 2 student to show you their video or presentation. Spanish 3 is working on talking about things that happened in the past. They recently wrote a paper about a Spanish speaking person. The students researched their person's life and accomplishments. All the classes are looking forward to celebrating the upcoming holiday "Día de los muertos."



Science Department

High school physics students recently constructed catapults as part of their study of projectile motion. Each lab group launched projectiles and collected data comparing launch angle and projectile distance. Data analysis and plots were used to calibrate their catapults so that the launch conditions could be adjusted to hit a target at a given distance. The project concluded with a friendly competition to see which group was most accurate with their catapult. Paul Baum, Calvin Amundson, Austin John, and Janessa Masanz were crowned "Catapult Kings and Queen" of the competition.



Farm to School Garden News

The fall harvest is upon us. Mrs. Leonhardt's and Mr Urban's class known as **Plant to Plate Expo 8** are beginning to harvest the product of their toil. Last spring as 7th graders, students from Pittsville Middle School planted pumpkins, acorn, spaghetti and buttercup squash at the school garden, generously located at Ray and Nancy Stauner's farm south of Pittsville. The garden was cared for during the summer months by Rebecca Stanford, a student volunteer. Her time and efforts were vital to the successful harvest this year. This fall was a tremendous squash harvest. The squash will be used in the upcoming lunch program by Food Director Joe Dostal. Mr. Dostal plans on serving it on the school lunch line. The following amount of squash was harvested: Buttercup 199.5 lbs., Acorn 32.9 lbs., and Spaghetti 302.1 lbs.

Mr. Urban and his 8th graders also harvested 137 lbs of apples from the trees in front of the elementary school. Mrs. Leonhardt will be using these apples in her Local Foods Class.



PHS Drama Club

Dinner Theater:

"P.S. Merry Christmas"

The PHS Drama Club under the direction of Ms. Freedlund and Miss Pearce will be presenting Pat Cook's comedy "P.S. Merry Christmas" on Friday, November 15 at 7:00 P.M. and Saturday, November 16 at 7:00 P.M. This light-hearted comedy is one that all ages will enjoy.

The play is about a mother, Karen (Hannah Downs), who writes an annual Christmas letter that she mails out to all her friends and family. She writes about her klutzy husband (Luke Hardinger), her boy-crazy daughter (Samantha Schooley) and her freshmen-in-college son (Jack Zdun) whose only claim to fame is perfect attendance.

As Karen ponders what to write in her Christmas letter she reminisces about the past year and her childhood. She describes a visit from her two sisters: Dodo and Gretchen (Katie Hardinger). The two sisters are a hoot! Like most sisters everywhere, they have to give Marlon, Karen's husband, a hard time about his failures as a family handyman. Karen recollects her 20th wedding anniversary - which her children, Thad and Katie, and her sisters have to remind Marlon about - and the encounter with the waiter "Andre" played by Walter Harris. She recalls her Gramma (Katie Delaney) and her advice, but unfortunately not Grandmother's Gingerbread recipe! Bekah Downs portrays Young Karen which adds a bit of reality to the scene as her real-life sister is Karen. Another young actress, Faith Buettner, is cast as Virginia the "Is There Really a Santa Claus" letter writer from the 1880s.

Rounding out the cast are newcomers to the PHS Drama Club: Paige Dupee as the antiques expert, Cheryl Soetebier as Mrs. Barnhouse, and Adrienne Week as Dodo, Karen's sister from California.



This holiday-themed play will feature a dinner prior to the show prepared by Pittsville's own Melissa Darr.



Elementary News



Dear families,

We have had a great start to the school year and are looking forward to an incredible October and November! Ms. Raygo, our Guidance Counselor, has been instrumental in starting our Peer Mediator leadership for 5th and 6th graders. This effort allows older students to help younger students resolve problems on the playground by following a step by step process to develop independent conflict resolution. Thank you to all students involved!

Our Book Fair is coming up! Please stop by during Parent-Teacher conferences October 22 and October 24.

We are continuing our Little Caesar's fundraising efforts until November 7. We are trying to do as well or better than last year. If we succeed, Mrs. Fischer may be kissing a farm animal (name unknown as of now)!

Congratulations to Mrs. Doering for winning a \$10,000 Art Grant from UW-Stevens Point! This will allow for students to work with adults and create ceramic pots which will be available for purchase at an Empty Bowls event on March 11 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the elementary cafeteria where soup and bread will also be sold. All money donated will go to the food pantry. March 11 will also be our Learning Fair/Art Show/STEM night! More details to follow as we get closer to March.

I am very proud of our students. Every day as I am in the hallways and cafeteria and on the playground, I see many acts of kindness and consideration of our school community and property. The staff and I remind students about PBIS behavior and continually work to make this a normal part of a positive school climate at Pittsville Elementary. This ties into Response to Intervention in which the staff and I work together as a team to make sure all students are academically successful. We thank you for your partnership and support in these efforts.

Mrs. Fischer
Elementary Principal



The Spirit of Education Space Shuttle - DREAMFLIGHT will be docking at Pittsville Elementary School next spring. Delta Dental has provided a grant so that third grade students may take part in on-board activities such as: Designing a Space Station, Lunar Eclipse, Solar Eclipse, Hot & Cold = Winter & Summer, Fixing the Hubble Telescope, Working in Space, Star Maps, Spectrometry (Identify A Gas), Operate A Robotic Arm, and Nutrition for Healthy Teeth and Gums. These activities enrich our Solar System unit and math and technology curriculum by providing hands on activities for the students. We are very excited about this visit and will provide more information next spring as things get finalized.



Kindergarten News...

October has been a busy time for the Pittsville kindergartners. They have been learning about fire safety at school and in their homes.

They have learned about the importance of not playing with matches and lighters, have learned to make a plan about their family meeting place in case of a fire at their home, learned about Stop, Drop and Roll (which they are demonstrating in this picture), when to call 911, and the need to learn their address and phone number for personal safety. A special thank you to Jerry Minor, Linda Schwanebeck, and JT Quinell for coming into our classroom to explain fire safety, do demonstrations, and for allowing us to visit the fire station later this month.

The children have been learning about the fall season and the crops of apples and pumpkins. Each child was given a pumpkin by our high school agriculture program. Thanks to Mr. Bill Urban and his students for delivering them to us. Our culminating activity for our apple unit was the making of applesauce in our classrooms. A special thank you to Liam Gowey's family, Daryn Luther's family and Dawson Luther's family for donating apples for this project.

This week, our kindergartners participated in the state mandated PALS literacy assessment. The test will be given again in the spring to show growth of each child's skills throughout the year. Information from this test will be shared with parents at Parent-Teacher conferences on October 22nd and 24th.

Enjoy the fall season,
Mrs. Niehaus and Mrs. Heinzen

Junior High Visits Sandhill

On Friday, October 11th, students in seventh and eighth grade took their knowledge to the field to achieve the orienteering course at Sandhill. Over the past couple of weeks they have had instruction on how to use a compass and how to determine the distance of their pace. This understanding was then put to the test at Sandhill's course. Students found it to be much more challenging than was the playground area they first tried. This was the first STEM activity this year for both classes. (STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math.) While at Sandhill they also took pictures of ecosystems and environmental processes that will be used for presentations. Students got a bird's eye view from one of the towers in an effort to add to their picture collection.





Mrs. Moore's and Mr. Downing's 4th graders recently attended Cranberry Splash with the high school FFA students. As part of the Wisconsin curriculum, the students were able to see cranberry production in many phases. The students learned how the cranberry grows, how it is harvested and how it got its name. They tasted fresh cranberries as well as other cranberry products. Wood County produces the largest amount of cranberries out of all 72 counties in Wisconsin. A great time was had by all.



PES PEER MEDIATION

This year, handling conflicts at the Elementary School looks a little different than in the past. In addition to meeting with the school counselor to address friendship concerns, students are encouraged to handle minor conflicts with friends by using the peace path or meeting with the peer mediators. The peace path allows two students to work out their conflict using a step-by-step method to address their concerns on the playground. The peace path is painted on the blacktop and is available for any student to use and does not require any adult assistance. In addition to the peace path, this year we also have peer mediators on duty during lunch recesses that are trained to handle minor conflicts between students. The peer mediators are comprised of students in grades 5-6 who were nominated by their teachers based on their leadership and conflict resolution skills.

The peer mediation program is helpful to the school climate in many ways. Just as reading and writing are essential skills for leading a productive life, so too are conflict resolution skills. Young people need to be able to communicate effectively, appreciate the consequences of their actions, generate and evaluate alternative solutions to problems, and co-exist with people with whom they disagree. Peer mediation teaches these fundamental skills and attitudes to both mediators and parties.

Just as teachers don't teach students algebra by solving problems for them, adults don't teach young people to resolve conflicts by doing it for them. Peer mediation teaches students the skills and then encourages them to resolve their own conflicts in a supervised setting. It also gives students a forum for resolving conflicts that might never have come to the attention of adults. And, although mediation enables students to resolve their own conflicts, it does not exonerate them from responsibility for their behavior: the school disciplinary system remains uncompromised.

In the past four weeks that the peer mediation program has been in place, thirty-six students have met with peer mediators over lunch recess. We have had a positive response from students who have spoken with the mediators and have had fewer visits to the school counselor from students regarding conflicts with friends. Although there will always be conflicts that need adult intervention, we would like to provide students with the skills to handle conflicts on their own for the times that parents and teachers are not available.

ART DEPARTMENT RECEIVES GRANT

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point-School of Education offered the opportunity for educators to apply for a \$10,000 Oscar W. Neale Fellowship Grant. Oscar Neale felt that "art works had a moral, ethical and sometimes patriotic function". On behalf of the Pittsville School District Art Department, Kris Doering submitted a written proposal for an after-school pottery wheel program to the committee, including a \$1,200 local match. The purpose of this program is to offer visual art opportunities while bringing together students, educators, community members and others.

The Pittsville Art Department was awarded the grant. As a result, eleven pottery wheels will be purchased and students will be selected to participate in the after-school pottery wheel class. Mrs. Doering will be collaborating with UWSP Professor Nikki Logan throughout the project. UWSP education and art majors will travel to Pittsville to take part in the program. Local artists Dave Lyons and Tim Bergelin will offer their expertise as the students develop their throwing skills.

In addition, students will also be throwing bowls for a Pittsville Empty Bowls Dinner with all proceeds going to PANS – Pittsville Area Nutrition Site. Please join us on March 11 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the Elementary Cafeteria for dinner to select your very own ceramic bowl. After dinner, please join us at the K-12 Annual Art Show, Learning Fair, and STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. You can even try your hand at throwing a bowl on the pottery wheels.

After the celebration of the Empty Bowls, the students will continue to throw a variety of ceramic pieces. "I am very excited about the targeted intentions this grant allows the Arts to do. The Arts allow many students to feel a sense of belonging and therefore develop students' self-esteem. Along with this, the Pittsville schools are very pleased to invite the community to learn about pottery making with us!"

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

March 11, 2014

Pittsville Empty Bowl Dinner 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Elementary Cafeteria

K-12 Art Show 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. Auditorium Lobby

Learning Fair 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. Varsity Gym



The 4K/EC Classes went to Down on the Farm pumpkin patch. We had beautiful weather and enjoyed a hayride, going through a corn maze, walking through a spooky woods, petting and feeding a variety of animals, and we picked a pumpkin to take home! Thank you to all the great volunteers who helped make our trip a success!



FFA News and Notes...

The Pittsville Soils Team participated in the Wood County Soils competition against Wisconsin Rapids, Auburndale and Marshfield. Once again, the teams dug their hands into the dirt of the competition and are anxiously waiting for this year's results. In the past 20 years, Pittsville is the only other team besides Marshfield to win this annual competition. Prior to the competition, the students toured Nasonville Dairy and Norm-E-Land Farms. These educational tours exposed our students to two different views of the agriculture world. One as producer of milk and the other the processor of the farmer's toil.

Advisor Mr. Urban will be attending the National FFA Convention held at Louisville, Kentucky October 30-November 2. While at the Convention, ten FFA members will be attending leadership workshops, listening to inspirational speakers, touring and meeting other FFA members. The National Convention is the largest student organization convention in the United States with over 50,000 FFA members attending. A special thank you to the Pittsville FFA Alumni who every year pay 50 % of each members travel costs to attend. Without their help, we would not be able to attend the convention.

Upcoming events: The agriculture greenhouse is once again producing high quality, low price poinsettias. The color for the poinsettias are red, pink and marble, if you have an interest in purchasing one or more in the first week of December, please stop by the greenhouse or call and we are more than willing to help. The FFA will also be beginning their annual citrus fruit fundraiser beginning in November. Please watch the local paper for details.



FFA Members attend World Dairy Expo

Pittsville FFA members attended the World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin, on October 1, 2013. While at the Expo, members were able to attend workshops, interview vendors, participate in contests, and learn about the dairy industry. The World Dairy Expo is where the dairy industry meets. No other dairy event in the world compares. Designed for dairy producers and industry partners World Dairy Expo is a showcase for elite dairy cattle, cutting edge research, and modern technologies.



SKI / BOARD CLUB

I know, seems too soon to be thinking about snow, right? I just want to update everyone on a few dates so you can plan ahead.

Dec 6 Ski/Snowboard & Winter Wear Swap/Sale. Sell your items or buy some equipment from 5:00-8:00 in the Conference Room. Call Pam if you would like to sell something. Items for sale are due by Nov. 26.

Dec 28 PHS Ski/Snowboard Reunion. Yes, that's right. Spread the word to all club alumni. Let's have a reunion at Bruce Mound. Call Pam to make reservations at 715-884-6412, or message her on Facebook. Bring your children if you want and I will teach them how to snowboard or ski. Tubing is also available if you don't ski or board anymore.

Dec 30 Family Day at Bruce Mound

Jan 17 Chili & Pizza Feed during the Boys' Basketball game.

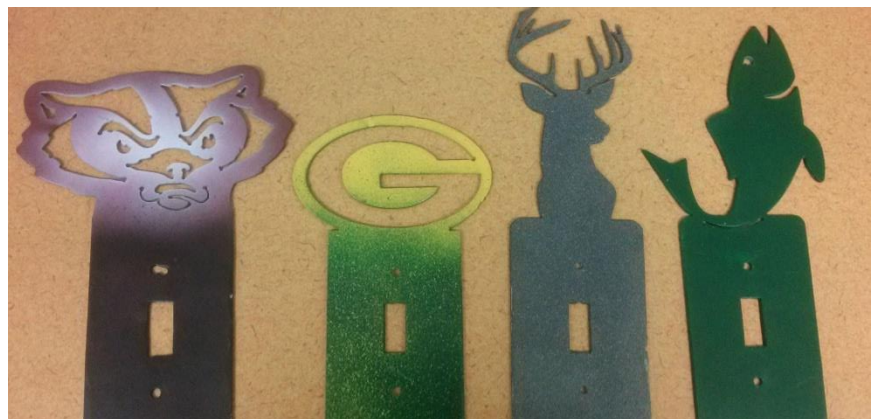
Mar 14 Hypnotist, first time on a Friday night!

PHS Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing News

PHS Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing classes have teamed up to market and manufacture products designed and built by PHS students. The classes have collaborated to create unique wooden coaster sets and light switch covers. Both coaster sets and light switch covers come in a variety of styles and designs and can be purchased through the program.



For more information or to place an order, contact Mrs. Kaster at 715-884-6412 x423 or email at kastekat@pittsville.k12.wi.us or Mr. Hadfield at 715-884-6412 x310 or email at hadfiste@pittsville.k12.wi.us.





Administrative Contacts

Mr. Reynolds, District Administrator 715-884-6694

Mr. Weddig, Senior High Principal 715-884-6412

Mrs. Fischer, Elementary Principal 715-884-2517

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Robert Wolff

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Jane Wesely

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2013-2014 MEAL PRICES

4K- Grade 3 Lunch	\$2.10
Grade 4-8 Lunch	\$2.60
Grade 9-12 Lunch	\$3.10
Adult Lunch	\$3.75
Reduced Lunch	\$.40
Milk	\$.25
4K-Grade 12 Breakfast	\$.60
Adult Breakfast	\$1.20

FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS

Your children may qualify for free milk, free meals, or reduced price meals. To apply, complete a Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application. Use one application for all students in your household. Be sure to fill out all required information and return the application to Joe Dostal, Food Service Director, 5459 Elementary Avenue, Suite 1, Pittsville, WI 54466. If you have not received an application in the mail, please contact the District Office at 715-884-6694. The free or reduced lunch program not only benefits families but it also helps your school. Please apply for free or reduced lunch at Pittsville Schools. Your application is completely confidential.

Food Service News

During the month of October, elementary students had several opportunities to sample new food items. We sampled two types of squash thanks to our farm to school program. The Expo 7 class planted squash at the Stauner farm in the spring. Expo 8 plant to plate - harvested and processed the squash for this school year. We served buttercup and spaghetti squash at both schools and at the elementary we set up a tasting table in the cafeteria for any student that wanted to try the squash.

Vegetables are not the only thing elementary students had the opportunity to taste. Mr. Dostal took several eighth grade students to a food buying show with the goal of finding new food items for the menu. During the show, they found BIG DADDY'S PEPPERONI PIZZA! Since they were so excited about the pizza and we purchased the pizza while at the show, the sales person threw in a free case. October 17th, we served the pizza in both cafeterias, and set up a sampling table in the elementary cafeteria. The pizza was a big hit and we will continue to serve BIG DADDY'S in both cafeterias.

LOW LUNCH BALANCES

Accounts below \$25.00 will be notified weekly through the Pittsville School District's SchoolMessenger 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.

View your family account online through Skyward Family Access at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Dostal at 715-884-2517.

Breakfast & Lunch menus are available on the district webpage at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us

ONLINE PAYMENTS

Parents can make online payments from home or work by using their VISA or MasterCard credit or debit card. Payments are made through the student's Skyward Family Access account. To make online payments:

- Visit our district website www.pittsville.k12.wi.us
- Click on **For Students/Parents** tab
- Click on **Family and Student Access**
- Log in to **Skyward Family Access** (you will need your Login and Password)
- Use your **MasterCard** or **VISA** (Debit or Credit Card)

Payments made through Skyward Family Access will immediately be posted to the student's food service account. Parents will be charged \$2.50 for the convenience of making an online payment.





Athletic Department News . . .

Greetings from the Athletic Department at Pittsville Schools!

The fall sports season is quickly winding down and we are starting to look to our winter sports season. Before we start shooting take downs and jump shots, let's look back at our fall seasons.

At the time this article is going to print, the Panther football team is playoff eligible and is hoping for a high seed in the regional bracket. The Panthers suffered their only 3 losses to the Tri-Champions of the Marawood, Marathon, Stratford and Edgar and won convincingly over their other opponents. The Panther defense was strong this year, allowing around 5 points on average in the first half of games. The Panther offense was also a force with an effective passing attack and a running game that featured a powerful offensive line and two explosive backs.

The Panther volleyball team also had a successful season and is going into their first year of Division 4 Regional play as a six seed in their Sectional. With a senior led lineup (9 seniors), the Panthers faced a number of Division 3 state contenders and competed at a high level despite several injuries to key players. The Panthers represented the Marawood South division well by defeating the Northland Lutheran Wildcats in the first ever Marawood Crossover challenge held at Marathon in October.

The Pittsville Cross Country team had a strong showing this year and had the honor of hosting its first Marawood Conference Tournament on October 17. The Panther runners represented our community well with the boys finishing in 3rd place overall and the girls placed 5th. At this time, both teams are preparing to make a postseason run at the state meet on Saturday, November 2 in Wisconsin Rapids.

As always, our football cheer and pom pon squads did an excellent job this year keeping spirits high and performing some exciting routines. The girls on these squads put in a lot of hours preparing and it shows on Friday nights.

Congratulations to all fall athletes and coaches!

As the winter sports seasons approach, please make sure that your child has all of their athletic paperwork in before the practices start. I am looking forward to a great winter athletic season, and as always, if you have any athletic questions, please contact me at 715-884-6412.

GO PANTHERS!

Todd Sanken

5th Grade Teacher/Athletic Director

sanketod@pittsville.k12.wi.us

715-884-2517, 715-884-6412

SPORTS SCHEDULES

Please check www.pittsville.k12.wi.us and click on Athletics for the most current information.

PTO Corner....

October has been a busy month for the PTO and its volunteers. We held the Little Caesars fundraiser, Scholastic Book Fair and provided teacher meals during parent teacher conferences. Through our volunteers, we were able to provide meals to all staff grades 4K-12 each of the nights conferences were held. This was done entirely from volunteer donations! Our staff thanks you. A huge THANK YOU to all the volunteers that made these events possible. We realize it gets to be a busy month with three big events and we are appreciative of your help and patience as many of you receive notifications from multiple committee chairpersons throughout the month. These events would not be possible without YOU!! Please watch the Pittsville Record for results from our Little Caesars fundraisers and Scholastic Book Fair as they are not yet available for the printing of this newsletter.

We have also had volunteers in the lunch room helping pass out samples from the Farm to School program. These volunteers make it possible for all students in the cafeteria to try these samples whether they are having hot lunch or cold lunch. Thank you for your help.

We are already busy making plans for our spring activities which include the BOGO book fair from Scholastic, Teacher Appreciation Week, the LFE, Box Tops, Milk caps and Coke points collection, Spring pictures, and scholarship selection. We look forward to your continued support.



Through the Decades at PHS, *By Aileen Ida for History Club*

As the leaves fall and blow away this autumn, we are reminded of years past that have since been blown away. The students of Pittsville High School may pass through here in what, looking back, may seem like a split second, but these students leave their imprints forever.

In the fall of 1973, just as the Sydney Opera House was being opened for the very first time and yet another war was breaking out in the Middle East, the Pittsville football team - coached by **Dave Thompson** and led by All-Conference players **Darrell Brey**, **Craig Coulthard**, and **Gary Hubbard** - was finishing a successful season with a 6-3 record. The 1973 homecoming court consisted of **Karen Meis**, **Darrell Brey**, **Ann Downing**, **Craig Coulthard**, **Melodee Marti**, and **Gary Stutz**. **Judy Wilke** and **Gary Hubbard** were named homecoming queen and king.

In 1983, Arnold Schwarzenegger had just become a U.S. citizen and two music legends - Paul McCartney and Michael Jackson - had just collaborated on the song "Say, Say, Say". A new school year was beginning at Pittsville High School and class of 1984 had just begun their final year of high school. This class began their senior year by crowning, **Dana Scott** and **Howard Piotrowski**, homecoming queen and king, respectively. Unfortunately, Pittsville lost their homecoming game to the Edgar Wildcats.

Jump ten years ahead to the fall of 1993, Nelson Mandela has just been awarded the Nobel Peace prize and the class of '94 is leading Pittsville High School. Somehow, the Juniors - and not the Seniors - won homecoming week. The homecoming court included **Mike Fox** and **Tracie Grossman**, **Kory Knudson** and **Nicci Peters**, and **Shane Dammann** and **Kim Jankowski**. Coach **Karen Brownell's** volleyball team lost only one game in their '93 season, and multiple girls either made First Team All-Conference, or at least were Honorable Mentions (**Tracie Grossman**, **Rachael Jevaltas**, **Kim Jankowski**, **Luanne Sojka**).

Only ten years ago, 2003, Arnold Schwarzenegger was voted in as California's "governator". At about this same time, the class of 2004 was voting **Jake Hahn** and **Michelle Rueth** in as homecoming king and queen. Besides Michelle the ladies of the court included **Mindy Wesely**, **Erin Wegner**, **Emily Wegner**, **Bobbi Schiller** and **Kirsten Hackett**. The "gentlemen" included **Paul Greene**, **Kyle Duerr**, **Colt Heuer**, **Brian Behselich** and **Bryan Urban**. The Panther football team, under head coach **Dan Hahn**, made the playoffs in the 2003 season, and players such as **Brian Behselich**, **Kyle Duerr**, **Paul Greene**, and **Colt Heuer** made Second Team All-Conference; also, **Josh Krueger**, and **Sam Baum** were Honorable Mentions. In cross country, **Tanya Palmer** finished All Conference, and **Laura Palmer** took 2nd place at the state meet - setting the record for highest placing runner from Pittsville ever. **Coach Brownell's** 2003 volleyball team finished just short of state at sectional finals against Cuba City. In volleyball, **Emily Wegner** and **Ashley Baker** finished First Team All-Conference, **Mindy Wesely** finished Second Team All-Conference, and **Devon Jones** and **Whitney Petersen** were given Honorable Mentions.

This fall of 2013 has featured an ongoing government shutdown causing a good deal of debate among people everywhere. As the shutdown persists, the senior class of 2014 continues their last year at Pittsville High School. **Jenna Sanken** and **Adam Sturgis** have recently been crowned homecoming queen and king. Other members of this year's court included **Brianna Kumm** escorted by **Dillon Oates**, **Laura Ewer** escorted by **Walter Harris**, **Kelsey Tenpas** escorted by **Kyle Kolar**, **Sarah Peters** escorted by **Brad Wesely**, **Audrey Meis** escorted by **Luke "Sunshine" Hardinger**, and **Connor Pierce** escorted by **James Lassa**. The homecoming game against the Chequamegon Screaming Eagles was a success, and the football team will continue on to the playoffs. For the first time ever the Pittsville Cross Country team will be hosting their Conference meet on October 17th. Your continued support of all Pittsville High School students allows us to continue achieving amazing goals in sports and academics, thank you for your continued support!



Saturday, November 30

Pittsville School District Auditorium

THE MEMORIES CHRISTMAS SHOW

Warren Petryk and Tim Stevens have been performing together since 1972. The Memories Christmas Show is a family event that includes a mix of traditional carols, sing-a-longs, comedy and special surprises. This is a wonderful concert to begin the Christmas holiday celebration.



Sponsored in part by: Pittsville Therapy Services Inc., Pinecrest, Pittsville Family Dental, Charlie & Diane Hayden, The Andersons Plant Nutrient Group, Rembs/Buchanan Funeral Home, Wisconsin Farm & Business LLC, Heuer Brothers, Power Pac Inc.

Showtime: 2:00 pm

Tickets: Adult \$10, Senior \$8, Student \$5



PARENTS: Please keep your Skyward Family Access Account up-to-date.

SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS...

is a free web-based application that gives parents and guardians online access to their child's grades, assignments, attendance, schedule, emergency information, and more! This access is made possible through our student information system, Skyward Family Access. Please contact your school's office for Family Access login names and passwords.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE
5459 ELEMENTARY AVENUE, SUITE 2
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NEWS

Pittsville School District

First Quarter 2013-2014

Home of the Panther Pride

COMMUNITY WALKERS

Pittsville Elementary School
will be open for walking every
Tuesday, Wednesday, and
Thursday from 5:30 to 7:00
p.m. Please use Entrance B.

Pumpkins for Pittsville Elementary School

The Farm to School Garden produced over 400 lbs of pumpkins this past fall. These were given to the lower elementary school grades for educational purposes. Mrs. Niehaus, Mrs. Heinzen, Miss Sischo and Mrs. Denniston all used the pumpkins for fun and education.

