

Pittsville School District NEWSLETTER

From the Desk of Superintendent Figueroa

Welcome. The Board has been hard at work using the data and information provided from our community-wide survey to plan for the future of our students. The Pittsville Child Care Center offers amazing care and age appropriate education for our smallest Panthers. Winter sports is approaching mid-season and our student athletes are gaining valuable life experience through team and individual struggle, sacrifice, victory, and defeat; lessons best learned on a court or a wrestling mat verses a classroom. The Band and Choir winter concerts were well attended and our young performers are growing every day. The Annual CTE Night will be held in the District Lobby outside the Varsity Gym from 2:00 – 10:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4. And the district art show and Empty Bowls event will be held on Tuesday, March 10 from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.



Winter weather may present the possibility of late starts and school cancelations. These decisions are always made with the best interest of our students in mind. The first full snow day will not be made up by students or teachers. The next two days are built into the calendar and will be made up on February 26 and April 1. If we do not have a second and third snow day, there will be no school on those days. A fourth day will be made up by teachers only. If we have five or more snow days, we will follow the same protocol we have used the last three years and add time to the school day from a set date in the calendar to meet state required number of minutes of instruction. This ensures students will finish the school year prior to the Memorial Day Holiday. District parents will receive alert messages through Skylert, posts on our social media platforms #WeArePittsville, and updates on local television/radio stations. Most weather related closure decisions are made prior to 6:00 a.m.

The Pittsville Child Care Center continues to grow and provide age appropriate social emotional learning for kids by offering structured play and activity time. Several of our infant to 24-month children will be transitioning to the pre-school program over the next few months. There is still room available in the day time 6-week to school-age program and the Before and After School Program, which serves school-age children through the age of 12. Please visit our district web page for more information, to see pictures of our facilities, or to schedule a tour/visit. The PCCC is open daily, even on snow days and throughout the summer, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

There are several opportunities to learn more about the CTE project, associated cost, rational, and timetable before the general election on April 7. The scope of the project includes a new, almost 25,000 square foot CTE building on property east of the existing auditorium, a new roof system over the Elementary School Primary Wing, and replacement of the High School back up boiler. The increase in mill rate over our current mill rate for the first year will be \$.20; the last 14 years will average \$.13 over our current mill rate of \$8.63. The Board passed a resolution not to exceed \$6.7 million, which is the amount used to calculate and structure debt for the 15-year life of the project loan. More information will be available at Career and Technical Education Night on February 4 from 2:00 – 10:00 p.m. in the lobby outside of the Varsity Gym. I will host open door hours every Monday from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the District Office from February 17 through April 6, no appointment needed. The CTE department will host a referendum night on March 17 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the existing CTE building and will provide tours and answer questions. Please watch your mail, the district website, Facebook and Twitter (#WeArePittsville), and the Pittsville Record for more information about upcoming events to be scheduled to provide information for district residents.

Our best for their best.

Fig

"Our attitudes control our lives. Attitudes are the secret power working 24 hours a day for good and bad. It is of paramount importance that we know how to harness and control this great force." ~Irving Berlin



2020-2021 Open Enrollment

Application period for 2020-2021 Open Enrollment is Feb 3 – Apr 30, 2020.

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend a school district other than the one in which they live. The open enrollment application period for the 2020-2021 school year is from February 3, 2020 – April 30, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Late applications cannot be accepted for any reason. Parents may apply online at <https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>.

If weather conditions are such that you think the school schedule may be interrupted, please listen to one of the 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 and on the District's Facebook page. 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
WOSQ 92.3 FM

WOFM 94.7 FM
WGLX 103.3 FM

WSAW TV-7
WAOW TV-9
WEAU TV-13

Cancellations, Delays, Early Dismissal

District Administrator

Rodney Figueroa

Board of Education

Mandy Hoogesteger, President

Bob Wolff, Vice President

Melissa Marti, Treasurer

Connie Potter, Clerk

Jane Wesely, Member-at-Large

"School is a building
which has four
walls with
tomorrow inside."
- Lon Watters

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Twitter - [@PittsvilleWISD](#)



Instagram - [@pittsvillewisd](#)



YouTube - [PSD](#)

Save the Date!



Pittsville Elementary School is
hosting our

**7th Annual Empty Bowls
Charity Fundraiser & Art Show**

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020
4:00-6:30 P.M.**

Enter Door B for THIS EVENT
ONLY! Join us for a fundraiser
dinner, student demonstrations,
hands-on opportunities at a
potter's wheel, and an art show!





Pittsville School District Prepares for April 7 Facilities Referendum

FACILITIES PLANNING



1 KNOW THE FACTS

PROPOSED PROJECT = New Career & Technical Education Facility + Elementary School Primary Wing roof replacement + High School boiler

PROJECT COST (NOT TO EXCEED) = \$6.7M

MAXIMUM ANNUAL TAX INCREASE = \$20 (Estimated over current FY20; per \$100k of equalized property value; for 15 years)

2 STAY INFORMED

MAILING: Referendum Fact Sheet - coming in February!

WEBSITE: Visit www.pittsville.k12.wi.us for **comprehensive information** and **upcoming events**

VISIT: Superintendent Open Door, Mondays, February 17 - April 6, 4-5 p.m., District Office

ATTEND: Referendum Info Open House & School Tour, March 17, 6:00-7:30 p.m., High School

3 ASK QUESTIONS

Email ref2020@pittsville.k12.wi.us. A web-based FAQ will be utilized to respond to common themes, ensuring all residents are informed of community questions and common concerns.



TO LEARN MORE

VISIT

www.pittsville.k12.wi.us

EMAIL QUESTIONS TO

ref2020@pittsville.k12.wi.us

THANK YOU

-----for sharing your goals-----
for Pittsville schools!

COMMUNITY SURVEY FEEDBACK

67% Recommend that the Board pursue a **REFERENDUM**

62% Support a new **CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION FACILITY**

Priorities to address **CAPITAL MAINTENANCE PROJECTS** include replacement of the Elementary School Primary Wing roof and purchase of a boiler for the High School

TO VIEW FULL SURVEY RESULTS VISIT: www.pittsville.k12.wi.us



PHS Principal's Message

Students at Pittsville High School are digging in to learning. Panther Pride Time (PPT), the 49 minute block between first and second blocks, has become laser-like focused on reading, mathematics and staying prepared for and caught up in classes. Each day during PPT, 20 minutes is dedicated to silent study of either math for intervention or enrichment, reading for comprehension, or homework. This 20 minutes of math practice and assessment helps students practice grade-level math concepts, even when they are not currently in a math class.

With content literacy being a district focus, the opportunity to read for 20 minutes and decode texts is helping our students have uninterrupted reading time. The evidence related to reading for 20 minutes a day is compelling. Students who read score higher on achievement tests in all subject areas, and have greater content knowledge than those who do not. Just 20 minutes of reading a day will expose students to a larger vocabulary. The genreification of the high school library helps students find books they are interested in by topic, and now, students have the designated time for reading.

During PPT, students also have access to their teachers if they have questions about content. For those students who have earned "privilege" for good grades and no behavior issues, they are allowed to go to the gym to play basketball. Privilege must be earned continually, and grades are checked every few weeks.

The staff at Pittsville High School is committed to working toward being a school that is significantly exceeding expectations, as measured by the Department of Instruction (DPI). This commitment to growing all students in their learning and academic achievement will be the key to achieving this prestigious goal. The state of Wisconsin DPI takes into account how students grow over time, and factors this into the school report card. The 8th grade Forward exam, and 9th and 10th grade ASPIRE exams are what determines growth. For the Junior class, it is the ACT's math, reading, English and writing scores that determine achievement. The statewide required ACT for the Junior class will take place beginning at 8:00 am on March 3, 2020 at Crossroads Church.

Dr. Porter

Click www.pittsville.k12.wi.us/Athletics for the most current sports schedules!

Peru 2021

PHS Spanish students who have taken Spanish 2 or higher (by the end of the 2020-2021 school year) have the opportunity to go to Peru in June of 2021. We will be leaving around June 21st and returning 10 days later. The 10-day trip includes a ton of unique travel and cultural opportunities. Students will see Incan ruins at Machu Picchu, spend a day volunteering with local children, zip-line, and raft. This trip includes a 6-day homestay with a family in Cusco. There is also a flight from our host city Cusco to the Amazon where we will spend 2 days in an Amazon lodge. The cost for this once in a lifetime experience is \$4150. The enrollment deadline is January 31st. Contact Mrs. Madden for more information. maddeale@pittsville.k12.wi.us. See the full trip itinerary here! www.interact-travel.com → Programs → Peru: Amazon



Fitness & Weight Training Class

The students in the Fitness & Weight Training class complete multiple types of workouts to enhance personal fitness and athleticism. These students pictured are completing an intense cross-fit style workout that trains most of the major muscle groups, with little to no rest. ~Mr. Rayburn





Winter Greetings!

I hope everyone enjoyed winter break and time with their family. We have a lot to celebrate at the Elementary School.

On Monday, November 11th, the ES staff and students recognized the community veterans during our annual Veteran's Day assembly. This year, the Quilts of Valor Foundation gave five quilts to very deserving Veterans. The assembly also featured a flag folding ceremony led by our Boy Scouts. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped recognize our area heroes. Thank you, again, to all the Veterans for their service.

We have had a busy learning year so far. The Elementary Play, *The Princess and the Goblin*, directed by Ms. Van Haren and Mrs. Garrels, gave our young actors and actresses an opportunity to star on stage! Practices began in October and the performances were December 6th and 7th. There were about 35 actors and actresses involved in this year's performance, along with other students who helped behind the scenes. Great work to all the students involved in making this year's performance the best it could be! Thank you to everyone who supported our play.

The ES will be participating in School Choice Week this year! More details will be shared soon!

HARLEM WIZARDS COMING IN APRIL

Harlem Wizards are coming to Pittsville! I am so excited for our staff, students, and community for this really exciting opportunity and event! On Thursday, April 30, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. the official game will start. **Tickets will be on sale (online only) starting Monday, January 13, 2020.** Please visit our school website for the link.

Tickets sales:

In advance, students and senior citizens \$10

In advance, the general public \$12

Reserved seating (the 1st 3 rows of bleachers) \$18

Courtside Plus (the row of chairs right by the court!) \$30

All proceeds from this event will be used for instructional tools, classroom innovation, and classroom library books!

We are accepting donations for concessions. Please make sure the expiration date is after April 30, 2020. We are accepting bottled soda, Gatorade, water and individual bags of chips, candy, and snacks. All donations can be taken to the ES office. Thank you for your support!

Mrs. Friday

Please Join Us...



3rd Grade Welcomes Intern

On behalf of the staff and students here, we would like to welcome Ms. Robyn Maxey to our district. Ms. Maxey is a student from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville completing her Elementary Education degree. Her hometown is Freeport, Illinois, Home of the Pretzels. She is excited to be here for the rest of the school year, completing her student teaching and internship with Ms. Blaser's 3rd grade class. She will graduate in May and looks to find a teaching job after graduating. We are excited to have her here! Welcome, Ms. Maxey.

Nutrition Nuggets

News from our Food & Nutrition Services Department

Green Machine is Up and Running

Dear Families of Pittsville School District,

Our foodservice started our green machine hydroponic garden right before the holiday season. We had our first successful harvest of fresh organic romaine lettuce that was served to students in our lunch program around the Thanksgiving holiday. Our second harvest will be taking place the first full week of January with more crisp, fresh green 100% organic grown romaine lettuce for our school lunch program. A lot of students, staff and families have stopped by and seen the machine in progress. If you have not please check it out as it located near our school cafeteria at the elementary/middle school building. We will be starting another grow cycle in the middle of January growing both romaine lettuce and testing out growing a few pepper plants with harvest planned for the end of February. Please check out our Facebook page for pictures of the grow cycles.

Sincerely,

Mr. Matt Andres andremat@pittsville.k12.wi.us



2019-20 PRICES

4K- Grade 3 Lunch	\$2.40
Grade 4-8 Lunch	\$2.80
Grade 9-12 Lunch	\$3.25
Adult Lunch	\$3.90
Reduced Lunch	\$.40
Milk	\$.30
4K-Gr 12 Breakfast	\$1.00
Adult Breakfast	\$2.00
After School Snack	\$.50

After School Snack for Free or
Reduced Students is FREE.



**MENUS ARE AVAILABLE
ONLINE AT**

WWW.PITTSVILLE.K12.WI.US

Free or Reduced Lunch Applications

Your children may qualify for free 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 Matt Andres, Food Service Director, 5459 Elementary Ave, Suite 1, Pittsville, WI 54466. The free or reduced lunch program not only benefits families but it also helps your school. Your application is completely confidential. If you did not receive a copy in the mail, the applications are available online at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us and in your school offices. Please remember that these forms once approved are good for the entire school year. If you were approved last year, you will need to reapply for this year if you have not already done so.

6th Grade

Ms. Molitor



This quarter, sixth graders have been learning all about becoming expert researchers. They started the quarter in nonfiction book clubs, where they pushed each other to think more deeply about their topics and reading. Then they branched out on their own to research topics such as teen activism, the aftermath of atomic bombs, genetic engineering in food, space exploration, and so much more. To celebrate their learning, they created TedTalks and news articles, then presented to their peers. Additionally, the students researched holidays around the world and created a jigsaw piece to teach their group all about their holiday! They sure have been busy!



Counselor's Corner 2nd Quarter

Mrs. Krystowiak
9-12 School Counselor

School Counseling Intern

As the 2020 year has begun, we welcome our first high school counseling intern to the building. Ashley Adler, who was a Pittsville High School graduate, will be completing her 300 hours of high school counseling between January and April. She is completing her degree this spring from Lakeland University. Ashley will be gaining experience with high school students through individual counseling, group counseling, and classroom teaching. We welcome her back to the Pittsville panther pride!

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

Important Reminders for Upperclassmen

Seniors

Please continue to work on scholarships and stay tuned for the local scholarships which will be posted by the end of January. Most local scholarships are due Friday, April 3rd, but some are due sooner. For more information, check out the Scholarship Tab under High School Counseling on the PHS Home page. Also, please remember to complete your FAFSA before the priority date for your college. Applications have been available online since October 1st 2019 at: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> (There is also a link off the HS Counseling website.)

As the acceptance letters start to roll in, remember to celebrate! Your hard work has paid off and the next chapter is beginning. Please notify the counseling office of your final decision for life after high school. If you have not been accepted and are waitlisted, please also seek out the counseling office to **help answer any questions you may have** or any documents you may need to provide.

Juniors

If you are planning to register for the ACT this spring, please make sure you register online before the registration date ends to avoid paying a late fee. Students can register online at www.actstudent.org (There is also a link off the HS Counseling website under the "Testing" tab.) Spring test dates include:

- Test Date: February 8, 2020.
Registration Deadline January 10, 2020
- Test Date: April 4, 2020.
Registration Deadline: February 28, 2020
- Test Date: June 13, 2020.
Registration Deadline: May 8, 2020
- Test Date: July 18, 2020.
Registration Deadline: June 19, 2020

The upcoming state required ACT is at school on March 3, 2020. Please be sure to mark this on your personal calendars so as to avoid scheduling conflicts. Students will indicate their four post-secondary choices prior to the day of the test. If a student should happen to miss the test day due to sickness, make up is the morning of March 17, 2020.

Sophomore, Freshmen, and 8th Grade

As we head into the registration for next year, please make sure you are taking time to plan out your courses based on what is best for your future. To assist in this process, sophomores and 8th graders should attend "Your Future is Now Night" at the high school. The evening session in February is designed for students to look ahead to their beginning and final years of high school and taking the proper classes that will help them achieve success. The students of those parents that attend the event will be allowed to register first in their upcoming registration day later that month. In addition to this, during 3rd and 4th term, freshmen and sophomore individual planning conferences will be held to discuss current high school goals and future plans. During these meetings, students are also encouraged to look for ways to volunteer in their free time and over the summer to begin building a strong scholarship résumé. Students are reminded to continue their career and post-secondary exploration and planning by using their Xello accounts.

Mental Health Grant: Parenting with Connection

Are you aware that the Pittsville School district receive a mental health for the 19-21 school years? If not, please know now! A part of this grant is meant to help parents become better parents. Each month, on a Tuesday evening, a licensed professional counselor runs a parenting session from 6:00 to 7:30. Any parent in the Pittsville school district is welcome to attend these events. Topics have ranged from self-esteem to mindfulness. This month's session is on January 21st and will revolve around resiliency in children. Please RSVP to your child's school counselor to attend this event. Also, childcare is provided for those families who would like care, simply indicate this in your RSVP.

This year the students in Grades K-5 were introduced to the Zones of Regulation in guidance class. The Zones of Regulation uses four colors to help students identify how they are feeling. Once a student has identified what zone they are in, they can use one of the zone's tools to get back to the green zone. We discussed that every zone is okay to be in and that there are no bad zones. Some zones feel more comfortable for us and different zones are expected at different times. The four zones are:

Blue Zone: This zone is when you are moving slow. You might be in this zone when you are sick, tired, shy, sad, or bored.

Green Zone: This zone is the easiest to learn in. When you are in this zone you are focused, ready, and calm.

Yellow Zone: The yellow zone is when your emotions are elevated. This could mean you are silly, excited, or nervous. A great time to be in this zone is at recess!

Red Zone: This zone is when your emotions are out of control. You could be in this zone if you are terrified, aggressive, or angry.

Here are a few zones tools: Bubbles, running in place, jumping jacks, stress ball, reading, listening to music, coloring, journaling, draw a picture, deep breathing, chew gum, wall push up, or play doh.

Zones of Regulation

Ms. Raygo, ES/MS Counselor

PHS Career and Technical Education Academy

Pittsville Career and Technical Education Academy would once again like to thank the local businesses for their support of our Career and Technical Education Academy. This was the seventh year of the program and we are seeing great success. Juniors went out on three job shadows with area businesses, while seniors attended internships from September to December. These efforts are just one example of how PHS is helping students gain valuable employability skills and preparing them for a career choice. If you are interested in having a student job shadow or intern at your place of business next year, please contact the HS office or any CTE staff member.

~Mr. Hadfield



CTE NIGHT...

Building Your Future

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, Feb 4

February is nationally known as Career and Technical Education month and to celebrate the Pittsville Career & Technical Education (CTE) Departments will be hosting our fourth annual **CTE Night...Building Your Future**

Please join us on Tuesday, February 4th from 5pm-8pm in the Pittsville School District lobby.

*This event will happen in conjunction with the Pittsville Boys Basketball game against Bowler

The Agriculture, Family & Consumer Sciences, Business, and Technology Education Teachers as well as the high school counselor will have booths with hands-on activities that showcase how we are making sure that PSD students have the skills to build the future. There will also be a booth with viewing of the proposed new CTE building, as well as representatives to answer questions for the general public.

Local technical college representatives from MSTC & NTC will also be available for questions on technical college, programs, and enrollment procedures. This will include viewing of the MSTC Mobile Manufacturing Lab and a drone demonstration. New this year will be a booth on registered apprenticeships. Come check out these post-graduation options to think about how they can affect your future.

This is a great opportunity for students, parents, and community members to see what is happening with PHS CTE Departments and Career & Technical Education in general, both now and into the future.



Family and Consumer Science

This student learning highlight is a little different! Mrs. Anderson hosted the CWC Family and Consumer Sciences collaboration day where eight other FCS teachers came together to highlight their student learning. The day consisted of sharing classroom activities and management strategies, how the FCS teachers incorporate content literacy and focusing our essential learning objects. The teachers even completed a 'HelloFresh' simulation lab for lunch where they were able to relate it to their food labs with students focusing the discussion on lab assessments, kitchen space and recipes. All of these topics are focusing on student learning in their classrooms; it was such a beneficial day!

~ Mrs. Anderson



News from the Music Department

Ms. Schirger

Mr. Bertino



Thank you to everyone who came out to support the young musicians (K-12) here in Pittsville during the winter concert season. The students worked very hard for these performances to be prepared the way that they were. We hope that you enjoyed the performance as much as the students enjoyed performing for you. Below is a picture from the 5-8 winter choir concert.

Ms. Schirger and Mr. Natzke are very excited to announce that the high school drama department will be doing the musical "Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr.". Mark your calendar now to join us for our performances on March 12-15.

Mark your calendars

Feb. 22: MS & HS District Solo & Ensemble (Pacelli High School)
 Mar. 10: Empty Bowls
 Mar. 12 - Mar. 15: Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr. performances
 Apr. 3: Concert Festival Competition, Almond-Bancroft
 May 1: HS Spring Concert, 7:00 pm
 May 2: State Solo & Ensemble (UW-Stevens Point)
 May 4: 5-8 Spring Choir Concert, 6:30 pm
 May 7: 5-8 Spring Band Concert, 6:30 pm

Congratulations to these four outstanding Pittsville High School choir students who will be attending the Dorian Vocal Festival at Luther College from Jan. 12-Jan. 13! They are as follow (left to right): Emily Griffith, Jared Peters, Alexis Redmond, and Alex Delaney.



A number of students from high school band and choir were nominated to be a part of the CWC All-Star Band/Choir. Those students who have been accepted will have the opportunity to spend a day performing music with the top high school music students throughout our conference. This experience is at Tigerton High School on January 18. The band students will work with Dr. Kevin Collin from UW-Green Bay. The choir students will work with Dr. Cody Miller from UW-Stevens Point. The band students (picture on left) who will be participating are as follows (from left to right): Jaylynn Merritt, Alexis Redmond, and Caitlin Fox. The choir students (picture on right) who will be participating are as follows (from left to right): Delaney Klamrowski, Emma Tolzmann, Jared Peters, and Alex Delaney.



Intervention Corner

Ms. Schooley

Mrs. Frericks

Mrs. Denniston

Reading and Math Family Challenge: Are you able to achieve at least 80% of the following to help strengthen your child's skills?

- My child has at least 15-30 minutes to read each night.
- It is quiet when and where my child reads. If possible, you could select a fun chair or small tent as his / her designated spot.
- My child has the opportunity to read with an adult each night. Simply having a parent's attention usually increases motivation for reading.
- My child is encouraged and has opportunities to write at home. You could start a shared journal where you write notes back and forth.
- My child is reading appropriately leveled books. After reading time, you could have your child act out his / her favorite part or describe the scene so you can also play a role.
- There is opportunity for my child to practice telling time. Have your child show you where the hands will be when it's time to stop playing, when it's time to get ready for bed, etc. Your child could also set timers for the duration of an activity to help him / her start to understand how long 30 minutes is.
- My child can count change at home or figure out the sale price in stores.
- My child can read recipes or figure out how to double amounts when needed.
- Math facts are practiced at home on a consistent basis. Common objects from around the home can be used as counters to solve equations, or they can be used to divide into equal groups like halves, thirds, and fourths.
- Parents point out moments in everyday life where Reading and Math skills are needed and used.

7th Grade Geography

In Geography class, students have been exploring different parts of the United States through their National Parks projects. Each student chose a different national park for that project. Using Google My Maps and other resources, they needed to locate their park and find different points of interest or activities that were found there. Then they presented that information to the class. This allowed us to see the different terrain and natural beauty of our nation.

To build on their newfound skills, our next project is the Canadian Vacation. Students will plan a vacation to Canada using Google My Maps. They will need to find hotels, restaurants, as well as different activities to do while at their chosen location. They will need to document their plans and figure out the costs of their vacation. What a wonderful way to learn about and explore our world.

~ Ms. Hedstrom

Mrs. Kumm's Science Adventures

6th Grade: The picture has an 'element tree,' as the sixth graders have spent the first half of the year learning about matter and the periodic table.

7th Grade: The seventh graders have been studying cells and genetics giving the tree some DNA decorations.

8th Grade: Plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes, oh my! The eighth grade has been busy learning about how earth's plates move. Earth science includes many aspects so the stars are from a plate tectonic map of the world.

~ Mrs. Kumm



6-8th Grade Golden Awards

6-8 Golden Awards for first quarter was held on November 8th. Students that participate in fall sports were recognized. Also, students that are on the honor roll because they have received all A's and no more than 3 B's received recognition and a cinnamon roll from the PTO.

~ Mrs. Knutson, Mrs. Kumm



4th and 5th Graders Tour the State

Fourth and fifth graders were able to travel to some very special places this year. This fall fifth graders visited the Indian Agency House and the old Surgeon's Quarters in Portage. Portage used to be home Fort Winnebago and is a unique place to learn about the early interactions between the first European settlers and the Native people already living here. Students especially enjoyed hearing the stories about Juliette Kinzie, a native easterner, who wrote about her positive experiences with the local Ho-chunk. After learning about old-fashioned medical tools and methods for dealing with illness, everyone left with a great appreciation for modern medicine!

Thanks to a generous grant from Sea Grant, a Wisconsin based environmental organization; fourth and fifth graders were able to learn about the impacts of plastics and biomass at the University of Madison. At the Chazen Art Institute, students viewed unique art pieces of the impacts of plastics on human lives and the environment. One of the biggest takeaways is that all of us interpret art and beauty in different ways. Students were also able to learn about how UW-Madison scientists are working to reduce the amounts of plastics and nonrenewable energy sources needed by humans. Some of the highlights were viewing a car run on solar power and touring an actual research lab. After this STEM field trip, students had great discussions about how art and science can work together to make the world better for everyone!



Kindergarten Connection

The Kindergarten students learned all about their 5 senses: sight, hearing, vision, taste, and touch with Project Based Learning. There were fun activities planned each day for the children. With their sense of hearing, they got to shake 12 eggs and try and decide what was inside the egg. We used a blanket to hide a friend and used our sense of sight to figure out who was under the blanket.

For our sense of taste, we made a prediction if foods were salty, sour, sweet, or bitter and then tasted the foods to discover if we were correct. We used our sense of smell to make predictions! The children smelled things like maple syrup, ketchup, chocolate, ranch, and more. We used a feely box to describe objects using our sense of touch. What fun the children had with all these activities. With the help of Mrs. Abel, we culminated this learning with the children working in groups to make a poster on a given sense. The children looked through magazines and cut out pictures to add to their poster.

To start out the New Year, the Kindergarten students will be learning about what it means to be a good friend and the meaning of peace. The children are learning that peace has many definitions. Peace can mean: having things they need to live, having family and friends, respecting others' differences, learning how to use words to solve problems, and others. The students will be learning who Martin Luther King, Jr. was and how he strived for peace. As this semester ends, the children are showing us the growth they have made in literacy and writing skills. The children will be assessed with the PALS screening test in early January. We are projecting the 100th Day of School to be on February 4th. The kindergartners will be celebrating this special event and are hoping to receive 100 pieces of mail in our classrooms. If you would like to be a part of this, we would love to hear from you. Please send a note to the Pittsville Kindergarten Class at 5459 Elementary Avenue, Pittsville, WI 54466.

~ Mrs. Heinzen, Mrs. Petersen



On Friday, December 13th, students in Mrs. Niedfeldt and Mrs. Kremer's classes went on our annual Christmas shopping trip. The students made lists with their families of people to shop for and possible gift ideas. They were able to shop, using money they brought from home, for items at the Dollar Tree and Wal-Mart in Plover. They were able to apply the skills they have been working on in school such as staying within a budget, figuring out tax, using a shopping list, and counting change in a real-world setting. The students also had the opportunity to eat lunch at Pizza Ranch, where they were complimented many times by employees about their respectful behavior. Everyone shared that they enjoyed the experience of going to a new restaurant for lunch and having a special day. The students had a lot of fun shopping for gifts for their families. After returning to school, they wrapped all of the gifts so that they could take them home and put under their tree. This annual shopping trip is a fun and educational experience that students look forward to each year. We are very proud of our students and how well they represented the Pittsville School District. Employees and customers stopped us at the Dollar Tree to ask what school we were from, and they shared that they were very impressed by how respectful and polite our students were.

Christmas Shopping Trip



Third Grade News

Mrs. Niehaus' and Ms. Blaser's 3rd Grade students were detectives and helped solve the mystery of the missing candy canes. This activity was done as a celebration for the end of the Mystery Unit in reader's workshop. Each day students received clues from an elf and they had to find letters that spelled a Christmas word. Finally, they had to make two words with all of the red letters which spelled, PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE (which was where the missing candy canes were found!). The students had a great time being detectives and solving the mystery!



During the mystery unit in reader's workshop students learned about being detectives and they learned different strategies while reading a mystery books. They learned about figuring out what the mystery is and who the crime solvers are in the book. They also learned how to make suspect lists with possible motives and clues. Students made predictions while reading and learned how timelines of events are helpful when the mystery gets tricky. This was a super fun unit for the students!



What's Happening in JH Math?

"Struggling in mathematics is not the enemy any more than sweating is in basketball, it's a clear sign you are in the game." ~ Kim Sutton. I challenge my students every day and they not only step up to the plate but to challenge me back. Each quarter, students and I take time to reflect and share a celebration, a work in progress, something they can do to improve and something I can do to improve and/or help them improve. I want to highlight some changes those reflections have brought to our 6th through 8th grade math classes.

Student Reflection: We need more practice of previous skills as well as new skills. Student schedules now have a designated time set aside in WIN (What I Need) time to work on a Spiral Review. This is a daily exercise of about eight total problems: previous skills needed to master the new topic as well as practice problems the new topic. For example, if we are learning to divide decimals, students practice dividing whole numbers first and then move into dividing decimals. Students practice Monday-Thursday with immediate feedback and question time, if needed, at the start of each class. Students are encouraged to look back at their work and complete their own error analysis before we discuss as a class. Friday is the graded opportunity. This allows students a chance to practice math assessments on the computer, review throughout the year and practice new skills; all with immediate feedback. It also implements review outside of the classroom so we are able to focus on more differentiation within the classroom. I am proud of my students and the efforts they have been putting forth to make themselves better mathematicians.

Student Reflection: I am not good at/don't like math, I am good at/like art. I respect that yet we still need to be well-rounded students. How boring would this world be if we were all mathematicians and who would fix my car and illustrate books? In order to engage all students, we implemented Doodle Notes. Students are given a template to doodle their math notes to help engage both hemispheres of the brain, scientifically proven to lead to better retention in all students. These notes are completed with sample problems and are kept in their binders, which we add to each year. Students should have a nice resource to take with them to their high school math classes. My sincere thanks to the student who inspired me to step out of my comfort zone to include a more artistic approach to learning math for the benefit of all students.

Student Reflection: When will we ever use this? Let's implement more application to practice.

6th Grade: Christmas Shopping. Students chose five friends or family members to Christmas shop for. They had five "coupons" ranging from 10-35% off and a budget of \$200. I am proud of the many math calculations students completed to get the best deal.

7th Grade: Creating a Business. Student started by calculating labor and material cost to wholesale price to retail price of a pencil pouch made of a Ziploc bag and duct tape. They were able to make their own pencil pouch. I am proud of their mathematics as well as their decision-making throughout the project. Ask your seventh grade friend or family member to see their project, as students were very proud of their work.

8th Grade: We have focused on brainstorming when students would use this skill in the real world. For example, scientific notation is used in astronomy and engineering. We then complete a small application with the new skill.

We are really focusing on positive mindset and The Power of Yet.... When students say, "I don't get this", I respond with "Yet..." and together, we get the student what he/she needs to be successful. I am proud of my students as they are learning not to give up but to say, "I don't get this, yet..." and voice what they need to be successful whether it be an extra mini lesson, a couple more practice problems or simply a little extra time.

Finally, I want to celebrate a donation to complete a classroom set of Blokus Trigon. Students are able to use a new strategy every time they play this game. They think they are just playing a game, but they are doing some great collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving and don't even realize it, yet...

If you have any questions or concerns or are interested in supporting our classroom, please feel free to contact me via the information below. I am always interested in sharing with students or having speakers share with students how math is used in your profession, having you visit or assist in the classroom or support our students' mathematics journey in any way you are able.

~ Mrs. Knutson, knutseli@pittsville.k12.wi.us, (715)884-2517 ext. 136

Nonfiction Fun in 2nd Grade

The second graders have been learning about how to write nonfiction books and how to use nonfiction text features to gain information from nonfiction books.

The students have participated in science experiments to write lab reports. They have been using Post It Notes to record information to share with others. They have also had fun creating nonfiction books to share information about a topic with others.

~ Ms. Sischo, Mr. Klein



Nonfiction Focus in 1st Grade

We studied nonfiction text and nonfiction text features in second quarter. We have used what we learned to write an "All About" animal research book. Each student researched an animal of their choice. They had to use at least two sources, books and online information. The students wrote chapters, made diagrams, and summarized the information about their animal. Additionally, they created a table of contents, glossary, and about the author page. Finally, the first grade classes published the reports and shared them with their peers.

~Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Moore



Through the Decades at PHS: Winter Edition

From the pages of Ho-Ang-Ho. Contributors: Jared Peters, Katherine Carter, Jaylynn Merritt, Emma McLaughlin, Jonathan Bannerman, Ethan Hanutke, Hannah Hensel, Bekah Downs, Connor Behselich, Natalie Fuller, Avery Vanatta, Ana Pozayt and Messrs Piotrowski and Downs for The History Club.

The History Club met prior to Winter Break to research and write this article and to feast on Subway sandwiches, assorted chips, Christmas cookies and soft drinks while listening to festive music!

1979-1980: Boys Basketball. The '79-'80 basketball team was coached by Tom Possley, and finished the season with a record of 9-10. The seniors this year were: Bill Urban, Larry Quinlan, Kevin Heuer, and James Snider with another senior as a manager: Debbie Wolf. **Girls Basketball.** The girls who participated in Varsity Basketball were Gina Holden, Tami Trachte, Trudy Scholzen, Laurel Roder, Connie Regner, Kris Keller, Sally Urban, Michelle Roder, Debra Rasmussen, Rita Heggelund. These lovely ladies were coached by Becky Coon. **Wrestling.** The 1980 wrestling team was coached by Gerry Hahn and Paul Konichek. Seniors that wrestled include Scott Adrian (19-6), Joe Buelt (31-1), Tony Evans, Ron Fochs (8-4), Jacob Nordman (21-6), John Nordman (12-3), Ken Schiller, Steve Schwanebeck (9-9), Chris Solatycki (13-6), and Jerry Wilke (18-9). As a team, the Panthers were Regional and Sectional Champions and then they placed 10th at the State Tournament. Leading the Panthers at state were Joe Buelt who was the Class C state champ and finished the year at 31-1 and also at state was Bob Schooley (24-2-2). **School Plays.** 1980's drama department brought 3 plays: *The Appointment*- Mrs. Nelson, Dorene Jepson, Gina Holden, and Jeff Kane. *Magic Shoes*- Penny Erwin, Mike Bonacci, Judy Minor, Lori Wagner, Debbie Wagner, and Karla Hahn. *Cybermella*- Roger Christiansen, Nancy Gardener, Lisa King, Brenda Karolske, Judy Minor, Lori Wagner, Sarah Zieher, Karen Fluegel, Sharon Griswold, Carolyn Yetter, Karla Hahn, Dave Anderson, Grace Yetter, Gretchen Mattner, Denis Rudolph, Deanna Shoemaker, and Robert Leigh. *Witling and The Stone Princess* - Denise Rudolph, Karen Fluegel, Lisa King, Nancy Gardener, Brenda Karloske, Lori Wagner, Penny Erwin, Sarah Zieher, Jeff Kane, Dale Schiller, Karla Hahn, Grace Yetter, Carolyn Yetter, Sharon Griswold, Debbie Wagner, Gretchen Mattner, Bill Urban, and Robert Piotrowski.

1989-1990: Boys Basketball. The Boys Varsity Basketball team, coached by Noel Denniston, had a tremendous season back in '90 with a conference record of 17-1, and taking the title of Marawood Conference Co-Champions. The team won regional and sectional championships, and were the first boys basketball team from Pittsville to earn a trip to the state tournament in Madison. They finished the season with an impressive 25-2 record. The senior members included Canyon Schultz, Greg Gronski, and Marawood All-Conference players Marc Sherwood, Jason Knott, Mark Denniston, and Randy Neve. **Girls Basketball.** The Girls Varsity Basketball team coached by Don Neve, had a successful season in '90 with a record of 15-7. The senior members included Amy Hanutke, Diana Rayburn, Nikki Sojka, and Michelle Wix. Nikki and JoAnn Wilke were Marawood All-Conference selections. **Wrestling.** 1990 was an excellent year but a challenging one as well. The Panthers had four wrestlers go to state, including seniors Brian Kissner, Jesse Wilke, Matt Hanutke, and Dan Schooley. Coach Jerry Hahn was unable to coach this team as he died from leukemia in October before the season began. They were then guided by coaches Mike Brogan, Rick Marten, and Dan Hahn. Other senior wrestlers included Pete Kolar, Kurt Jensen, Joe Scott, and Lawrence Raab. They were conference champions with the record of 5-0. History was made in a very unique way in that Matt Hanutke became the first every 4-time undefeated state champion in the state of Wisconsin. He finished his career with an unblemished 117-0 record and went on to wrestle for the Badgers.

1999-2000: Boys Basketball. The varsity boys basketball team coached by Mark Wagner, Bruce Zieher, Ed Hendrickson, and Randy Decaluwe went 23-1. This was the first-ever undefeated regular season in Pittsville history. We also won a conference and regional championship and were named Cranberry Classic champions. The seniors included James Kirk and Ryan Bowden who were also captains along with Chris Hahn. Brad Zieher and Jason Ortner were Marawood first team all-conference while Jason Kirk was second-team all-conference. Matt Sherwood and Chris Hahn received honorable mention. **Girls Basketball.** The varsity girls basketball team was coached by Don Neve, Stephanie Weinfurter, and Steve Wesley. Seniors Kristy Kumm and Danielle Klevene were captains along with Lindsey Fox. They went 16-7, won a Regional championship before losing in the Sectional Final by 2 points. A highlight was that the team ended Marathon's 64 game-winning streak. **Wrestling.** The 1999-2000 wrestling team struggled from forfeits, but were successful in individual points. The seniors on the team included Jeremy Duerr, Paul Grossman, Ken Gardner, Joe Losievski, and Jesse Frost. Jeremy earned 2nd at State and Paul earned a 3rd at State. **School Play.** The play this year was *The Ghost Detective*, featuring Mandi Fox, Jessi Fochs, Ryan Brandt, Nicole Kumm, Jesse Frost, Katrina Schuster, Joseph Lippert, Joseph Wilhelm, James Kirk, Lori Marten, Danielle Klevene, Amy Salo, Nikki Brueggeman, Jacquelyn Mundt, Kenneth Gardner, and Dustin Young.

2009-2010: Boys Basketball. The Varsity team, coached by Dan Hoffa, finished with a 4-14 record. The senior leaders on the team were Brad Ziemendorf, Jacob Ortner, David Collins, Nathan Franson, and Marcus Hendrickson. **Girls Basketball.** The girls varsity basketball team was coached by Mark Denniston, Brittany Zieher, and Ashley Baker. The team finished their season in 6th place in the conference with a record of 14-12. Allie Reinikainen, Margo Rosandick, Carli Kronsted, Kaitlin Wheeler, Janine Wegner were the seniors leaders. **Wrestling.** The wrestling team was coached by Dan Hahn. There were four seniors Tyler Hiles, Cody Meyer, Kyle Krohn, and Aaron Peaslee. The team was 16-14 that year and had two members, Olie Voight and Aaron Peaslee, who finished second at the Conference tournament and three members finish third: Eric Hahn, Lee Friedl, and Kyle Krohn. **School Play.** The cast presented the play *'Til Death Do Us Part*. The cast consisted of Anna Schwanebeck, Olivia Wesely, Zach Zdun, Zach Hoffarth, Brad Zieher, Megan Piotrowski, Angela Rahm, Nathan Amundson, Hannah Rahm, Devin Minor, Tyler Hiles, Jamie Dietz, Lindzy Meltesen, Tristin Shaw, Shelby Freedlund, Niki Dietz, and Shianne Rasmussen.

Small Animal Veterinary Science

The Small Animal Veterinary Science class visited MaxHaven Kennels and learned about the breeding facilities. Puppy care, the birthing process, pedigrees and breeding selection topics were all covered, along with the history of the Siberian Husky and the bloodlines that are at the kennel. Thank you to Maxhaven Kennels LLC for this experience!



8th Grade Manufacturing/Entrepreneurship



This year, the 8th grade entrepreneurship class created a business called "December Decor". Their products included stocking and circle hanging ornaments, wooden Christmas trees, and hanging signs. Each one was customizable with several decal and text options. The business had five departments: marketing, manufacturing, packaging, design, and accounting. Each department had a manager, and the company had one president Kadin Fox. At the end of the quarter, they sold about \$2000 worth of product. The profit from the sales goes toward the company's expenses, and the leftover goes to the students. At the end of the quarter, an auction consisting of items bought with the money they made was held for students to participate in. The 8th grade would like to thank their wonderful community for supporting them!

4K Winter Learning-Land



The 4K students were busy throughout the month of December preparing for their holiday program. They baked cookies with Mrs. Anderson's high school students enrolled in Global Foods Class. They frosted and decorated the cookies with the help of Mrs. Abel's 7th Grade Project Service Learning Class. The 4K students practiced their songs in music with Mrs. Frericks and made and wrapped parent gifts with their teachers, Mrs. Scholzen and Mrs. Kuehn. Excitement filled the air as moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas, aunts and uncles along with other family members filed into the elementary school cafeteria to hear their special child sing. Following the program, everyone enjoyed decorated sugar cookies and hot chocolate. It was a merry event. Thank you to all the families who came to share in the joy of the holiday season!

Currently, the 4K students are continuing their alphabet learning. They have been learning about the letter M and its sound. They practiced their fine motor skills by coloring, cutting and pasting a pair of mittens to decorate our room and hallway. They also learned a mitten poem. Ask one of the 4K students to recite Warm Mittens for you!

~Mrs. Kuehn

PTO Corner

The PTO would like to thank all of the volunteers who made our fall book fair a huge success!

We were able to donate books from teacher wish lists and to the elementary school library as well. We would also like to thank everyone who made donations for our teacher meals during Parent-Teacher Conferences. Our PTO would not be as successful as it is without our amazing volunteers. Our second fundraiser for Roger's Cinema and Scrip was a success! We were able to raise almost \$2,000. Thank you to all the families and students that participated. We will be drawing a winner for our second gift basket at our January PTO meeting. The PTO has donated some of the funds to purchase one baseboard for the basketball hoops, and a Ga-Ga Ball Pit for the Junior High playground. The Basketball backboards will be put up this spring. Our next PTO meeting will be held on Monday, January 13th at 3:30 in the elementary library. Please join us!

PTO 4 THE ARTS presented Judy Moody and Stink on November 13th. It was an enjoyable musical performance that highlighted the value of friendship. Students in 4K-7th grade attended the performance. The next show presented by PTO 4 The Arts will be The Living Lincoln. This is a one man show presented in first person narrative, where the audience can interact and ask questions about President Lincoln. It also chronicles the life of Abraham Lincoln. If you are interested in helping with any of the shows, or being part of PTO 4 THE ARTS, please contact pto-4thearts@pittsville.k12.wi.us. We organize the show schedule, book shows, contact area schools with performance dates, and coordinate the event the day of the show. We are always looking for more volunteers to keep opportunities like this coming to Pittsville. It is a wonderful opportunity for our students to experience live theatre right in our own auditorium!

Mark Your Calendar

The Harlem Wizards are coming to Pittsville to play basketball against our staff!

Everyone is welcome so spread the word!
Bring friends and family to this entertainment-filled fundraising event for the elementary school.

**Thursday,
April 30, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

Tickets available online at

<https://harlemwizards.thundertix.com/events/162401> or
through our district website at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us.



HS and ES/MS LMC GENREFICATION

Mrs. Abel

Mrs. Ashbeck

The Pittsville District LMCs are well underway in the process of genrefication (arranging books on the shelves in "the bookstore model"). The goal of this project is to create a final product that makes it easier for students to independently find books that align with their interests. This is especially important to help reach the more reluctant readers who show up in the LMC and tell us, "I don't know what I want to read." We are trying to reduce the obstacles between students and finding books that they are interested in reading (especially at the junior high and high school levels, to give them the ability to choose a book without having to enlist our help).

By using genrefication, books are now arranged by genres, such as poetry, fantasy, historical fiction, classics, sports, mystery, romance, science fiction, graphic novels, rhyming, characters, famous authors, etc. To accomplish this, each book was removed from the shelf and evaluated for what genre it fit into best. Then the book was labeled with colored tape and finally scanned into the Destiny library operating system to be cataloged electronically within the selected genre. The last step to make finding a book easier was the addition of signs indicating the location of a genre on the shelves; these signs are colored coordinated to the colored tape label affixed to each book!

This move away from the traditional Dewey decimal system has already been well received by students and staff. Students are enjoying their library experience more than they have before because they can browse all books in a specific genre in one area, rather than have to search by author's last name. Staff has commented on ways that they have come up with to generate assignments for their students while getting them excited about coming to the LMC and finding books on their own under this new organizational system. This will hopefully increase readership and boost circulation in both district LMCs. This has been quite a challenge but the rewards have been great and we are so glad we decided to take the leap into genrefying!!



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE
5459 ELEMENTARY AVENUE, SUITE 2
PITTSVILLE, WI 54466

Pittsville School District no longer mails our quarterly newsletter, but provides it electronically. For those residents without Internet access, we will be happy to provide you with a hard copy, either by stopping in the district office or it can be mailed upon request by calling 715-884-6694. To view the newsletter online, please visit our website at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us.