



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE

NEWS!

First Quarter, 2020/21

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



The district continues to plan and provide the safest learning environment possible for students and staff, and your staff have been working harder than ever to account for students learning on site and in the distance setting. Over the last four weeks, our area has seen a disturbing increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases. We monitor infection rates in our area and continue to follow the protocols put in place to safeguard everyone's health in our school spaces and during school activities. A COVID-19 dashboard is available on the district website. It identifies the number of infections and close contacts by school, staff, and student. No names or identifying information is shared. This is a data point which is updated each day with current information, not cumulative.

The elementary school is working through unique challenges at their level while serving students on site 5 days a week. We have approximately 10% of our total student population who have chosen to learn in the distance setting 100% of the time. All people in the schools are required to wear a face covering and social distancing is being used when possible. A challenge has been the management of unstructured times such as passing time, lunch, or recess. The staff is learning and adjusting the ways we interact to help make school as safe as possible.

Parents have been excellent partners in monitoring the health of their children and keeping them home when they or a household member are sick. It has not been convenient, but necessary to keep our doors open.

There have been several challenges, especially when we ran low on staff due to illness, but the remaining staff step up just like the others would do for them if needed. Caring co-workers is another asset in the Pittsville School District. It has also been made clear that our parents care about our staff in similar ways our staff cares about their students.

Food service has been running at 100%. The free meals program will continue through June 30 and as long as we are open meal pick up will run as it has since the start of school. The custodial department has adopted and adjusted routines to get 2 deep cleanings done each week and hit common touch points in the buildings at least 4 times a day. The custodial team completed installation of touchless fixtures and paper product dispensers to reduce some of the most common contaminated surfaces in record time to help keep our students and staff safer.

I must remind all of our families to have a plan in place for school age children who are not old enough to be home unsupervised in the event we would need to close the schools for a few days, 2-3 weeks, or a longer period of time. The school will provide distance instruction for all until we can return to school. As I write this, our county positive COVID-19 test rate is trending higher each day. The school communities are dependent on our students, staff, and families doing their best to self-monitor and stay home when they are not feeling well. With the current increase in positive cases it is difficult to think about bringing all students back 5 days per week, but this is the goal in hopefully the not too distant future.

It is incredibly important, as a school community, we support each other through these uncertain times. The more we are able to slow the spread of COVID-19, the greater ability we have to continue offering and expanding on-campus learning to our families. As always, thank you for your patience, flexibility, and partnership.

Our best for their best.

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"My belief is that personal freedom cannot grow beyond personal responsibility. The more people learn to be fully accountable for their lives, the more freedom each of us can enjoy and the more fulfilling all of our lives can be." ~Ross Parmenter

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COVID-19 Information

SYMPTOMS OF THE CORONAVIRUS



Patients with COVID-19 have experienced mild to severe respiratory illness.

Symptoms* can include

- FEVER**
- COUGH**
- SHORTNESS OF BREATH**

*Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

Seek medical advice if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19-symptoms

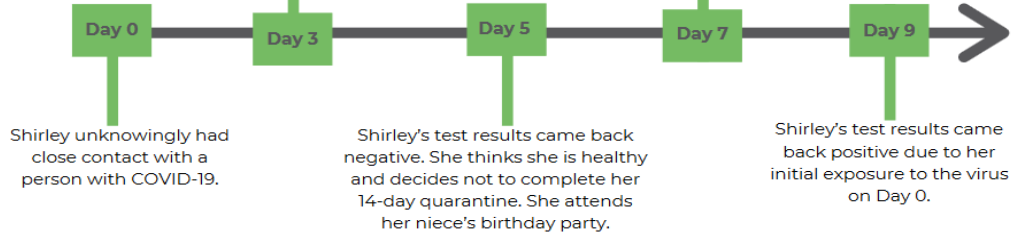


Shirley doesn't know she has COVID-19.



The health department contacted Shirley to inform her of this close contact. She is asked to quarantine in her home for 14 days after her last date of contact with that person. Shirley feels healthy, but decides to get tested.

Shirley develops symptoms of COVID-19 and decides to get tested again.



Shirley spread COVID-19 to her family and friends because she didn't quarantine for 14 days. Remember: it can take up to 14 days to develop symptoms or have a positive test result for COVID-19.

What does the incubation period look like for COVID-19? ~ from the Wood County Health Department

Definition of incubation: The period between exposure to an infection and the appearance of the first symptoms.

Incubation period for COVID-19: Usually, a person develops symptoms 5 days after being infected with COVID-19, but symptoms can appear as early as 2 days after exposure to infection or as late as 14 days after exposure to infection, and the time range can vary.

COVID-19 is a novel virus with new research available almost daily. Currently health officials recommend handwashing, physical distancing (6 feet), mask wearing, and staying home when sick to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Even with preventive measures, becoming a close contact of a positive case is possible. After an exposure, a close contact of a positive case must quarantine for 14 days to prevent further spread of the virus.

COVID-19 has an incubation period of 14 days. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an incubation period is "the time from exposure to the causative agent until the first symptoms develop and is characteristic for each disease agent." This means a person can begin having symptoms at any time during the 14 days after exposure to COVID-19. Public health officials recommend close contacts be tested for COVID-19 after their exposure; however, a negative test does not mean the close contact can return to work, school, or normal activities before the end of the 14 day quarantine.

Why can't a close contact return to work or school after a negative test before the end of a 14 day quarantine?

As mentioned above, the incubation period of COVID-19 is 14 days. A negative test after exposure does not mean a person who was a close contact will never develop symptoms or become ill. Symptoms can develop at any time during the 14 day incubation period. If a person who was a close contact tested negative and decided not to quarantine for the full 14 days, they could potentially infect other people with COVID-19 if they became ill between being tested and the remainder of the 14 days.

People infected with COVID-19 can have no symptoms (asymptomatic). It is important to follow prevention methods to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Please continue to wear a mask, maintain at least 6 feet distance from others, wash your hands frequently, and stay home when you are sick.

Sources:
<https://www.cdc.gov/training/QuickLearns/exposure/2.html>
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/diagnosed.htm>

Help Protect Your Health from Covid-19

Following these simple steps can help protect you and your community from the new coronavirus, the flu and other common illnesses.

Keep Clean Hands
Wash your hands often, especially after being in public or handling money, using your cellphone or typing on your keyboard, which all tend to be covered in germs.

Practice Healthy Habits Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food.

Avoid Touching Your Face
Try not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth without washing your hands first.

Stay Home
If you must go out in public, avoid large gatherings and practice social distancing by keeping six feet from others.

Watch for Symptoms
Call your doctor if you develop symptoms like a fever, shortness of breath or cough.

Put Your Well-Being First
Not feeling well? Take the day off to help prevent yourself from spreading germs or feeling any worse.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

November 2020





YOU ARE INVITED

TO A GROUNDBREAKING EVENT

The Pittsville School District cordially invites you to attend a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Tech Ed. Facility on Monday, November 2nd at 12:15 P.M.

5459 Elementary Ave.
Pittsville, WI 54466



For the safety of our students, staff, and community, face coverings and social distancing practices will be followed.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FACILITY UPDATE

Wondering what's going on with the new CTE building?

Contracts have been approved and we are set to break ground in early November. This is an exciting time to be a Panther!

Know of a business that would like to get involved or help fund some of the new equipment for the facility? Check out the [CTE Donation Project](#). This is a fund setup for local businesses or community members who are interested in sponsoring equipment funding for the new facility. Please contact Stephen Hadfield at hadfiste@pittsville.k12.wi.us or Lindsay Meissner at meisslin@pittsville.k12.wi.us with questions.

Thank you to those businesses that committed to assist with the project or who have already made contributions: A&B Process Systems, Hastreiter Industries, and H&S Manufacturing.

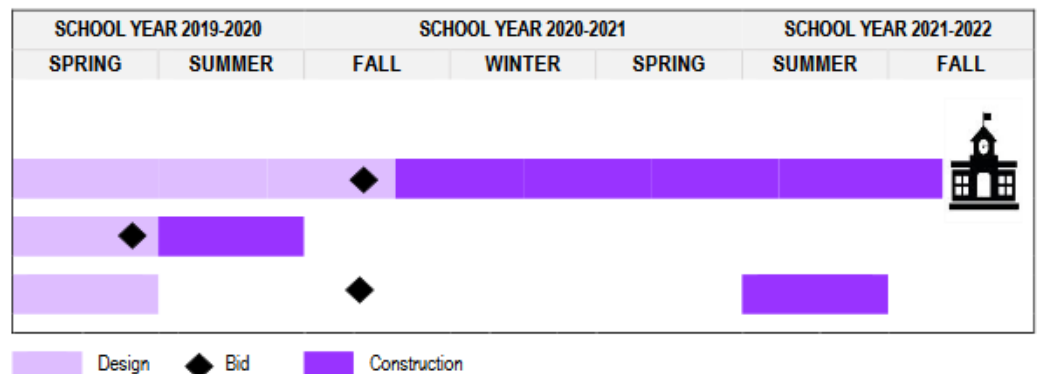
~ Mr. Hadfield



PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN | KEY

-  Secure Main Entry/Corridor
-  Business Ed Classroom/Lab
-  Technical Ed Classroom/Fabrication Lab
-  Metals Manufacturing
-  Woods Manufacturing
-  Agriculture Mechanics Lab
-  Sm/Lg Animal Lab & Processing
-  Agriculture Ed Classroom
-  Family & Consumer Science Classroom/Lab
-  Lg Group Conference & Meeting Room

Construction Timeline





High School Principal's Message

The opening of the school year was an exercise in innovation and collaboration. As we end the first term of high school in the 20-21 school year, we can say we have all grown as educators and students. We have learned to tackle the job of learning during a pandemic through teamwork using collaboration and technology. The panther paws placed on our bleachers and cafeteria floor have served the purpose as visual reminders to keep a physical distance at all times from others. The students are doing a great job of following through on this new normal; the gym is less noisy at lunch with the absence of pick-up basketball games, but the students are being conscientious and safe in the bleachers as they eat and maintain distance.

Communication with students and families has become an intentional focus like never before. We need the help of our parents and guardians to ensure our students can be successful in the learning process. The PHS staff is very intentional about phone calls and emails to students and parents; we are not trying to be annoying! Please understand that when our students cannot be with us every day, we need your help to follow through so that students are logging in and working through the curriculum.

Wednesdays, which are virtual days for all students at PHS, are very busy days for the teachers. They begin their day with an intentional staff meeting where we put our heads together to figure out strategies to help those students who are struggling. Then, it is off to the races for a day packed with virtual meets with students. These days often feel busier than the days when students are in the building because teachers are on a strict timeline booked with virtual appointments. Students, if you are ever struggling with a concept or just need a little guidance on some homework, be sure to schedule a Google Meet with your teacher on a Wednesday!

The PHS faculty has been growing in our understanding and use of Google Classroom as a way to deliver online instruction. It is a powerful tool and the features in Classroom are also evolving. The teachers are more than happy to do a virtual meet with any parent that is interested to learn to navigate the Google Classroom to better understand how to help your student. Google for Education has added features to help engage learners when using the virtual Meet, such as polls and breakout rooms in Google Meet and a plagiarism checker for Google Docs.

Parent teacher conferences are 100% virtual this year and will be held on November 5th and 10th from 4 - 7:30pm. Check your email to find notifications from the teachers that include a link to sign up for an appointment slot. There is a 3 minute recording on the PHS website to walk you through the process if you are not sure how to navigate the links. A Google Meet link is automatically generated and sent to you in your email. There are five teachers using Skyward as a way to book appointments: Mrs. Downs, Mrs. Grossman, Ms. Schirger, Mr. Hadfield, and Mr. Piotrowski. If you book through Skyward, these teachers will be following up with you with phone or virtual link information, so please watch your emails! In the event you do not get an email, please contact the HS office; we may need to update your email in Skyward.

Dr. Porter

SPANISH STUDENTS LEARN SIGNS

What's better than learning one language? Learning two! Mrs. Madden has been attempting to integrate American Sign Language (ASL) signs into class.

Connecting new words with gestures is a great way to acquire new vocabulary! This semester, Mrs. Madden and students have been learning the ASL signs that match with key unit vocabulary, instead of inventing their own gestures. Spanish 3/4 looked at a song in which ASL is integrated and took time to learn actions to assist in comprehension of lyrics. What a great way to connect the mind and body!

~ Mrs. Madden

VIRTUAL LABS HELP SIMULATE HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

To accommodate virtual learners and reduce the use of common equipment by multiple individuals, students in physical science and chemistry courses have been using virtual labs to replace some of the typical hands-on lab experiments they would normally experience. Virtual lab experiments have included determination of solubility, pH measurement, exploring factors that affect the rate of a chemical reaction, and examining properties of element families.

~ Mr. Denniston

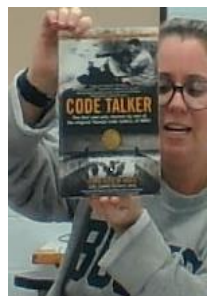
Click www.pittsville.k12.wi.us/Athletics for the most current sports schedules!

WWII THROUGH NEW LENSES

10th Grade English is about to embark on a journey back in time. They will be choosing independent reading books centered around WWII, but from less widely known perspectives. Some of their options include the Navajo Code talkers, Louis Zamperini's ordeal in Japanese PoW camps, the story of families on the Wilhelm Gustloff ship, and the prison camps in Siberia. Students will be studying how writers use their words to bring their tales to life, as well as researching the real histories behind their chosen books.

They'll be kicking off the unit next week with a socially distanced book tasting to whet their appetites for literature, and will then dive in to their stories, history, and the genre of historical fiction.

~Ms. Jones



PHS FOOD COURSES

The students in Mrs. Anderson's food courses this year have been able to do many hands-on labs in the kitchen but did you know they are also working on content literacy in class? The students have to create an ePortfolio (Google Site) and reflect on each lab they complete in class! What a great way to not only show that cooking is fun but this allows the students to reflect back on each lab and connect it to the objectives in class! ~Mrs. Anderson

**My students
are ~~cooking~~
reading
measuring
collaborating
problem solving
gaining experience
creating
delegating
communicating
experimenting
learning.**

PHS WELCOMES "Ray Flexburn"

This month, Mr. Rayburn introduced Ray Flexburn to the Pittsville High School Physical Education students through their online learning. Below is a message Mr. Rayburn sent to all his students about their new online fitness coach.

"As the weather cools off and things slow down, you don't have to... I have decided to call on Ray Flexburn to give you all some sick videos on Phy Ed and fitness."



NEW ENGLISH CLASS OFFERED

Heading into quarter two means heading into a new English course being offered. This course, titled English 11/12, will be taught 2nd term by Ms. Hale, and taught by Ms. Jones 4th term. English 11/12 will have the same structure in both sections, but different stories, books, and poems will be covered so that students can take it more than once in their high school careers. Ms. Hale and Ms. Jones wanted to offer a class to 11th and 12th graders that would focus on English Language skills and help build more understanding of learning targets revolving around theme, short story elements, and poetry. We are very excited to offer this new course and be able to help strengthen the skills of our students. ~ Ms. Hale

PANTHER CREATIONS ~ Mr. Jordan Rayburn

The high school manufacturing and entrepreneurship class had a successful year running their business called Panther Creations. Panther Creations produces high quality plaques, yard signs, and creates custom signage. They create these products for our school, other schools, and any community member or business.

This year, some of their big projects were creating signs for Kohlbeck Field, the Pittsville Historical Society, and the Apothecary. Thank you to anyone who supported the business.



If you or anyone you know is interested in ordering our items please let us know by emailing us panthercreations@pittsville.k12.wi.us or by checking out our website:

<https://sites.google.com/pittsville.k12.wi.us/panthercreations2020/home>

2020 HOMECOMING WEEK ~ Mr. Piotrowski

The 2020 Homecoming Week this past fall was interesting due to all the new protocols regarding social distancing and mask wearing. The classes took an hour to dress up a panther as we remembered "Homecoming through the Decades". The PHS Student Council also worked on creating an alternative series of activities and games that the students could participate in. The weather turned out to be very cooperative with warm temperatures for early October. Games were played outside on the baseball field with students sitting on the hill wearing masks and distancing. Competitive games included an egg/spoon relay, cereal toss, egg toss, dixie cup shuffle, and the social distancing pudding feed with spoons attached to a 10' pvc pipe! The senior class won the class competitions overall.

The 2020 Homecoming Court was as follows: Dezerai Pelot escorted by Camron Dammann, Rylee Schiller escorted by Tucker Gardner, Maria Esser escorted by Gabe Mapes, Rebekah Downs escorted by Wyatt Landphier, and Emily Carlson escorted by Codi Fox.

Since there was no homecoming dance, the King and Queen were announced after the homecoming game with Wild Rose. After a homecoming game victory, the 2019 Homecoming Queen Josie Buchli announced that the 2020 Homecoming Queen was Emily Carlson. Then the 2019 Homecoming King Eli Fox announced that the 2020 Homecoming King was Camron Dammann.

Even though the Homecoming Week was not a normal week due to current situations, it was appreciated by many to continue some of the traditions of this week. Congratulations to all the classes at PHS as well as to the 2020 Court and to a nice win over Wild Rose in the Homecoming football game.





Elementary School Principal's Message

Autumn Greetings from the Elementary School!

We are so excited to have our students back in school with us! Currently, our kindergarten through fifth grade students are attending school five days a week. Our 4-year old kindergarten students attend two days, along with our students in Grades 6 - 8. Students are split into two cohorts - the purple group (those students attend school on Mondays and Tuesdays) and the gold group (those students attend school on Thursdays and Fridays). Some of our students are full-time distance learners, which means they learn from home each day.

Teachers are working hard to stay connected to all the families. You are encouraged to email or call teachers when you need assistance. They are working with individual students as much as they can, so please don't hesitate to reach out when you need assistance. I have also been working 1:1 with students in my office to offer more academic support. Your support at home is greatly appreciated.

Grades 4K - 3 use an app called SeeSaw. Teachers provide learning tasks through the app and students can upload their work for their teacher to see! It is a great way to communicate when students are not physically at school.

Grades 4 - 8 use Google Classroom. Teachers post instructional videos and other resources for students through this virtual classroom. Students are able to complete their assignments and turn them in through Google Classroom. It is a great way for the older students to stay connected when they are not physically at school.

Starting 2nd quarter, Grades 4 - 8 are implementing an organizational tool in Google Classroom to help students stay organized. Students will be able to see all the learning tasks for their core subject areas in one document. Teachers are introducing this to their students so they will be able to use it independently. This will help students stay organized. If you have any questions regarding Google Classroom, I strongly recommend that you reach out to your child's teacher.

There have been many changes here at school to ensure our students are safe, but one thing hasn't changed. Our staff cares about each of the students here at school and the students love being here! It is so great to see all the learning happening in the classrooms and it is even more exciting to see the excitement and happiness in our students.

Thank you to all of you who have reached out by email or telephone and provided meaningful feedback for the district through completing the surveys. We are listening and working together as a staff to continue to provide high quality instruction to our students.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Friday

2020-2021 CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCREENER

Each year, the Early Childhood and 4K departments hold a Child Development Screening event for children ages 2 years 9 months through 5 years who are not currently enrolled with the District.

Due to concerns with COVID-19, this screening will look different this year. Surveys will be sent to families based on current census information.

If a family has a concern about a child's development, they may contact the Pittsville Elementary School to request a survey and/or screening. Screenings look at a child's overall development and will be scheduled on an individual basis.

~ Mrs. Kremer



8TH GRADE AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Students have focused their learning on the importance of agriculture to their daily lives, exploring horticulture, food science, soils, forestry and natural resources. Students in 8th grade also begin their exploratory SAE programs where they take their learning outside of the classroom and gain skills in animal care, agricultural processing, plant and animal production, forestry and wood products, and the list goes on!

~ Mrs. Meissner



SUPER SECOND GRADERS

The second graders in Miss Sisco and Mrs. Kuehn's classes have been working hard on writing narratives. They have been adding a lot of details to their writing to help their readers see, hear, and feel what they do in their stories. They have been including capital letters, punctuation, and word choice to make their writing the best it can be. In addition to writing their narratives, they have been reading fiction selections and learning about story elements such as character, setting, problem, solution, and theme.



KINDERGARTEN ~ Mrs. Heinzen, Mrs. Petersen

Happy fall everyone! We are excited to be in school again and the children are adjusting to being in school five days a week. This is always a new transition for our kindergartners.

This year, we have introduced new curriculum in both our reading and phonics programs. In our reading workshop, the children are given opportunities to have private and partner reading time. Each child brought home a story that they practiced frequently, so they could turn it into an "old favorite storybook." The children worked on retelling the story in their own words. They are also learning about "Read about the World" books. We have finished our first unit called "We Are Readers." The children are pictured with their favorite book after celebrating with a little parade! In phonics, the children are working to identify both uppercase and lowercase letters, the letter sounds, and we are learning the formation of the letters too. Our program has incorporated the study of the students' names for a wonderful way to learn!

Our students have been participating in Writers' Workshop this year and are enjoying being given time to think, create, draw, and write during this time. We recently started a unit called "Show and Tell." The children are excited to write about their favorite toys, things that are important to them, and things they know about.

The kindergarten students were assessed using the statewide PALS assessment. This screening includes alphabet recognition, rhyming words, beginning sounds, phonetic spelling, and concept of word. Results of this screening will be shared with parents. This information is used to help form instruction to meet individual learning needs.

Along with our instruction with the children in the classroom, this year we are providing lesson plans, videos and supplementary learning materials for our students who are choosing to learn virtually. The preparations are keeping us busier than ever! We do want to thank our families who are helping to make this the best year possible--whether your child is with us daily or learning virtually.



ACTIVATE SHORT VOWEL POWER

First graders activate short vowel power! We don't just read words. We study words, letters, and sounds to learn how words work! We clap, stomp, and snap the syllables. We notice vowels and activate short vowel power while studying words around the classroom, in our books, and in our writing! We even have help from Rasheed, our class mascot!

~Ms. Keding, Mrs. Moore, & Mrs. Stone



BELIEVE YOU CAN
and you're halfway **THERE** ~ Theodore Roosevelt



4TH AND 5TH GRADE STUDENTS HONOR VETERANS

We aren't able to have our usual Veterans Day program at school because of health concerns this year, but we still wanted to find a way to celebrate this important day. Our 4th and 5th grade students designed and created yard signs to honor our military veterans. These yard signs will be displayed throughout the City of Pittsville as our way of showing appreciation to our veterans for their patriotism and their willingness to serve and sacrifice for the good of our country. Hopefully, our veterans will feel our pride in them through our signs.
~Mrs. Denniston

STARBOOKS CAFÉ IN THIRD GRADE

Our third-grade classrooms were transformed into STARBOOKS cafés! The students did a "book-tasting" and sampled different genres of books while listening to coffee shop music and sipping on their very own "lattes (chocolate milk)!" They explored many book genres, such as nonfiction, mystery, fantasy, picture books, and book series.

This was a perfect way for the students to celebrate completing the first reading unit! Many students found a new series or genre of book that they were interested in reading more of! "Reading is a passport to many adventures!" -Mary Pope Osborne
~Ms. Blaser



SENDING OUT AN S.O.S

What are your Sources of Strength?

A group of junior high and high school students and staff participated in the Sources of Strength training on Wednesday, October 14th. This virtual training was an interactive and engaging experience for everyone involved. Our students learned about the Sources of Strength program and how it will positively impact our students, school, and community.

This program is an innovative approach to suicide prevention by highlighting our strengths and teaching us how we can use those strengths to reach out and positively impact those around us.



The students involved in the training were nominated by staff to participate in the peer leadership program. The Sources of Strength team will be meeting weekly to plan activities to engage the students in the junior high and high school so they can educate others around them.

The hope of the team is to help our school and community find our strengths and come together to build a brighter future. Keep an eye out for more information on what this group is up to on social media and in the Pittsville Record.
~ Mrs. Neidfeldt



6TH GRADE READERS ~Ms. Molitor

The year has been flying by for these sixth graders! They have learned so much already and are excited to continue their growth as the year progresses. In reading, they have explored more in-depth character analysis skills as well as setting and how its psychology can impact a story. These reading experts ended their first unit with a whole class discussion on Thank You, M'am by Langston Hughes. The conversations they had were beyond impressive!

7TH GRADE ENGLISH ~ Mr. Laprise

The first quarter has been full of exciting, fun, and challenging learning for our 7th grade English class! They have mastered many new words as well as many myths from across the world. They learned what it means to be heroic and how the ancients made sense of our world. The 7th grade has also started writing their own Hero's Journey! I'm excited to share with everyone the anthology of their writing at the end of the year.

In Geography, we have had quite the adventure in learning! We have been learning about the basics of Geography including the characteristics of physical and human geography. We will be applying our new skills as we move on to different continents and countries. We also took some geography terms, such as mountain, swamp, or channel, and made them three-dimensional in one of our projects. They did a great job!

8TH GRADE MATH – Cohort Learning ~ Mrs. Knutson

Eighth graders have really stepped it up this quarter in their new cohort model of learning. They have learned to use Google Classroom and Google Meets to enhance their learning outside of the classroom. When they are not at school, they are joining Google Meets, watching video lessons posted in Google Classroom, utilizing office hours on Virtual Wednesdays, completing math workbook lessons and practice problems, using the online science textbook, practicing skills and completing assignments. Their success is because of the efforts they make all five days of school whether in the classroom or virtual. Congratulations 8th graders! We are proud of you and look forward to an even more successful second quarter.

4K FUN !! ~ Mr. Sanken, Mrs. Scholzen

The 4K classroom is off to a great start to the school year. The students are doing a super job of learning the school rules and routines, and they are busy making new friends at the same time. Our days are full of singing songs, listening to stories, working on projects, putting puzzles together and playing. Each week, we concentrate on a theme and a letter of the alphabet for the week. We've also been working really hard to learn how to write our names.

With the seasons changing, we've been talking a lot about Fall and many of our projects have been Fall related. We've done apple printing for the letter Aa, we've marbled painted leaves for the letter Ll, we've painted suns for the letter Ss, and our latest project has been making a crazy pumpkin patch for the letter Pp!

4K is a great place to be!



4TH AND 5TH GRADERS TRAVEL THE COUNTRY FROM THEIR COMPUTER SCREENS ~ Ms. Van Haren

Although actual travel opportunities may be limited right now, the fourth and fifth graders are finding creative ways to see the United States and learn more about neat, historic sites. Many museums and historic sites have closed their doors to actual visitors, but have turned on their video cameras and opened up their computers to share their artifacts and knowledge. Students have already visited the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison. They helped solve mysteries about the unknown guest in the 19th Century Mine and a strange visitor who left red roses at the Suffragist exhibit. They enjoyed talking with Betsy the Cow, who figured out how to use MOOGLE to translate all the information. Later this month, fourth graders will meet with curators as they tour Mount Vernon, George Washington's home. Fifth graders will learn what life was like for teenage mill girls. They will interview them about what it was like living in a city at the start of the Industrial Revolution. This experience will take place at Lowell National Historical Park in Massachusetts. Both classes will also see how farmers were the original creators of STEM Projects when they visit a 19th century farm at Old World Wisconsin.

Counselor's Corner - 1st Quarter

Emily Krystowiak
9-12 School Counselor

Important Reminders for Upper Classmen:

Seniors:

- Applications to Colleges and Tech Schools should be completed soon; Halloween = Ahead of the Game, Thanksgiving = On Time, and Christmas = Slightly Behind. Remember, the earlier you are accepted, the sooner you can apply for scholarships as well as indicate housing requests from your university/college.
- Please remember to inform Mrs. Krystowiak after you have applied and been accepted to any college or university.
- Please remember to continually check the scholarship webpage for updated scholarships -- HS Home Page, School Counseling Tab, Scholarship Tab, 2020-2021 Scholarships and Contests Tab.
- Transcripts can be requested via the HS Home Page, Transcripts-How to obtain. Parchment is our new provider for online transcripts. There is a \$6 fee for official transcripts. Students can request one unofficial transcript for free, but then will be charged for them afterward. Please allow at least one full day for processing.
- Cap & Gown orders from Josten's needed to be placed by November 1st.
- The 2020-2021 FAFSA application is open. Seniors are encouraged to apply sooner than later. The FAFSA is an excellent way to help receive loans and grants for higher education.
- Senior Conferences should be completed by now. If you have questions about your students' conference, feel free to call Mrs. Krystowiak or check in with them!

Juniors:

- **Junior Conferences** are scheduled for November/December; please make sure to schedule a virtual appointment with your junior student and yourself. A 45 to 60 minute block between the hours of 7:15 am and 2:45 pm is needed.
- **ACT Preparation:** It is not too early to start practicing for the ACT. Practice test booklets can be picked up in the counseling office. Juniors can sign up to take an exam in December or February. This is an excellent practice and can be paid for by PHS once the exam is completed.
- **ACT Exam:** All juniors are **required** to take the state offered ACT on March 9th.

PITTSVILLE JUNIORS ATTENDED UWSP

Pittsville juniors traveled to UWSP and received a campus tour on Thursday September 23rd. This gave them first-hand experience of what a four year college campus is like. While campus looks different this year, it was an excellent opportunity for them to start envisioning their future and what it can hold. Students will be discussing their experience during their Junior Conference, which will be held during term 2.

AG DEPARTMENT NEWS

~ Mrs. Meissner

Cranberry Science students have worked cooperatively to put a new twist on the Splash of Red Cranberry Tours for the 2020 season. This is the 20th year anniversary of the tours and the students are in the final stages of filming and putting together a video presentation that will be available on the Splash of Red Tours website. This video production will be used for future advertisement and education on WI #1 fruit crop. The Cranberry Science class would like to thank the local cranberry families, Gardner Cold Storage, and Hahn Transportation for making this year's film a positive experience for the students of PHS.

The National FFA Convention is being held virtually this year during October 27-29. While attending the virtual convention, FFA members will be participating in leadership workshops, listening to inspirational speakers, and engaging growing the next generation of leaders. No matter where you are in FFA, you'll find inspiration and direction to become a leader and influencer, ready to make an impact. During this digital event, find out who you are, who you want to become and how you can change how the world grows. The National Convention is the largest student organization convention in the United States with over 60,000 FFA members attending.

A highlight of this year will be seeing Pittsville FFA member Tyler Gardner on the main screen as he is one of four in the nation competing in the Agricultural Fruit Production Proficiency Award area. Congratulations to Tyler once again, for earning national recognition!



The FFA will begin their annual citrus fruit fundraiser, beginning November 1st, please watch the local paper for details and social media outlets for more information. If you are interested in purchasing fruit, nut, or meat packages you can also contact Ms. Meissner at the high school.

8TH GRADE EXPO

The 8th grade EXPO students in Mrs. Anderson's class did a fun crochet project in class! The students learned the basic terms for crocheting and then started on making mask savers. The 8th graders are hoping to donate them to the elementary office to be given to students to help alleviate any discomfort to their ears by the masks. ~ Mrs. Anderson



ACT AS IF WHAT
YOU DO makes
a DIFFERENCE.

IT DOES...

~WILLIAM James

INTERVENTION CORNER

~The interventionists would like to share the following reading tips from Reading Rockets:

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO ENCOURAGE SCHOOL-AGE READERS?

Once your child begins nursery school, preschool, or elementary school, you should work with her teacher to improve her reading skills. Many teachers are now sending home practical ideas for parents to use with their school-age children to help them develop skills and to encourage good reading habits. Ask your child's teacher for these practice activities. By reinforcing the skills your child's teacher emphasizes, you will be supplementing what he has learned about reading throughout the school day.

Additional ways to encourage your school-age child to read are listed below.

- **Continue being a good role model.** Let your child see you read.
- **Encourage your child to read on her own at home.** Reading at home can help your child do better in school.
- **Keep a variety of reading materials in the house.** Make sure to have reading materials for enjoyment as well as for reference.
- **Encourage your child to practice reading aloud.** Frequently listen to your child read out loud and praise her often as she does so. Offer to read every other page or even every other chapter to your child. Have conversations and discussions about the book with your child.
- **Write short notes for your child to read.** Write down his weekly household responsibilities for him to keep track of or put a note in his lunch bag.
- **Encourage activities that require reading.** Cooking (reading a recipe), constructing a kite (reading directions), or identifying a bird's nest or a shell at the beach (reading a reference book) are some examples.
- **Establish a reading time, even if it's only 10 minutes each day.** Make sure there is a good reading light in your child's room and stock her bookshelves with books and magazines that are easy to both read and reach.
- **Talk with your child.** Talking makes children think about their experiences more and helps them expand their vocabularies. Ask your child to give detailed descriptions of events and to tell complete stories.
- **Give your child writing materials.** Reading and writing go hand in hand. Children want to learn to write and to practice writing. If you make pencils, crayons, and paper available at all times, your child will be more inclined to initiate writing activities on his own.
- **Restrict television time.** The less time your child spends watching television, the more time he will have for reading-related activities.
- **Visit the library once a week.** Have your child apply for her own library card so she can check out books on her own for schoolwork and for pleasure reading. Ask your child to bring home a library book to read to a younger sibling and encourage her to check out books on tape that she can listen to on long car trips.
- **Work in partnership with your child's school.** The more you know about the type of reading program his school follows, the more you can help by supplementing the program at home. Offer to volunteer in the classroom or school library as often as your schedule allows. Ask the school for parent participation materials.

CONCLUSION

To help your child succeed in school, you should do your part to ensure that he or she starts school with a strong foundation in language and literacy-related skills and a desire to learn to read.

In the early elementary years – from first through third grades – your child will continue learning how to read, which is a complex process that is difficult for some and easy for others. Take care during these years not to overemphasize the process of learning to read while encouraging your child to practice reading often.

Reading for pleasure and interest will help your child to develop reading skills and will give your child the opportunity to practice these skills in meaningful ways.

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

Music Department News

Ms. Schirger, Choir Instructor

Mr. Bertino, Band Instructor



On Saturday, October 3, the Pittsville Music Department hosted their **First Annual Mattress Fundraiser**. Through the support of community members, Pittsville staff, and music parents, we sold 21 mattresses, which brought in a profit of \$4,010 for both the choir and band programs here in Pittsville. We would like to thank everyone who came out and supported our event that day as well helped spread the word! We look forward to hosting this fundraiser again next fall!



CHOIR

Believe it or not, our elementary music classes have begun preparing music for the Elementary Winter Program. This year, our K-4 program was scheduled to be held on Monday, December 14 at 6:30 pm in the varsity gym; however, this year we will not be hosting an onsite event. Ms. Schirger is working on ways to still make it happen in a manner that is safe for everyone involved, such as a virtual video that will be shared with parents. Please stay tuned and Ms. Schirger will be in contact with the K-4 parents as plans are finalized.

Our elementary grades have been very busy learning new songs and new concepts. Fourth graders have just started using their new recorders. Please remember to tell them when practicing to use only a small amount of air while saying "doo" or "too". Also remind them that using too much air and/or not completely covering up the holes are what cause squeaks to come from the recorder. All students have been informed that they are to only play in the music classroom or at home when they have permission.

Junior High and High School Choir are still singing. Students wear their face masks and are a minimum of 6 feet from each other. The students are busy at work to prepare for the upcoming pop and winter concerts! Even though students are not able to be in the classroom as much as usual this year, Ms. Schirger is still ensuring that students are staying involved in the growth as young vocalists. On their virtual days, high school choir students take time to review and learn their part through practice tracks that Ms. Schirger creates for each section in the choir. Then, the students record themselves singing their part on Flipgrid! Ms. Schirger loves to keep all students singing almost every day!

UPCOMING CONCERT DATES

Please take note of the upcoming concerts.

Saturday, November 7 - HS Pops Concert @ 7pm

- Must be on the list as one of a choir/band student's two guests.
- Admission will be as follows: \$3 for adults, \$2 for students, \$1 for senior citizens.
- There will be a small raffle as well as a 50/50 raffle.

Please remember that these dates for our winter programs are tentative and there are plans being made so that these concerts are safe for everyone. We may be able to have a concert with a limited audience. Please watch for more information coming soon!

Sunday, December 6 - 5-8 Winter Band Concert @ 5pm

Sunday, December 13 - HS Winter Concert @ 4pm (Choir alumni are welcome to come sing the Hallelujah Chorus with the HS Choir)

Thursday, December 17 - 5-8 Winter Choir Concert @ 6:30pm

SHOW CHOIR

Students have begun meeting for show choir rehearsals and are very excited to be putting together a few pieces for the upcoming pop and spring concert. There are even a couple high school students who have taken on the role of helping design the show for our show choir.



HOMECOMING 2020



BAND

All Grades: Performance mask should be coming in soon! Once they arrive, students will be playing indoors with performance masks and bell covers to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 while playing. Recently, during indoor band days students have been working on composer projects, instrument history projects, and have been learning how to clap and count rhythms!

5th Grade Band: Thursday October 22nd, and Friday, October 23rd were the first days with instruments in 5th grade band. 5th graders learned how to set up, hold, and clean their instruments.

If you have not rented or bought an instrument for your child please do so as soon as possible. Heid Music has great, affordable rental options with great insurance plans. Rentals can be made at heidmusic.com. Contact Mr. Bertino at bertinic@pittsville.k12.wi.us if you have any questions.

Drumline: The Drumline is getting better every day! We have recently added an extra snare drum and 2 new pairs of crash cymbals to the ensemble. These improvements will help build our ensemble's balance and sound. You can see the drumline perform at home Volleyball games and Basketball games this year!

Pep Band: Pep Band is currently preparing for performances at varsity football games! At these events you may hear popular classics like: Paint it Black, 7 Nation Army, Smoke on the Water, Low Rider, and much more!!



DRAMA CLUB

This school year's student officers for drama club have been chosen by the students involved in drama. Congratulations to these students, and we are hoping to work with you in the spring!

- President: Cody Gonzalez
- Vice President: Emma Tolzmann
- Secretary: Delaney Klamrowski





Nutrition Nuggets

News from our Food & Nutrition Services Department



First I'd like to say it has been great seeing our students and staff back for another school year. With all the guidelines of COVID-19, our school food service department has been adapting a few changes so far this school year. I'd like to thank all the students, staff, and families for adapting to these changes with us as we keep a positive and safe environment for everyone.

In case your student has not shared with you the safety measures we have implemented, we have switched to all disposable eating containers such as trays and utensils. We have also spaced out our students by either social distancing in the cafeteria for some grades while other grades are social distanced within their classrooms while eating. We have also installed all plastic window barriers on our service line along with having ample timing between grades coming down for lunch to keep the lines properly spaced along with all staff wearing proper face coverings, gloves, along with other safety procedures on a daily basis. Once again, thank you to everyone for making these changes run smoothly while we all get past these times of COVID-19.

Thank you,

Mr. Matt Andres

Food Service Director

PLEASE REMEMBER

Pick up meal service times for any child not attending school in person are:

For children not attending school in person Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, meal pick up is:

Monday - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

For children not attending school in person Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, meal pick up is:

Wednesday - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Your child does not need to be present to pick up meals. All meals are to go prepackaged cold meals for three days of meals.

Menus are available
on-line at
www.pittsville.k12.wi.us

FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS

With all child breakfast and lunch meals being served free through the USDA guidance this school year, we would like anyone who may think their family qualifies for free or reduced price meals to please still fill out an application. Not only does our free and reduced applications help for meals these application numbers help schools with grant opportunities for funding for all aspects of our school district.

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.

2020-2021 MEAL PRICES

The USDA has put forth a program this year that allows schools to serve all children 18 years and younger free breakfast and lunch. This means on the days of scheduled school for the school year of 2020-2021, all children are offered a free breakfast and lunch. Cold Lunch/Extra Milk can be purchased still from your family account for \$.30 along with all adult lunch prices being \$3.92 and adult breakfast prices being \$2.00.



NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Notice is hereby given, that at an election to be held in the School District of Pittsville on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. Term of office for a school board member is three years beginning April 26, 2021.

Member: Connie Potter

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that a Campaign Finance Registration Statement and a Declaration of Candidacy must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, in the office of the school administrator.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

Forms for filing can be obtained from the School District's Administration.

Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID, you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

CANCELLATIONS, DELAYS, EARLY DISMISSAL

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 Skylert 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	WOFM	94.7 FM	WSAW	TV-7
WOSQ	92.3 FM	WGLX	103.3 FM	WAOW	TV-9
				WEAU	TV-13

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[Twitter - @PittsvilleWISD](#)



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[YouTube - PSD](#)

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

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

ANNUAL NOTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION REFERRAL AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES

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

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

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

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

PITTSVILLE BOARD
OF EDUCATION

Mandy Hoogesteger

President

Robert Wolff

Vice-President

Connie Potter

Clerk

Jane Wesely

Treasurer

Nathan Bowden

Member-At-Large

HOW TO REACH
YOUR SCHOOL

District Office

715-884-6694

Superintendent – Rodney Figueroa

High School

715-884-6412

Principal – Dr. Cynthia Porter

Elementary School

715-884-2517

Principal – Heather Friday

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PITTSVILLE

#WEAREPittsville

5459 Elementary Avenue, Suite 2

Pittsville, WI 54466

We will be happy to provide you with a hard copy of our District Newsletter 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.