

The PANTHER PRIDE

Pittsville School District Newsletter • First Quarter, 2021-2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Our new roof over the Primary wing has been completed and the 24,000 square foot CTE facility is being used to educate our students!

We are pleased to have all of our classes and programs running this school year in spite of the challenges presented through the COVID-19 pandemic. We are offering all of the regular and extracurricular programming that was available prior to the pandemic with the main differences being masking for visitors at indoor events. Pittsville is making decisions based on our school data and is leading our state using the "Test to Stay" program briefly described below. Several area districts will begin similar programs in the near future using our data and successful procedures.

The District implemented a voluntary "Test to Stay" (TTS) program about 4 weeks ago. The TTS program gives non-symptomatic, non-household, close contacts the option to do a rapid COVID-19 screen each morning before school and stay in school, verses quarantine out of school; as long as the test is negative and they do not develop symptoms. Currently in the TTS program, staff and students test for 7 school days after exposure to the positive case and are required to wear a face covering through day 14 after exposure.

This is a pilot program being done in cooperation with Wood County Health Department. We review data weekly and will make adjustments to be able to keep more children in school after they are exposed to a positive COVID-19 case. Parents complete a registration and permission form prior to testing and results are reported to the parents. The TTS program also has the capacity to do the PCR test which is sent out to a lab. We do PCR testing when a rapid test reads positive or a student or staff member becomes symptomatic. NOAH Labs will be taking over PCR testing as of November 1, 2021 with the intention of speeding up return on test results from the previous lab. The state has provided the funding associated with the TTS program.

Our COVID-19 Dashboard is kept up daily on our website at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us, and we have seen a significant drop in the number of positives and quarantined close contacts in the last 2 weeks. The full TTS Guidelines are available on this page. We are discussing the data as it relates to household close contacts in quarantine because at this time TTS is not available for them unless they are vaccinated and have isolated from the positive in their household. Being aware of the health of your children and household members is a very important part of keeping more students in school and fewer people possibly exposed to COVID-19.

The Wood County Health Department is offering a free walk in vaccination clinic at the Elementary School Cafeteria from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10. They will also vaccinate eligible children and provide booster shots for those eligible for a booster. This is a voluntary option and the Board of Education is not requiring vaccination of students and staff.



Please read the other articles in this newsletter. Our schools have many wonderful opportunities and experiences to share, like: the high school Juniors all completed a fall ACT, Splash of Red Cranberry Tours being a huge success again this year, our 7th grade students taking on the building of an outdoor classroom, the Harlem Wizards will be here on May 5, 2022 for a school fundraiser, many grade level reports, the summer free meals program for all of our student to eat breakfast and lunch free of charge will continue through the school year, and of course some great pictures of our kids in their school!

Mr. Rodney Figueroa

OUR BEST
for their best!

"Aim for success, not perfection. Never give up your right to be wrong, because then you will lose the ability to learn new things and move forward with your life." ~ Dr. David M. Burns

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



One quarter of the school year at PHS is done already! It's been an interesting experience already. Here are some major highlights from the first part of the year.

Homecoming was a great success! We had a week of decorations, contests, a hard fought football game, and a dance attended by nearly 100 students. It was great to be able to safely celebrate the high school experience during a pandemic. Kudos to the students and staff who made this week happen!

All the juniors at PHS took the ACT on 10/19/2021. This was done to familiarize students with the rigorous exam before the real deal in March. A good ACT score can open up some important doors for students. We hope to prepare them to do their best by letting them take the entire exam, learning how to pace themselves and reflecting on what they need to master before the official test. Students will get their scores from this attempt in about six weeks.

Cranberry Tours were a great success again. Ms. Meissner, Miss Tyler (PHS Agriculture Student Teacher) and their students worked very hard to provide a great experience for our community and teach about the importance of the cranberry industry to the area. It was a lot of work, but it went off without a hitch and our students did a great job!

COVID-19 came back, unfortunately. We had briefly hoped that we would not have to consider COVID mitigations when we were planning for the school year in the summer, but the virus had other plans. The community numbers rose from late October on and many students had to miss school time as they either came down with the virus or were close contacts. Fortunately, none of our students got seriously ill and all are either back in school or nearly so. With the implementation of the Test-to-Stay program, we have a path for keeping our students in school if they come into contact with someone who has COVID-19. Students merely need to take a rapid test each morning for eight days and wear a mask for two weeks. If they do this consistently, they do not need to quarantine. This has kept dozens of students in school and allowed them to have better access to their education. We will keep this going as we transition to the new quarter and the new sports seasons in early November. Hopefully, the community numbers will continue to fall and our students and families can be safe. Kudos to all the staff members who have worked very hard to manage this situation as we get through this together!

We have important work to do in 2nd term at PHS. We have a lot of curricula to master, skills to gain, memories to make, and friendships to nurture. Thank you to the community for your support as we make our way through this extraordinary time! Go Panthers!

Dr. Rod Watson

CENTRAL WISCONSIN MATH LEAGUE

This competition started in the early 70's. As a school, PHS has participated in most of the leagues except from 2010-2014.

Last year every test was taken at PHS, but in a typical year, we would take the tests at UWSP. Usually about 50 schools participate in the challenging math competition held on campus. There are two huge rooms for the students taking the hour-long test. The schools are split into 4 groups based on school size. Pittsville is in school size 3 with about 10 other schools.

The three meets for this year will be in November, February and March. As a school we take 4 students in each category. The three categories are Algebra, Geometry, and Advanced Math.

The test challenges the upper level students with problem solving skills and precision. The average scores on these tests are usually 30-40% correct for all schools. Students can place individually or we can place as a school. Last year our highest place was Trace Wilke who finished in second place. ~ Mrs. Downs

UWSP MATH COMPETITION

UWSP holds a series of three math contests every year. This year the first contest will be virtual and the last two are not decided yet. The dates for the math competitions are: Nov 4, Feb 9, and Mar 30. The competition has 3 categories: Geometry, Algebra, and Advanced. There are four school size divisions and Pittsville is in school size three. In normal school years, about 50 different high schools participate with about ten schools in school size 3. Each school chooses four students in each category to represent their school for a total of 12 students. The scores are added up from all three meets to determine place winners at the end of the school year. Pittsville has most of their participants from last year back to compete again so experience will be an advantage for PHS. ~ Mrs. Grossman

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

I can't believe we have already finished the first quarter of the school year! I want to acknowledge how hard everyone is working to ensure our students are having the best educational experience possible, especially during these challenging times. Thank you to the teachers for everything they are doing to provide high quality instruction to all of our students whether students are onsite or learning from home. A shout out to all the students who are engaging in their school work! Thank you to everyone who works at the school. Each staff member is so valuable to the education of our students.

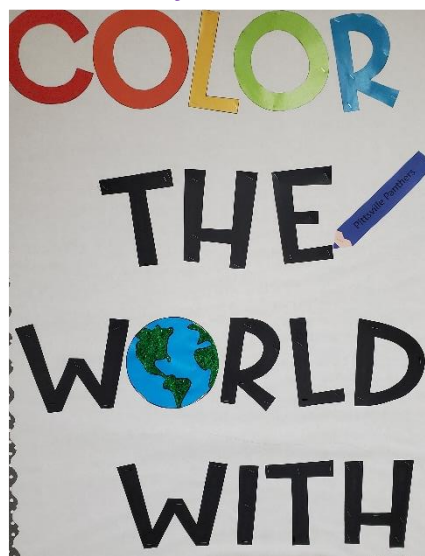


This year's Principal Project was inspired by the children's story *Maybe Something Beautiful* by F. Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell. This book was inspired by a husband / wife team who transformed the Eastside of San Diego using art! I read the story to all the students and each student created their own beautiful design for our school-wide display. Just as the story shared this message, "together we can do so much more than we had ever imagined," you can see how beautiful our display is when we all work together and contribute! It is such a rewarding time to be in each classroom with the students!

Pre-covid, we had an amazing fundraising event scheduled: A visit from the Harlem Wizards. It was so disappointing when we had to cancel the event. I am so excited to share that we have a game scheduled for Thursday, May 5th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Varsity Gym! Tickets will be available online, closer to Game Day. The Harlem Wizards are basketball players that play staff members! It is a fun, interactive game that will be a lot of fun! All proceeds will be used to continue our initiatives of innovative teaching tools (what students need for their learning) and improving our playground / recess time by providing students with resources they need to have fun and be active. Mark your calendar, it is an event you don't want to miss!

Our Junior High students have started to not only think outside the box, but to think outside the school! Our 7th grade students came up with the idea of our district having outdoor classroom spaces! Congratulations to Jenna Schiller and Bailey Smazal for applying to and receiving a \$2000 grant from the Marshfield Area Community Foundation to use towards implementing an Outdoor Classroom! These students are innovative thinkers! Students contacted local businesses to see if they would support a donation box for their project. They raised over \$700 from donations. Thank you to everyone who is supporting this project. We often say we want our students to have voice and choice. This is an authentic example of just what our students can do when they work together! Great work to Mrs. Knutson and Mr. Schiltz for allowing the students to come up with their own ideas and great work to all the students who are putting a lot of time and effort into this innovative idea.

Mrs. Friday





NUTRITION NUGGETS

NEWS FROM OUR FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICE DEPARTMENT SUPPLY SHORTAGES AND MILK CHANGES FROM USDA

Dear Families of Pittsville School District,

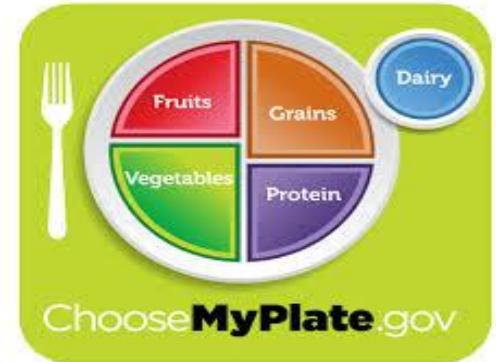
A few of our students may have noticed the change in our chocolate milk cartons during meal times. The USDA has brought into regulations for all school food service departments that have to be in place by December 3 of this year, that all flavored milk need to be fat free. In the past, we served 1% True Moo Chocolate Milk from our Deans Milk Vendor. Going forward, Dean's has changed over to meet this USDA requirement to a Non-Fat Chocolate Milk.

Also with regards to nationwide supply shortages, our food service department along with all school food service departments, have been hit especially hard. We have stayed on top of this issue from the very beginning and have kept up to make sure our students are delivered the nutritious meals each day. We have only had to make a change to the menus one day so far this year, and I am personally working each day with our vendors to make sure we continue to deliver meals our students are looking forward to for our students each day.

Sincerely,

Mr. Matt Andres

Food Service Director
andremat@pittsville.k12.wi.us



Menus are available online at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us.



USDA WAIVER EXTENDED FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR

With COVID-19 still affecting so many families, the USDA has extended the program in which all students will receive a free reimbursable breakfast and reimbursable lunch during the school year of 2021-2022. As in the case of this past school year, each student who wishes to participate can do so with no cost to their families. **Milk still can be purchased for ala carte/cold lunch meals at \$.30 per milk. Any milk purchased ala carte that is not included with the reimbursable meal, such as a student wanting a milk for their cold lunch from home, will have their account charged for the milk and will need to be paid by the students' family account.** With 100% in-person learning, there will be no to-go meals provided as in this past school year.



HOLIDAY SEASON APPROACHING

With the holiday seasons approaching, we would like to remind all the students of the foods that go along with them. On the last day of school before Halloween, we will be serving caramel apples with our hot lunch program. The last day before of school before our Thanksgiving break, we will be serving a turkey meal complete with turkey & gravy, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce and more.

SPANISH CLASS NEWS

Did you know the average American throws away around 81 pounds of clothing each year? The textile industry is huge, and is responsible for 10% to 20% of pesticide use globally. Spanish 3/4/5 students recently learned about the environmental impact of the fashion industry. After learning about the negative effects of "fast fashion," they made a plan to make an impact.

In the beginning of November, the students will be running a "Swap for Sustainability". Students will bring in clothing they no longer wear and receive credit to take the same number of clothes home in the exchange. The class is hopeful this exchange will allow students to refresh their wardrobe while protecting the planet. ~ Mrs. Madden

DRAMA CLUB

Drama club will be hosting a Cake Roll fundraiser from Nov 17th to Dec 1st. These will make a perfect addition to your holiday gatherings. The funds will be used to put on a spring production. Look for more information coming soon. ~ Ms. Schirger

THROUGH THE DECADES AT PHS: FALL 2021 EDITION

From the pages of *Ho-Ang-Ho*. Contributors: Madisyn Schooley, Ruth Durrant, Lexi Smazal, Connor Behselich, Avery Vanatta, Anna Pozayt, Hunter McDaniel, Natalie Fuller, Joseph Downs, Sam Bowden, Britney Lewer, Lillian Andres, Kadin Fox, Lucy Vanatta, Allyson Klaske, Leah Downs, Gwyneth Kumm, Emma Bowden, and Messers Downs and Piotrowski for *The History Club*.

1972: Football: The team this year was coached by Coach Wyatt, Coach Thoreson, Coach Thompson, Coach Kruesel, and Coach Wolff. The senior co-captains were Paul Amundson known as "Zeus", Larry Brey known as "Bardahl", and Gregory Heeg known as "Carl". The other seniors were Bruce Wayerski known as "Bruce", Stanley Dupee known as "Biggest", Kenneth Buelt "Bolt", David Urban "Urby", Scott Freedlund "Nervous", and Darrell Cather known as "Beaver". **Volleyball:** The 1971 Volleyball team was coached by Coach Getzmehl and included seniors Janice Zellner and Corrine Zalabsky. **Homecoming:** Homecoming court this year was Mary Lou Emmerick escorted by Larry Brey, Kris Hahn escorted by Scott Freedlund and Queen Peg Huebl escorted by King Chip Dupee.

1982: Football: The 1982 football team was stacked with 12 seniors including: Larry Anderson at Quarterback, Joe Behselich at guard, Willie Clayton at tailback, Kurt Kaetterhenry at slotback, Paul Kuhlka at Center, John Masephol at tackle, Terry Quinlan at wide receiver, Gus Salmon at kicker, Larry Schutz at D. tackle, John Seebruck at fullback, Dave Sojka at tackle, and John Wilke at tailback. Head coach Soper was assisted by coaches: Bonacci, Denniston, and Possley. Even with that kind of leadership the team went 3-5. The managers Kris Keller, Walter Stepp, Lisa Grorich, and Lisa Brockman assisted the coaches with stats and other managerial tasks. There was an especially close game near the end of the season where Pittsville won 18 to 14 over Athens which shows that even after so many losses the Panthers never gave up and fought to the end. **Volleyball:** The 1982 volleyball team was coached by Karen Iwanaski, who led her senior-dominated team through the season. The seniors on the varsity squad were Karla Passineau, Sally Hahn, Karen Dickinson, Barb Larson, Virginia Woiak, and Marion Kuhlka. **Homecoming:** 1981's homecoming court consisted of 10 seniors; Theresa Ortnier escorted by John Masephol, Virginia Woiak escorted by Paul Kuhlka, Karla Passineau escorted by David Sojka, Dawn Scott escorted by Larry Schultz, and Susan Benner escorted by John Wilke. Todd Fox and Nancy Hahn, the king and queen of the previous year's homecoming, crowned David Sojka and Karla Passineau homecoming royalty for the year.

1992: Football: 1992 was an exciting year for Pittsville football. It was a hard-fought season, ending with a record of 5 wins and 4 losses. Seniors Mike Ortnier, Bill Peters, Joel Neve, Daniel Schooley, Shawn Weinfurter, Jesse Winkels, and Christopher O'Keefe, led the team to success. The games against Prentice (34-2) and Spencer (28-6) were especially exciting victories. With games like that, it's clear that the 1992 season was one to remember! **Volleyball:** The volleyball team had an exceptional season, with their record running 6-2. This qualified them for second in the Marawood conference. The girls were coached by Coach Iwanski, and the seniors included Lisa Grossman, Heidi Peters, and Becky Peterson. **Homecoming:** 1992 Homecoming King was Shawn Weinfurter and Queen Heidi Peters. The court consisted of 12 seniors; Heidi Peters escorted by Shawn Weinfurter, Suzanne Peterson escorted Kevin Peterson, Amy Jepson escorted by Mike Herzberg, Nikki Nelson escorted by Mark Gudel, Amy Turnquist escorted Bill Peter, Diane Kohls escorted by Dan Schooley.

2002: Football: The 2002 football team was coached by Coach Marten, and the seniors this year were Ryan Taylor, Jason Kirk, and Jason Ortnier. The overall record of the team was 3 wins and 6 losses. The team had a rough start to the season but came out and won a game against Assumption 13-9. And in the last game of the season against Spencer the team had a lead of 35-0 at halftime and finished the game 42-8 to finish the season strong. Jason Ortnier and Mike Riedel were selected second team all-conference, Ortnier as a linebacker and Riedel as a punter. There were also 4 honorable mentions for all conference, Brad Zieher, Jason Kirk, Matt Sherwood, and Joe Halama. **Volleyball:** The 2002 volleyball team was coached by Karen Brownell, Judy LeClaire, and Jen Dupee. The seniors this year were Kristi Schooley, Molly Wegner, and team captains Christy Heuer, Amy Salo, and Lori Marten. The managers for the volleyball team were Diana Stascak, Katie Pralle, Heather Haumschild, and assistant Marie Ignatowski. The team's record for this year was 7 wins and 3 losses. The girls won their regional and sectional games, and even made it to state. What an eventful year! **Cross Country:** The 2001 cross country team was led by Coach Pio. The seniors were Aubrey Wesely, Dominic Kramer, Matthew Florence, Paul Schiller, Pamela Sojka, Aletha Petersen, and Joshua Weiler. This was the first year that there was a full varsity team for guys and girls. Girls placed 4th and the guys placed 6th at conference. Nathan Hahn was Pittsville's first male All-conference runner, earning a spot on the 2nd All Conference Team, and was named the boys team MVP. Aubrey Wesely made the 1st All Conference Team and went on to finish 4th on the 1st Team All-State. She was named "Runner of the Year" and was the girls MVP. Paul Schiller and Tanya Palmer were Rookie of the Year. The team had a very successful year, with many talented runners. **Homecoming:** 2002 homecoming was quite a year. The football team brought in a win for the Panthers, beating the Marathon Raiders 6-0. Everyone spent over an hour in the gym being entertained by the Pom Squad, while seeking shelter from a thunderstorm. The dress-up days had a record number of participants, and the seniors took another 1st place finish. The 2002 homecoming court consisted of Nathan Hahn escorting Marie Ignatowski, Jason Kirk escorting Ameilia Wegner, Jason Ortnier escorting Pam Sojka, Paul Schiller escorting Aletha Peterson, Matt Sherwood escorting Aubrey Wesley, Josh Weller escorting Christy Heuer, and Brad Zieher escorting Lori Marten. Former King and Queen Matt Durand and Laura Solverud crowned the new royalty: Nathan Hahn and Christy Heuer.

2012: Football: The 2012 Football team was coached by Head Coach Hahn, and Assistant Coaches Sanken, Denniston, Solatycki, Duerr, and Sojka. The football team's seniors consisted of Christopher Downs, Tom Hughes, Joe Schooley, Scott Maronick, and Hawk Sabin. They finished with a record of 6-5, winning their first playoff game and being eliminated in the second round. Players receiving 1st team all-conference honors were Eric Hahn, Hawk Sabin, and Olie Voight. Eric Hahn also made second team all-conference for his defensive position. Gabe Hautala, Kyle Kolar, Hawk Sabin, and David Sojka were all named honorable mentions. Hawk Sabin was also named lineman of the year. **Volleyball:** The 2012 volleyball team was coached by Liana Oleson. The seniors were Hannah Marti, Brittini O'Keefe, Mariah John, and Rachel Neve. The team's record was 7 losses and 5 wins and it was a memorable season. **Cross Country:** 2012 cross country was headed up by Mr. Casey John. Tory Palmer was the only senior that year, and made it memorable by taking 8th at state. The girls' team overall qualified for state and placed 13th, which is quite a feat. The team had 10 meets and loved every last one of them. **Homecoming:** Our Homecoming Court for 2012 was Thomas Hughes, Christopher Downs, Joe Schooley, Scott Maronick, Jennifer Quinell, Brittini O'Keefe, Tyneshia Holstine, and Mariah John. Our Homecoming King was Hawk Sabin and our Homecoming Queen was Hannah Marti.

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AUTHORS AMONG US!

The second graders in Ms. Sischo, Ms. Joosten, 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.



STARBOOKS CAFÉ IN THIRD GRADE ~ Mrs. Mueller, Mrs. Niehaus

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

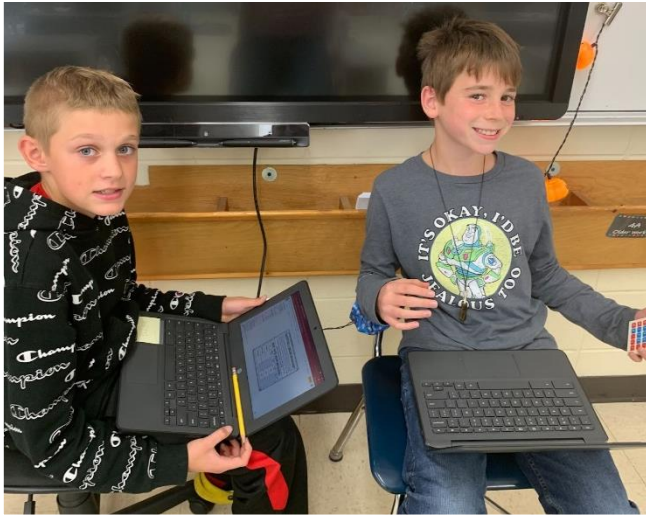


INTERVENTION CORNER

We thought we'd start this year by giving you information on how small intervention groups work. We started the year off with a bang and got our small intervention groups going the third week of school. Each grade level has a WIN (What I Need) time where all students are in some type of intervention - whether it is remedial or enrichment. This is when the interventionists work with small groups of students. We selected students for our first round of groups by using last spring's Aimsweb or PALs test scores, depending on the grade level. We also asked for teacher input. We provide interventions for these students based upon their needs. We progress monitor weekly or biweekly to see if what we are doing is the right intervention or if we need to switch it up. We meet as grade level teams every six weeks to discuss the intervention groups and look at the progress monitoring data that has been collected. Some students leave the small intervention groups for another intervention group in their classroom or at their grade level and some remain in the small group. ~ Ms. Schooley

COUNTING CORNER ~ MATH INTERVENTION

Students in first through third grades have Money Mondays with Mr. Klein. The students love to look at the images on each side of the coin and learn the value of coins. Now we are working on counting coins and bills. We have turned this into a fun game of making a list of things and assigning a value (under \$2) and they need to count out the money to make their purchase. This has been a huge hit for the students that see Mr. Klein on a daily basis. Break out the piggy banks at home for some of your own opportunities for fun!



5TH GRADERS GO SHOPPING

Following a unit on adding and subtracting decimals, the 5th grade students have been putting those skills to work in real-life applications. One of their tasks included finding the final cost of a certain number of items they chose to purchase for their weekly grocery run. Another task was determining which combination of sale offerings resulted in the best deal for their purchases. They were also given a budget, had to choose a menu for a party, decide how many packages of each ingredient they would need to get in order to prepare the correct number of servings, and prove they stayed within budget. Hopefully their work will help them be savvy shoppers someday.

~ Mr. Schultz, Mrs. Denniston

READING CHALLENGE FOR 4-6TH GRADERS

Pittsville is registered for the Elementary Division (4-6th grades) Battle of the Books. Anyone can read these and participate in Battle of the Books. What is "Battle of the Books"? Battle of the Books is a voluntary reading program. The purpose is simply to encourage students to read good books and have fun while competing with peers.

In late February, the top 4 readers at Pittsville (those who have read and understood the most books on the list) may represent the school by taking a 25 question quiz against over 200 other schools in Wisconsin! Hurry to the library! Here is this year's 4-6th Grade Battle of the Books list:

2022 WEMTA Battle of the Books - Elementary Division (Grades 4-6)

The California Wildfires, 2018 (I Survived) by Lauren Tarshis

Dog Man: Grime and Punishment by Dav Pilkey

A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray by Ann M. Martin

Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliott

Framed! by James Ponti

From an Idea to LEGO: the Building Bricks Behind the World's Largest Toy Company by Lowey Bundy Sichol

Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai

Kickoff! by Tiki Barber

Llama Destroys the World by Jonathan Stutzman

The Panda Problem by Deborah Underwood

The Paper Kingdom by Helena Ku Rhee

The Smartest Kid in the Universe by Chris Grabenstein

Song for a Whale by Lynne Kelly

Stella Diaz Has Something to Say by Angela Dominguez

The Teachers March! How Selma's Teachers Changed History by Sandra Neil Wallace

Three Keys by Kelly Yang

Ways to Make Sunshine by Renee Watson

We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom

When Stars are Scattered by Victoria Jamieson

The Wild Robot Escapes by Peter Brown

If you have any questions, ask Mrs. Frericks.

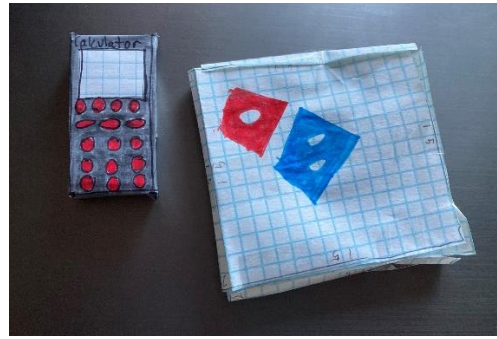
4TH GRADE ENTERS A NEW WING

The 4th grade class is adjusting well to their new wing of the school. They are getting used to switching classes and carrying a Chromebook with them all day, and keeping supplies in their lockers. They have learned lots of exciting and interesting information from all their teachers. In ELA, the students have been working extremely hard on growing ideas about the stories they are reading. They have been paying close attention to the characters, setting, and events in their stories to come up with possible themes. In social studies, students have been practicing thinking like historians and studying primary sources. They were given the opportunity to be cartographers and create their own maps. In math, students have been practicing standard algorithms.

In science, students have been practicing their inquiry skills and learning to clarify different types of animals. It's been a great start to the year, and we are excited for all the learning yet to come. ~ Mr. Hahn

JUNIOR HIGH MATH

This year, the junior high math department has undergone many changes to benefit student learning. One of these changes include longer classes which allow students to practice and apply the math they are learning. Eighth grade students have been practicing transformations of objects, seventh grade students have been practicing scale factors, and sixth graders have been learning about surface area and volume. It has been very exciting for these students to practice and apply their math skills! ~Mrs.Knutson



INSPIRE CLASS

The Inspire class is a new student-led class, supervised by Mrs. Liz Knutson and Mr. Jason Schiltz. Seventh grade students are taking this class for the first semester of the year and eighth grade students will take it second semester. Seventh grade students have decided to focus on creating outdoor learning spaces for our students and teachers to use. They planned, designed, researched, spoke to businesses, wrote grants, and participated in a fundraiser to make these classrooms a reality. We are very proud of them for all of their accomplishments!



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

~ Mrs. Gawlik

This quarter in English Language Arts, eighth grade students have been immersed in the world of researching and teen activism. They learned the importance of being an ethical researcher and how to conduct unbiased research. The overall goal of this unit is for students to find their passions and use their voices to stand up for their beliefs (in a respectful manner). Students chose topics close to their hearts that they wanted to not only learn more about, but also to teach others about. They will be celebrating their research by creating a Ted Talk to share with their peers.

HARDEST MATH PROBLEM

Our Pittsville students in grades 6-8 were given a chance to work on Scholastics' Hardest Math Problem. This is a contest being offered to students to stretch their math legs and show what they know. The students will complete the first step of the problem before December. Their teacher submits their work and if they have correctly solved the problem, they will be able to work on part 2 for a chance to win a very nice prize from Scholastic.

A few students and teachers stayed after school one afternoon to work on their problem. It was great to see the students' reason through and solve these difficult real world story problems. The students had pizza, water, and a birthday treat after their work was finished. What a great time together.

If you have a 6-8th grade student that is interested in working on this Hardest Math Problem, have them reach out to Mrs. Knutson, Mr. Schlitz, or Mr. Klein. These teachers are planning on having one more work night in November.



COUNSELOR'S CORNER – 1ST QUARTER

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 have 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, 2021-2022 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 and Gown orders from Josten's needed to be placed by October 15th.
- The 2021-2022 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** should be completed during November and mid-January. Please make sure to schedule an appointment with your junior student. A 45 to 60 minute block between the hours of 7:15 am and 2:45 pm is needed. These can be completed virtually or in person.
- **ACT Preparation.** It is not too early to start practicing for the ACT. Practice test booklets have been given to the juniors to work through on Tuesdays during PPT. This is an excellent resource as it is an old copy of an actual ACT exam.
- **ACT Exam.** All juniors are required to take the state offered ACT on March 8th. Please mark your calendars!

PITTSVILLE JUNIORS ATTENDED UWSP

Pittsville juniors traveled to UWSP and received a campus tour on Thursday, September 28th. This gave them first-hand experience of what a four year college campus is like. It was an excellent opportunity for them to start envisioning their future and what it can potentially hold. Students will be discussing their experience during their Junior Conference, which will be held during Term 2.

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.

WISCONSIN MENTAL HEALTH GRANT UPDATE ~ Mrs. Krystowiak

The Pittsville School District received the State of Wisconsin Mental Health Grant for the 2021-2023 school years. This competitive grant awards \$75,000 each year to support programs and resources that provide mental health opportunities to students and families. Some examples of these opportunities are the Middle School Counseling position, Sources of Strength program, BASC/BESS Behavioral & Emotional Screener, family resources, and more. This grant was a blessing to this district for two years prior and will continue to be for the next two to come. The Pittsville School District is continually looking for ways to improve the mental health of its students and families and these grant dollars are doing just this. If there are any recommendations or ideas for supporting the mental health of the students in our district, please feel free to reach out to your child's school counselor. Please continue to pay attention to opportunities that district students and families can participate in to obtain better mental health.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ~ Ms. Schirger, Mr. Bertino

Believe it or not, our elementary music classes are beginning to prepare music for the Elementary Winter Program. This year, our K-4 program has been scheduled to be held on Monday, December 6 at 6:30 pm in the varsity gym. Plans are still currently underway on how this will look this year. Please stay tuned for more information coming soon.

Our elementary grades have been very busy learning new songs and new concepts.

First graders have been working really hard recently to start learning some rhythms using the words dog, puppy, egg, and chicken! They even did an activity where they created their first rhythm composition! These kids are rocking their rhythms already!

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.



CHOIR

The 5-12 choirs have been returning to the groove of singing together and creating music with their voices. All choirs have now begun to prepare for their winter concerts coming up in December. They have been working extra hard on being able to sing harmony, especially in the 7th and 8th grade choirs.

The high school choir will be a part of the upcoming Pops Concert on Friday, Nov. 5. The theme for the choir is jukebox tunes, which will include a variety of popular tunes from the 70's and 80's. You will want to check out all the fun things that are being put together!

BAND

All 6-12 grade bands are preparing for their upcoming concerts!

The High School Concert and Jazz Bands will be performing at the High School Pops Concert on Friday, November 5th at 7:00 p.m. alongside the High School Choir. You will be hearing popular arrangements like the Pink Panther from the jazz band or Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah from the concert band!

The 6-8th Grade Bands are preparing for the 5-8 Winter Band Concert which is scheduled for Sunday, December 5th at 5:00 p.m. Get ready to hear some wonderful holiday music from our younger instrumental musicians on the 5th of December!

The 5th Grade Band students only meet once a week so they are in the process of signing up for one on one or group lessons. In lessons, students are creating their first sounds, learning new notes, learning new rhythms, and playing their first songs! The 5th graders are scheduled to play a few beginning band songs for the concert on December 5th. If you are a 5th grade parent or guardian who has not yet purchased or rented an instrument for your child, please contact me at bertinic@pittsville.k12.wi.us. I'll be more than happy to help you set up a rental with the school district or a music store. Alongside an instrument, all 5th grade band students need a copy of "The Standard of Excellence" by Bruce Pearson - Book 1. Copies can be purchased online or at your local music stores. Well known music stores in our area include Northern Music in Marshfield or Heid Music in Stevens Point.

The Pittsville Drumline is excited for their first performance on November 23rd at the girls' home basketball game! You will see the drumline performing during halftime for all varsity basketball games after the dance team performs. The drumline rehearses once a week after school and is made up of high school and middle school students!

MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISERS

Thank you to everyone who supported the recent Century Resources fundraiser that our 5-12 choirs and bands participated in. We were able to raise just over \$10,000 for our department. This money will be used for new instruments, instrument repairs, music, and any other supplies that the music department is in need of.

The Pittsville Music Boosters will be hosting their annual coffee fundraiser from Nov. 1 - Nov. 15. Be sure to find a high school music student to get in on this amazing coffee. Don't forget that coffee makes a perfect stocking stuffer!

Save the date for the annual Music Department Mattress Fundraiser, which will be held on Saturday, April 30 in the varsity gym. Look for more information coming later this school year.

UPCOMING CONCERT DATES

Nov 5 - HS Pops Concert, 7 pm

All audience members will be required to wear a face mask. \$3 for adults, \$2 for students, \$1 for senior citizens. There will be a raffle as well as a 50/50 raffle.

Dec 5 - 5-8 Winter Band Concert, 5 pm

Dec 12 - HS Winter Concert, 5 pm

Choir alumni are welcome to come sing the Hallelujah Chorus with the HS Choir.

Dec 20 - 5-8 Winter Choir Concert, 6:30 pm

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. Please watch for more information coming soon!

THE VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION ~ Mrs. Meissner

Agricultural Education allows its teachers to develop a unique and rigorous curriculum that is centered around the diversity of agriculture offered around the local school district. We also have the ability to work with our local communities so that we can address common goals and needs and create an environment of learning for all citizens of any age. Exploring our local agricultural industries gives a value to the world of agriculture and its contributions to our American way of life. It is crucial that a strong and influential agriculture program continues to meet the needs of our daily lives, both locally and nationwide. Agriculture cannot stop in the classroom. Agriculture students have the ability to influence their communities by giving back to the towns that helped them to grow into the young adults they are today. We would like to extend our thankfulness to the Pittsville Community and our many advocates for your continuing support of the Pittsville Agricultural Education Department



FFA MEAT AND LABOR AUCTION

~ Abbi Knutson

Saturday, November 6th is our Annual Meat and Labor Auction at the Pittsville Community Center. The doors open at 7:30 pm and the auction begins at 8:15 pm. We want to thank the following businesses for their continued support of area youth and our program of work. We couldn't do what we do without your commitment to our organization!

Thank you  Thank you

Gardner Cold Storage, Inc.	Power Pac, Inc.
Wisconsin Farm Business LLC	Volks Voltz
Hay Creek Pallet Company, Inc.	Kerry Ingredients
Gross Motors of Marshfield	Rice Capital Carpet
Nelsonville Dairy, Inc.	Seehafer Refrigeration, Inc.
Pittsville Farm and Home	

for supporting area youth and your continued support of the Pittsville FFA Alumni. We want to thank all the area businesses that donated animals for our 2021 meat auction this year.

CRANBERRY TOURS 2021 ~ Heidi Kunding

Cranberry Science students have worked cooperatively to bring back the Splash of Red Cranberry Tours for the 2021 season. This is the 21st year anniversary of the tours and the students have just wrapped up the tour season. We hosted PBS Wisconsin, Wisconsin Life. 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 including Gardner Cranberry, Jacob Searls Cranberry Co. (Duckart Family), Elm Lake Cranberry, Gardner Cold Storage, and Hahn Transportation for making this year a positive experience for the students of PHS and the 500+ tour guests that were able to join us.



PTO CORNER

The PTO is Fundraising with Fun Pasta and it is all online!

We are raising money for the PTO to help with classroom expenses and senior scholarships and we are needing your help in reaching our fundraising goal! We'll earn 40% profit from every sale. Selling is fun and simple – especially with the new Fun Pasta App!

What is Fun Pasta? Fun Pasta is healthy fun pasta shaped like the holidays, sports, collegiate team logos, and more. The colorful brochure shows a wide variety of products that will appeal to everyone!

How can you help? Join our Fundraiser!

1. Download the Fun Pasta Fundraising App from the Apple or Google stores.
2. Log in with the primary email address of the seller (can only use one email per seller name), and input our join code: PF2E30
3. On the app, customize your Seller's Page by uploading a picture and editing the copy. You can even upload a video!
4. From the app, use the share icon and send texts or emails to all your out-of-town family and friends and ask them to support you! We have pre-written messages that are easy to share. You can also post your fundraiser on social platforms like Facebook, Twitter, etc.
5. From your computer, if you'd like to just share a shopping link in an email or Facebook, please copy and paste our group link: [www.funpastafundraising.com/shop/\(fill in your webpage name\)](http://www.funpastafundraising.com/shop/(fill in your webpage name)).

There is FREE SHIPPING on orders over \$55!

Sharing the fundraiser from the app is simple and easy! Sellers can text, email, or share on social – all orders are placed online and delivered directly to the customer's homes.

Thank you so much for your continued support and for helping us reach our goal!

If you have any questions, please contact the PTO at: PTO@pittsville.k12.wi.us

1ST QUARTER NEWS FROM MS. RAYGO

Our 4K-4th grade students have been learning about self-regulation!

Self-regulation is the ability to manage your emotions and behavior in accordance with the demands of the situation. It includes being able to resist highly emotional reactions to upsetting stimuli, to calm yourself down when you get upset, to adjust to a change in expectations, and to handle frustration without an outburst. It is a set of skills that enables children, as they mature, to direct their own behavior towards a goal, despite the unpredictability of the world and our own feelings.

4K: We have been learning about managing waiting, staying in our personal space, asking for what you want or need, sharing, and taking turns

Kindergarten: We have been introduced to the Zones of Regulation. Zones is an approach used to teach self-regulation by categorizing all the different ways we feel and states of alertness we experience into four concrete colored zones. The Zones framework provides strategies to teach students to become more aware of and independent in controlling their emotions and impulses, manage their sensory needs, and improve their ability to problem solve conflicts.

1st Grade: We reviewed the Zones of Regulation and learned about expected and unexpected behaviors. Expected behavior is simply behavior that is normal, reasonable, and anticipated. Unexpected behavior is behavior that is out of the norm and is unusual. This way of talking about behavior is different from how it is normally discussed in that it doesn't address behavior as simply "positive" or "negative," since what is expected can vary from situation to situation. For example, it is expected to speak quietly at a library, but not at a football game. It is expected to raise your hand to speak at school, but it would be unexpected to do that at home.

2nd Grade: We learned to look at the size of our problem and the size of our reaction to see if they match. Not all problems are the same size. Some are big and those problems can have a big reaction; but if a problem is small, the reaction should match.

3rd Grade: We reviewed the Zones of Regulation and learned what triggers us to move from the Green Zone into the Red, Blue, and Yellow Zones. Knowing our triggers will help us come up with a plan for how to handle them when they happen.

4th Grade: We learned about different parts of our brain and how they are responsible for our emotions. We talked about flipping our lids, which means that our Prefrontal Cortex is no longer in charge and the amygdala is making the decisions. This is great if we are in danger but not very helpful when we are angry at a friend.

5th Grade: We have some lessons coming up to learn about self-regulation! During the first quarter we focused on goal setting and using executive functioning skills.

CANCELLATIONS, DELAYS, EARLY DISMISSAL

Should inclement weather or other emergency situations require the District to close schools, the following procedures shall be followed.

- Notification will be made to students and staff beginning at 6:00 a.m. or as soon as practicable using the District's SchoolMessenger alert system if conditions warrant the closing of schools.
- The following local television and radio stations will also be notified by 6:00 a.m. or as soon as practicable:

WIFC 95.5 FM
WOFM 94.7 FM

WGLX 103.3 FM
WOSQ 92.3 FM

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