

The PANTHER PRIDE



Pittsville School District Newsletter • Second Quarter, 2021-2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Parents and Community Members,

I want all of our parents to know how pleased we are to have your children attending school in person everyday this year. We were one of the first districts in the state to implement Test to Stay and have been able to keep kids in school instead of at home in quarantine when they are asymptomatic close contacts. Recently, a surge of positives has been going through our community and is impacting the school.

The best thing each family can do when they have a sick person in the household is keep all the kids home from school, isolate the sick household member from the rest if possible, and get the symptomatic household member tested for COVID. There are other illnesses circulating that are not COVID, but symptoms are the same or very similar to cold and flu symptoms. Our families have been doing an outstanding job of self-monitoring and keeping sick children home. These efforts are the reason we have been able to stay open. Your cooperation and patience is appreciated.

Planning is underway for summer school and scheduling for next school year. The new CTE facility is providing opportunities which match our curriculum, the Ag department is slowly growing into the new space and labs, and the CTE Team just submitted a grant application for a Fab Lab Grant. Our business and community partners have been very generous to ensure our students have up-to-date relevant learning and work spaces. The CTE team is in the process of adding job shadowing, CTE academy placements, School to Work options, and other connections related to the Trucking and Transportation Industry by building a relationship with Roehl Trucking based on student interest and industry needs.

I have a favor to ask of each person reading this message. Please spend some time reflecting on the many amazing learning opportunities your children's teachers have been providing for your children. If you cannot think of many, this might be a great opportunity to have a conversation with your children about what they like about their teachers and school. I hope you will be as grateful for their work as I am. Especially in the last few years, Teacher Appreciation Day has been every day for me and the Board of Education. Our staff continues to do what is needed to provide for our students every day we are in session, and even on days we are not. These commitments and dedications are more than just our staff doing their jobs, it's showing the care and compassion our students need to feel part of the school community. I believe we get to work with amazing kids, in a community that values children, with a rockstar staff.

Mr. Rodney Figueroa



OUR BEST
for their best!

*"Laugh when you can, apologize when you should, and let go of what you can't change.
Play hard, forgive quickly, take chances, give everything and have no regrets." Unknown Author*

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



My first semester as PHS Principal has been a whirlwind! I have learned a lot in a few months and have done the best I can to help move this school forward. Fortunately, we have the right students and the right staff to be the best high school in the region. I am committed to helping make this happen!

Change starts with culture. The culture at PHS has taken a big hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has not gone away. Students have missed a lot of time in school and lost out on many opportunities due to this virus. School Spirit and student morale was low when the year began. Staff morale is stronger,

but the staff is definitely challenged by the constant interruptions of quarantines, virtual teaching, and risk mitigations. Fortunately, we weathered the storm well in the 1st semester and have taken opportunities to make positive memories and changes when we can. Students had an excellent Homecoming. Students led the efforts to celebrate holidays such as Halloween and Christmas. Sports and extracurriculars have continued as best as they could and the students have taken on many initiatives to improve the school. The staff has continued to work well together, and go above and beyond for our students. The culture at PHS is strong and the end of this pandemic will make it even stronger!

While taking care of the culture, we also need to move forward academically. We are not satisfied with the state of student achievement at PHS. While we have some victories (ACT scores are strong, nearly every student is on track to graduate, our career readiness is excellent), our basic skills (math, reading) scores are not yet where they should be. To address that, we have focused on building a stronger Professional Learning Community, developing staff capacity through book studies, conversations, peer coaching, and National Board Certification, and putting systems in place to help our students. We now have a robust tutoring system and a successful program during lunch for students who are behind. We have adjusted our course offerings to help increase rigor and respond to student needs for next year. We have more ideas for helping our students in the spring and going into next year as well. We will do whatever it takes to help our students!

Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions for PHS. Thank you for reading!

Dr. Rod Watson



SENIOR PANTHER PAWS TRADITION CONTINUES...

The tradition of the Senior class making their "mark" continued again as the Class of 2022 hand their hands painted and added to the Panther Paw board. This board is located by the LMC and cafeteria. This tradition was started by the Pittsville Student Council. The first graduating class to place their handprints on the board was the Class of 1996. Even COVID did not interrupt this tradition in 2020 as methods were taken to ensure the continuation of this tradition. Congrad's to the Class of 2022 making them the 26th class to do so!



The Wood County Teen Leadership Program recently participated in a session on law, public safety, & security.

These students were able to experience firsthand the county's resources for keeping our community safe.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Winter Greetings from the Elementary School!

We have had a great first semester of learning. As always, there is so much to recognize and celebrate! Students of all grade levels are becoming innovative thinkers and leaders among their peers.

Inspired by wanting to social distance and be outdoors without masks this fall, Mrs. Knutson's and Mr. Schiltz's 7th Grade Inspire Students have started the implementation of Outdoor Classrooms in our district. Our first official classroom will be located in the field north of the elementary school. The students have raised over \$8000 to fund their innovative project! Jenna Schiller and Bailey Smazal wrote a grant proposal to the Marshfield Area Community Foundation and earned \$2000! The students also did a Scentsy Fundraiser to earn even more funding to help make their dreams come true! Olivia Moore, Aiden Federwitz, and Addy Elsasser presented their grant proposal via Zoom to the Packers and the United Way of Brown County to earn funding. Pittsville was 1 of 13 schools to earn \$500! These students are inspiring others to help keep their vision going. 2nd semester our 8th grade students will have the opportunity to expand on the ideas of the 7th graders. It will be so exciting in the spring when we can continue working on this amazing project. The students who attend Summer School will be able to utilize the space!

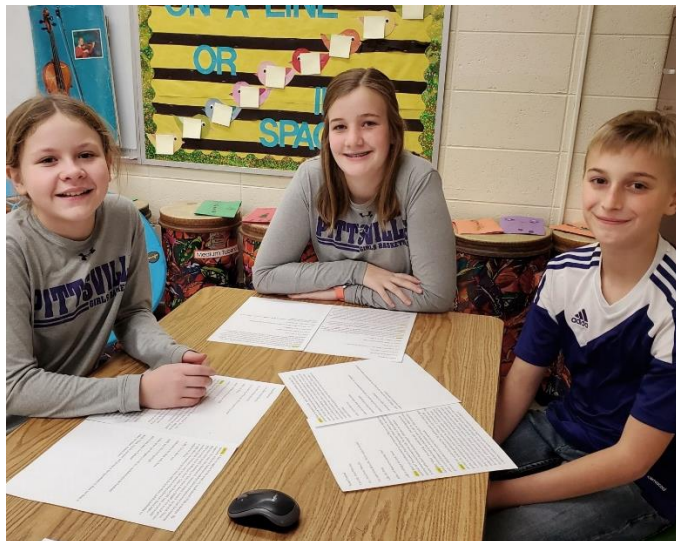
Ms. Raygo, Mrs. Marissa Petersen, and Mrs. Friday have started a Student Leadership Team this year to allow students to have a voice in how to improve our school. The first meeting students in Grades K - 8 met together as one large group. From that initial meeting, the leadership team was split into two groups in order to have more age appropriate and meaningful conversations about school improvement. Inspired by the book *Maybe Something Beautiful* by Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell, both groups have decided they want to transform the look of our school through artwork and color! The students will be painting canvases with inspirational quotes to hang around the school. The K - 3 Leadership Team would like to find a way to display all the students' names in the school! The teams meet monthly and are getting ready to take some action steps in adding color to the inner walls of our school.

The Elementary School is planning to host an Empty Bowls Event this year, but it will look a little different. Our Pottery Club, led by our new art teacher, Ms. Landgraf and Mrs. Masanz, has been very busy making bowls for the spring event! This year, we are offering a "To-Go" Soup Dinner. We will not be opening up the cafeteria for guests to dine in. There will be an art show displayed throughout the Elementary School Halls (in the past the art show was in the administrative lobby area) and each dinner still comes with a pottery bowl of your choice! Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, March 8th from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** More information will be coming!

We are so hopeful we can bring the Harlem Wizards in this spring. We did have a date scheduled last year, but due to the pandemic, we were not able to host the event. This year's event is scheduled for **Thursday, May 5th at 6:30 p.m.** Tickets will be available online again. All funds raised will be used towards our literacy improvement effort, our Outdoor Classroom initiative, and our innovative teaching tools initiative.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable winter!

Mrs. Friday



4K - LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

The 4K students are having a great year in school. A large part of our learning is focused on organized and free play. The students develop their large muscle and fine motor skills as well as work on their communication skills and social skills.

Mr. Sanken and Mrs. Scholzen are very proud of the growth the students have accomplished so far this year and look forward to the second half of the school year.

~ Mr. Sanken





NUTRITION NUGGETS

NEWS FROM OUR FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICE DEPARTMENT

RETURN OF SALAD BAR AND TRAYS

Dear Families of Pittsville School District,

After the winter break, our salad bar made a daily return to our high school. We had to shut this down and go with individual salads and cold veggies when COVID hit. High school students are once again enjoying making their own salad creations along with daily items being rotated in such as pasta salads and potato salad and more. We are also trying different salad dressings with a few already student favorites such as raspberry basil vinaigrette and creamy parmesan peppercorn. Also within the district, we have returned to our reusable trays except for a few classes that are eating in their classroom within the elementary school. Our food service department would like to thank all the students for changing back without any issues, and please encourage to keep up the great food safety practices when using the salad bar so we can keep it up and going.

Sincerely,

Mr. Matt Andres

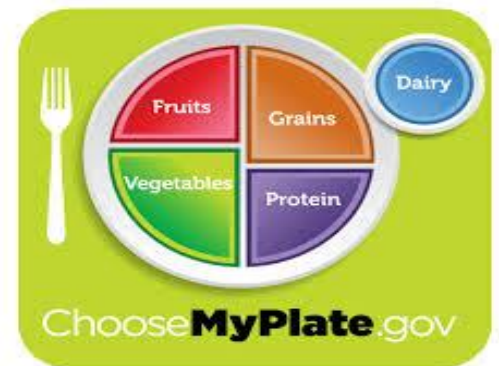
Food Service Director
andremat@pittsville.k12.wi.us



**FREE
SCHOOL
MEALS!**

USDA WAIVER EXTENDED

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.



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



READING WEEK & DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY MEAL

The week of February 28 through March 4, 2022 is read across America week and within it lands Dr. Seuss's birthday.

We will be doing a special lunch within our elementary/middle school on Monday, February 28, to kick off the week and to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with food themed after his books.





GETTING A HEAD START ON LEARNING WITH EARLY CHILDHOOD

For some of our youngest students, early childhood is their first step into school. This semester, we have been working to be prepared for school. Learning opportunities within the school setting, focusing on communication, socialization, and pre-academic activities that occur daily in a school framework. Some of our tasks include counting, coloring, learning the letters in our name as well as sharing, taking turns, and walking in the halls.

If you have a concern about your child's development, please contact us to schedule an individual screening.

Due to COVID-19, we will not hold our annual Child Development Days. However, families will have the opportunity to request individual screenings at Pittsville Elementary at an agreed-upon time. Your child will participate in a play-based universal screening, and specialists in the early childhood field will be available to address any questions or concerns.

If not currently enrolled, children between 2 years 9 months and 4 years of age and their families are encouraged to schedule an appointment. All screening activities are voluntary and free. District COVID-19 protocols will be followed when you are on site. Please contact Matthew Sherwood at (715) 884-2517 ext. 255 or sherwmat@pittsville.k12.wi.us. We look forward to seeing you. ~ Mrs. Kremer

PTO CORNER ~ Mrs. Niedfelt

The PTO needs YOU! Yes, YOU! We are in need of parent volunteers and board members for our PTO for next year. The PTO cannot continue without parent volunteers. At this time, the current board members have served for many years, and new leadership is needed to help continue to have a successful organization. This past year has been very different and the PTO wasn't able to be as active as we have been in the past, but we are still working to make a positive impact on our school community. We were able to still support the teachers and students throughout the year.

The Pittsville PTO has made a significant impact on our school community, and it won't be possible to continue growing without your support and help. The PTO needs volunteers to chair committees for the Scholastic Book Fair, Fundraising, SCRIP, and other activities such as all school assemblies, Junior High Honor Roll, and more. The PTO has made a significant impact on our school and helps fund many field trips, opportunities, and playground equipment.

The PTO meets quarterly during the 2021-2022 school year. The meetings are able to be held at flexible times. If you are interested in running for a board position, or volunteering to chair a committee, or becoming an active member, please contact the PTO at pto@pittsville.k12.wi.us. We look forward to hearing from you and growing the potential of our PTO. Help spread the word that we need volunteers!

MATH INTERVENTION ~ Mr. Klein

Winter is in full swing and the weather can be frightful. This time of the year can open up some opportunities for fun math exploration at home or in the classroom. Consider these activities to broaden your child's understanding of math and have some fun together.

With the dropping temperatures, you can have conversations about these changes. You and your child can keep track of the temperature every day, then make a graph showing how temperatures changed over time. Reading and recording the numbers is a great way to work with younger students. Older students could find the average temperatures for a week or month.

Since the snow is falling, keeping track of daily snowfall can be a fun measurement activity. You and your child can go out with a ruler and check how much snow fell overnight and record it. Keep track for each week and see how much snow has fallen by the end of the season. Or, after a large snowfall, measure how deep the snow is. It might be a fun time calculating how much more snow would need to fall to be as tall as your car, a bus, or the house!

Winter clothes can bring more mathematical ideas. Ask your child if the members of the family wore mittens or gloves, then graph. Expand this by tracking other winter weather clothes (hats, scarves, boots) that the family members wear in a day.

Hopefully these ideas will help you and your child make math and the winter season more enjoyable.

FIRST GRADE WORD DETECTIVES ~ Mrs. Stone and Mrs. Moore

First graders are officially Word Detectives! We have completed special missions and have official badges and disguises to help us remember to stay on the case! We learned many word detective skills to help us solve all of the words in the books that we read! First, we notice a problem and stop to solve it right away. Then, we look closely at the word from start to end. Finally, we do a slow check by sliding our finger underneath the word to see if it looks right and makes sense in the sentence

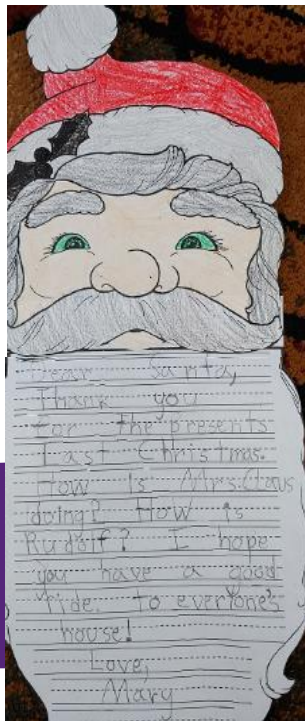




THIRD GRADE NEWS

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

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



SECOND GRADE NEWS

Second graders were busy before the holidays arrived. They learned about economics. They learned what a budget is and how to use a budget to make decisions when purchasing items they need or want. In Math, they worked on subtracting with and without regrouping. They also learned the five parts of a friendly letter. To practice this skill they wrote letters to Santa.

~ Ms. Sischo, Ms. Joosten, Mrs. Kuehn

Don't try to be perfect. Just try to be better than you were yesterday.

~ Unknown

KINDERGARTEN CONNECTION

Our Kindergarten students have been learning about addition and subtraction in math. They are using pictures and other representations to help them solve the problems. In Phonics, our current unit is called "Word Part Power." The children are being encouraged to write all of the sounds they hear in a word. We are saying words slowly and segmenting the word. We are also working on word parts for the short vowels. The children are learning many snap "sight" words, which is helping them with their reading. In reading, the children are finding they can pick a more challenging book now, with more words, more lines, and sometimes even surprise endings in their beginning reading books.

We were so excited that we were able to perform in the holiday concert! It was very nice to be able to perform in person this year. The children love to sing! Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the concert. The children were also able to help us with a "Decorate the Door Contest" this past month. The door had a rhyming theme and displayed a concept from a curricular area. Each child had a hand in helping in some way with the display. Shown here are the students standing by their classroom's door.

Have a wonderful start to your winter!

~ Mrs. Heinzen, Mrs. Petersen, Mrs. Gachnang, and Ms. Potts

NEWS FROM ART!

We are halfway through the school year and that means that the art show is coming up! Our students have been working really hard to create beautiful works of art.

Kindergarteners have been working on self-portraits relating to zones of regulation. They are learning about emotions and how art can show different emotions in different ways. They have also been working on their tracing, cutting, gluing, and painting skills. The students have created a painting of a giraffe that is inspired by the book, *Giraffes Can't Dance*.

1st graders are learning about elements of art and how each element can be found in artwork. Students created robots using collage techniques.

2nd graders are working on portraits and learning about different types of artwork. They created silly hair portraits and worked on their color wheel projects.

3rd graders are focusing on art from around the world. They have learned about India, China, Australia, and Italy. They have worked with many different mediums.

4th grade has been busy working on advocacy projects. They learned about water conservation and the importance of saving water. The projects they created were advocating for saving water. They also learned how to crochet plastic bags.

5th grade students are busy making 3D letters using paper mache. They have learned about the 12 colors of the color wheel. They also learned how to crochet plastic bags.

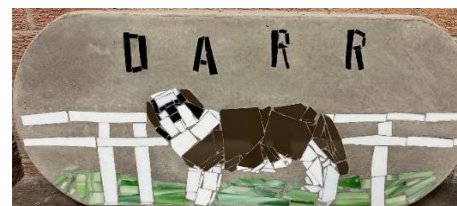
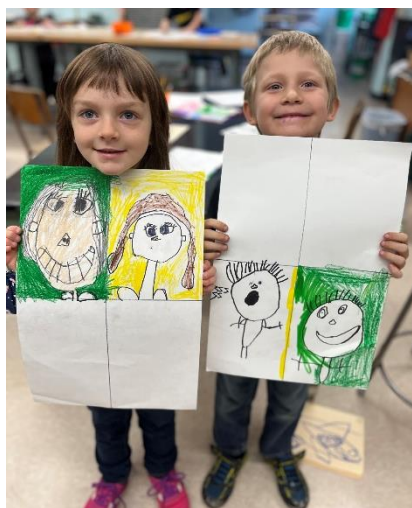
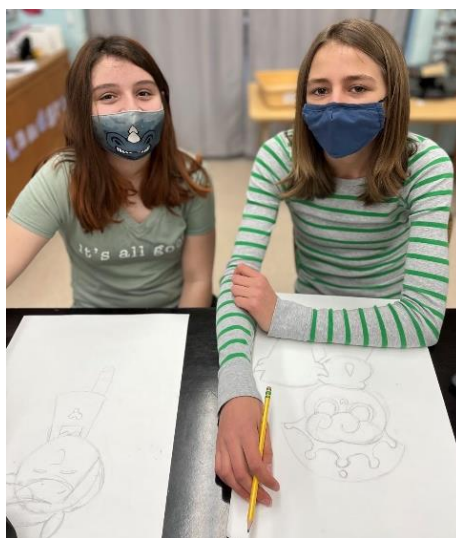
6th grade students worked really hard to create watercolor technique artwork. They also worked on sculptures.

7th graders have been busy working on many different projects and are excited to showcase their work in the art show!

8th graders are finishing up their benches and they are looking great!!

High school students have been busy creating pottery and ceramic artwork.

~ Ms. Landgraf



EMPTY
BOWLS and ART
SHOW

Tuesday, March 8th ~ 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Elementary School Cafeteria / Art Room

WISCONSIN MENTAL HEALTH GRANT UPDATE ~ Mrs. Petersen

The Pittsville School District has utilized the funding of the Wisconsin Mental Health Grant in multiple ways throughout the first semester. The BASC Behavioral & Emotional Screening System was administered for students 4K through 12th grade. If a screener was completed on your student, you received an email with the screener results. Please contact your student's school counselor if you have any questions. Students may be encouraged to participate in interventions available based on the data collected. Interventions provided by the school counselors include small groups, individual sessions, and referrals to additional mental health services.

The screener will be administered again in the spring. Data will be compared to track growth and help prioritize student needs. Please look for an email in March with the opportunity to complete the parent screener for your student(s).

BASC Screeners Completed October 2021 Pittsville School District			
Form	Teacher (grades 4K-2 only)	Student (grades 3-12)	Parent (4K-12)
Total students screened	136	384	107

Thank you to the families who participated in our fall book study discussing Confident Parents, Confident Kids by Jennifer Miller. We will be offering future parent engagement opportunities, more information to come this spring. Please continue to pay attention to opportunities the district students and families can participate in to enhance our mental health.

NUTRITION ON WEEKENDS (NOW) AND PITTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

For the past four years Pittsville School District has partnered with the Marshfield Area United Way to help target childhood hunger. The NOW program provides a weekly food pack for each child in the home. If you are interested in taking part in this confidential program, please contact Ashley Raygo at 715-884-2517 or raygoash@pittsville.k12.wi.us.

Here is some information about the program from the Marshfield United Way website:

"The Nutrition On Weekends program is a collaborative, community effort to target childhood hunger. The program provides healthy, ready-to-eat nutritional foods for children during the weekend. The program was created in response to data collected from Marshfield students as part of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. In 2012, 20% of students surveyed indicated he/she had gone to bed hungry at least once in the past thirty days because there was not enough food in the home. In 2017, 27.1% of Marshfield Middle School students and 20.4% Marshfield High School students indicated he or she had gone to bed hungry at least once in the past 30 days because there was not enough food in the home."

EACH CHILD RECEIVES A WEEKLY FOOD PACK CONTAINING:

- Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches
- Cereal
- Snack Mix
- Fruit
- Veggies
- Granola bar
- Fruit snacks
- Applesauce/fruit cup
- Mac & cheese/oatmeal
- String cheese

If you would like to donate to the program here are the top five needs. Donations can be made to Marshfield United Way.

1. Jelly (Strawberry or Grape)
2. Cereal (Cheerios, Raisin Bran, Life)
3. Oatmeal Packets
4. Sandwich Bags (Zip Seal)
5. Animal Crackers

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YouTube - [PSD](https://www.youtube.com/PSD)

COUNSELOR'S CORNER – 2ND QUARTER

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

SENIORS:

Please continue to work on **scholarships** and stay tuned for the local scholarships which will be posted by the end of January. Most local scholarships are due Friday, April 1st, but some are due sooner. For more information, check out the Scholarship Tab under High School Counseling on the PHS Home page. Also, please remember to complete your **FAFSA** before the priority date for your college. Applications have been available online since October 1st 2021 at: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> (There is also a link off the HS Counseling website.)

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

JUNIORS:

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

- Test Date: April 2, 2022
- Test Date: June 11, 2022
- Test Date: July 16, 2022

The upcoming state required ACT is at school on March 8th, 2022. Please be sure to mark this on your personal calendars so as to avoid scheduling conflicts. Students will indicate their four post-secondary choices prior to the day of the test. If a student should happen to miss the test day due to sickness, make up is the morning of March 22nd, 2023.

SOPHOMORE and FRESHMEN:

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

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.



FIVE SENIORS HAVE ALREADY COMMITTED TO THE US MILITARY

Cody Gonzales (Army Reserves) joined last year and already completed basic training last summer. Madisyn Schooley (Army) and Angel Millard (Army Reserves) joined last month. Alex Kumm is continuing a family legacy of Air Force service. Cole Baker (Army) is the most recent commitment from PHS.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT!

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ~ Ms. Schirger, Mr. Bertino

Elementary General Music

Recently, the K-4 students put on their winter program and they were able to have their immediate families watch the in-person performance! Each grade level performed a few holiday/winter themed songs while wearing their best holiday clothing! The students sounded fantastic and seemed to have a great evening of sharing music!



After the winter program, the 3rd grade students made Christmas cards in music class. One of the songs that they had performed was about making Christmas cards to spread joy. Therefore, we decided to make Christmas cards for those in nursing homes. Ms. Schirger took the cards to Three Oaks Nursing Home in Marshfield.



5-8 Choir

The 5-8 choirs were able to perform in the 5-8 winter choir concert back at the end of December. All four of the choirs performed a mixture of traditional carols, winter / holiday themed songs, as well as a piece that each grade level chose on their own. These students have begun to show off their talents for singing and have proved that their hard work has paid off. The 8th grade choir displayed some of their talent through a few different solos!



HS Choir

Students in the high school choir prepared two pieces as well as the traditional Hallelujah Chorus for the winter concert. They had some fun with traditional carol "Feliz Navidad" as well as the winter pop song "Winter Song". We also were able to have a few Pittsville High School choir alumni join us in the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus. They are now preparing for a workshop with Dr. Rachel Brashier from UW-Stevens Point and hopefully be able to perform for contest and the spring concert during the second semester!

Recently, the high school choir caroled at a few community events! We caroled, along with some 8th grade choir students, for the walkers that completed the Hot Chocolate Hustle. We also caroled for the Mingle and Jingle event at the Pittsville Community Library.



5-8 Band

The 5th-8th Grade bands finished their winter concert earlier in December! Pieces that were performed include "O Come, O Come Emmanuel", "Jingle Bells", and "Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel". In order to perform these songs, band students learned new notes, rhythms, and styles of music! Currently, 5th-8th Grade Band students are preparing for solo and ensemble which takes place on February 26th and the 5-8 Spring concert on May 23rd. At this concert, you will hear popular movie soundtrack scores and pop music! We hope to see you there!!

HS Concert Band

The high school concert band just completed a busy first half of the school year. The Pops Concert, Winter Concert, caroling at the library and football season are now behind us. Coming into view is basketball pep band, All-Star Band Festival, Dorian Band Festival, Solo and Ensemble, and our Spring Concert. Come see the Pittsville Pep Band and perform songs like "Crazy Train", "Low Rider", "Party Rock Anthem" and more at varsity basketball games up till halftime!



HS Jazz Band

The high school jazz band is a second year group that has grown quickly! Jazz band meets every morning before school from 7:00 am - 7:40 am. This quarter they have performed in the high school winter concert alongside the concert band and choir! Currently the high school jazz students are preparing for the high school spring concert and the Eau Claire Jazz festival in April.

MUSIC BOOSTERS

Thank you to those who bought coffee from the fundraiser for the Pittsville Music Boosters in November. We sold 58 bags of coffee which resulted in \$319 for boosters to use in supporting our music program and students here in Pittsville.

Upcoming Events

Feb 26	District Solo & Ensemble (Pittsville Hosting)
May 14	HS Spring Concert, 7:00pm
May 16	5-8 Spring Choir Concert, 6:30pm
May 23	5-8 Spring Band Concert, 6:30pm



SAVE THE DATE



Are you in need of a new mattress or do you know someone else who is?

If so, save the date for the 2nd Annual Pittsville Music Department Mattress Fundraiser.

It will be held on Saturday, April 30 from 10 am-4 pm in the Varsity Gym.

More information will be coming soon on this.

8TH GRADE SCIENCE ~ Ms. Vacho

From the expanding universe to earth's core, 8th grade has been exploring the scientific laws and theories of earth and space science. Following the footsteps of scientists that have come before, students immersed themselves in labs demonstrating planetary orbit speed, how Earth's rotation can be proven with Foucault's Pendulum, graphing the universe's rate of expansion, and investigating the correlation between sunspots and magnetic storms.

Students were also able to express their creative side by retelling the lifecycle of a star through storybook, art, or computer animation. As the quarter reaches its conclusion, they are learning about the characteristics and composition of our dynamic Earth and are using their investigative skills to identify rocks and minerals, just like the scientists they are!



7TH GRADE NEWS ~ Ms. Hedstrom

Seventh grade has been very busy. In World Geography, they have learned the basic principles of both physical and human influences on our world. They have applied those ideas to both the United States and Canada. This helps them better understand what is going on in our world today and why. They have even planned a vacation to Canada!

They have also been busy inspiring the rest of the school in many ways. They regularly read and work with primary aged students. They have even made a grant proposal to the Green Bay Packers! After meeting with the team virtually, Pittsville became one of 13 schools to receive a grant from the Packers! The money will be used for the outdoor classrooms they have created. Our students are impressive! They even baked cookies for the staff before Christmas. That was my personal favorite.

4TH AND 5TH GRADERS BECOME LOCAL HISTORIANS ~ Ms. VanHaren

Fourth and fifth graders had the opportunity to put their research and historical thinking skills to use this November. Students were challenged to explore different perspectives of what is meant to serve in the US military. Students created interview questions and were asked to find someone who was currently serving or a veteran. It was sure impressive to see all the brave men and women who served throughout history and around the world!

Just like professional historians, students asked their interview questions. Some were even able to record their interviews.

These primary sources provided excellent source material to create final projects suitable to share with the general public. Students used their interviews to write a brief biography of their interviewee. These interviews were collected into a book anthology of our local heroes and shared with different locations around the community including the VFW and the Pittsville Community Library.

Students had one more opportunity to practice their historian skills. Just like experts on TV, students created short documentary clips about their interviews. They were able to create multimedia presentations using music, images, and green screens to create a short documentary.

This project allowed students to apply skills they learned in class to a real world project. After completing the book and documentary, students have a better understanding of the sacrifices that men and women make when agreeing to serve their country. They also enjoyed hearing about fun stories about cookouts on boats and sneaking into mess tents! Students are looking forward to conducting more research and finding more creative ways to share their knowledge.

THROUGH THE DECADES AT PHS: WINTER EDITION

From the pages of *Ho-Ang-Ho*. Contributors: Madisyn Schooley, Ruth Durrant, Lexie Smazal, Connor Behselich, Cody Gonzalez, Natalie Fuller, Brit Lewer, Avery Vanatta, Sam Bowden, Joseph Downs, Ezra Fiala, Lillian Andres, Emma Bowden, Leah Downs and Mr. Downs for The History Club

1971-1972. Boys Basketball: Coach Noel Denniston led the team consisting of seniors David Kumm, Lee Hofer, Larry Brey, Larry Laskowski, Jerome Lippert and Michael Coon. **Wrestling:** The 1972 wrestling team was led by Coach Thompson. The senior co-captains were Kirk Rucker, Ken Hendren, Jack Kane, and Bruce Wayerski. Rucker wrestled at 138 with a record of 11-5-1 and took first place at the Blair tournament. Hendren who wrestled at 126 had a record of 14-5, took 2nd in conference for his weight class. He also won the team MVP award and Takedown Trophy. Kane wrestled at 155 with a record of 15-3. He also took 2nd in conference for his weight class and 1st at the Blair tournament. Wayerski wrestled at 167 with a record of 10-6-2 and took first at the Blair tournament.

Girls Basketball: The '72 girls basketball team was coached by Ms. Gerzmehl and, according to *Ho Ang Ho*, consisted entirely of underclass athletes.

1981-1982. Boys Basketball: The varsity boys basketball team was led by a couple of fantastic seniors: Kipp Hiles and Kurt Kaetterhenry. They had a great season through the coaching of head coach Tom Possley and assistant coach Dan Halberg. They were able to keep track of their wins thanks to the managers: A. Dickson, K. Passineau, J. Lyrenmann, P. Glorvigen, P. Kuhlka, and D. Schiller. The rest of the varsity team included: S. Larson, J. Dickson, P. Phillippi, G. Neve, E. Iverson, K. Tomsyck, J. Nelson, B. Christensen, G. Skon, and J. Baker. **Girls Basketball:** The 1982 girls "buckets" basketball team was coached by Rebecca Coon assisted by Brenda Moore. The seniors who played this season were Jane Rasmussen, Virginia Woiak, Michelle Roder and Debra Rasmussen. **Wrestling:** Our 1982 wrestling team had a successful season and was guided by Head Coach Gerald Hahn and Dan Dexter. The team was led by seniors Scott Fuller, Larry Schutz and John Wilke. Our state qualifiers were John Wilke along with underclassmen Scott Schooley and Rod Winters.

1991-1992. Boys Basketball: The varsity boys basketball team had a winning record of 13-5 in the year '92. The team was led by senior Kevin Knudson and filled out by a talented group of underclassmen. The team was coached by "The Magic Trio", Head Coach Noel Denniston, Ed Hendrickson, and Chuck Soper. The season ended with a disappointing loss to Auburndale in the first round of regionals. Dan Denniston, a sophomore, was awarded First Team all-conference, and all state Honorable Mention while Aric Thoreson, a junior, was named Second Team all-conference. Dan Denniston finished the season with an astounding 398 points, averaging 22.1 a game. **Girls Basketball:** The 1992 varsity girls basketball team seniors featured, Becky Peterson and Lisa Grossman. The team was coached by Don Neve. Grossman was first-team all-conference with 202 rebounds and 16.8 points per game. Melanie Hartsough was the second team. Amy Krohn and Carrie Rademan both earned Honorable mention. The team earned a 9-9 record for the season. **Wrestling:** The wrestling team this year was led by head Coach Mike Brogan and assistant coaches Rick Martin and Dan Hahn. The seniors this year were Mike Herzberg, Chris O'Keefe, Dan Schooley, Shawn Weinfurter, and Jesse Winkles. The team's record this year in conference was 3-2 and 6-6 overall. There were many people that placed in conference this year who ended up going to regionals, although only one wrestler placed in sectionals and advanced to state. This wrestler was Dan Schooley who ended up placing first in state.

2001-2002. Boys Basketball: The 2002 Panthers Basketball team was led by head coach Mark Wagner. It was another very successful season for the Panthers as they fell just one step short of going to state. Team members included Craig Declauwe, Matt Sherwood, Brad Zieher, Jason Ortnier, Nathan Hahn, Matt Normington, Brandon Fox, and Jason Kirk. Diana Staska and Ryan Taylor were managers. Some notable moments of the season were the Panther's big win over Auburndale and the thrilling battle with undefeated Columbus which ended with a 58-56 victory for the panthers. The season ended with a 15-1 record. **Girls Basketball:** The 2002 girls basketball team had a phenomenal season, with their record running 14-4. Guided by Head Coach Chuck Soper, and assistants Wanda Neve and Don Neve. One of the season's highlights included taking 1st place in Assumption's Cranberry Classic tournament. The seniors on the team were Aubrey Wesely, Lori Marten, Amy Salo, Aletha Peterson, and Pamela Sojka. **Wrestling:** The 2002 wrestling team was coached by Coach Dan Hahn, along with assistants Todd Sanken, and Rick Winters and was led by the only senior Paul Schiller. They had a 15-7-1 record. Paul finished an outstanding season by placing 4th at the State Tournament.

2011-2012. Boys Basketball: In 2012 varsity basketball team was led by the head coach Dan Hoffa along with Peter Peterson, Dan Rayburn, Scott Normington. On that year's Varsity team were the sole senior was Cole Elwood. The remainder of the team was filled out by talented underclassmen. The team had scored 9 regular seasonal victories. **Girls Basketball:** 2012 girls basketball had a successful season led by Head Coach Ashley Normington and assistant coaches Hollie Lippert, Normington, Stephen Hadfield, and Wegner. The seniors this year were Rachael Ewer, Mariah John, Hannah Marti, Dallas Oates, and Jennifer Quinnell. Both teams, JV and Varsity, worked hard and played harder. **Wrestling:** The 2012 Wrestling team was comprised of mostly underclassman. The sole senior was Chris Downs, and this was his first year of participating in wrestling! The team was led by veteran Head Coach Dan Hahn who was ably assisted by Rick Winters, Eric Marten, and Jake Hahn. The team did well and Juniors Olie Voight and Eric Hahn qualified for the State Tournament.



AG Mechanics



Woods I

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