



PARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

Community Link

Excellence in EducationEvery Student.....Every Day

December 2020 Events

December 2020 Edition

- ⇒ 1: 7th & 8th Grade Wrestling Duel (4:15pm)
HS Guitar and Concert Band (7:30pm)
- ⇒ 3: 8th Grade Girls BB (4:15pm)
7th Grade Girls BB (5:30pm)
- ⇒ 7: MS and HS Jazz Band Concert @ PHS (7pm)
- ⇒ 8: School Board Meeting (6pm)
- ⇒ 10: MS Band Concert (7pm)
- ⇒ 12: JV/V Wrestling (10am)
- ⇒ 14: Freshman Girls BB (5pm)
MS Choir Concert @ PHS (7:00pm)
- ⇒ 15: Freshman Girls BB (5pm)
Freshman Boys BB (6:30pm)
HS Choir Concert (7:00pm)
- ⇒ 19: JV Boys BB (5pm)
V Girls BB (5pm)
JV Girls BB (7pm)
V Boys BB (7pm)
- ⇒ 23 - Jan 5: No School

January 2021 Events

- ⇒ 8: V Boys Swimming Meet (4pm)
- ⇒ 9: V Boys Swimming Meet (11am)
JV Boys Wrestling Quad (Noon)
V Boys Wrestling Quad (Noon)
- ⇒ 12: JV Wrestling Dual (6pm)
JV Wrestling Dual (6pm)
- ⇒ 14: Freshman Girls BB (5pm)
Freshman Boys BB (6:30pm)
- ⇒ 15: JV Boys BB (5pm)
V Girls BB (5pm)
JV Girls BB (7pm)
V Boys BB (7pm)

For the latest on events, updates, and cancellations, please visit pcsd1.org

Superintendent's Message

Mr. Jay Curtis

Tis the season! I would first like to extend a very sincere Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our staff, students, parents, and community members. At the start of this school year, a year that has been so different for us in almost every way, we had a singular goal of "getting kids in school and keeping kids in school." Second to that goal is to ensure that we keep our athletics and activities open and available to our students. It feels surreal that we have made it almost to the Christmas break, having largely achieved those goals. I would like to commend the entire staff at PCSD1 for the incredible efforts during this time, as the road has been quite rocky at times. From teachers to bus drivers, admin to para-educators, and every employee in between, the dedication to student learning that has been displayed is beyond commendable.

As we look to January, our goals will not change. We as a district will be doing everything in our power to keep our buildings open with face-to-face instruction as our primary method to ensure that our students are learning. Our second goal is to ensure that our students get the opportunities to participate in activities and athletics to the greatest extent allowed by health orders. It is important to note that within this goal, we are obligated to ensure that we conduct those activities and athletics consistent with current health orders. We never want to cancel events, but some just can't be accomplished within the guidelines. One thing that I can say without reservation is that I am so thankful that our students are being provided most of the opportunities that they have had in past years, as so many students around the country have not been in school since the beginning of March. Many other states are already reporting learning gaps that will take years to close. So this holiday season, I am choosing to be thankful for the many opportunities our students have instead of frustrated about the very few that they are not. I hope you can all join me in celebrating our staff and students' accomplishments as we finish our first semester of this school year, with almost all of our students still learning side by side with their peers.

Please enjoy this edition of the Community Link that covers the events and happenings in the District during the month of November.

November's Staff Recognition



Noelle Baker

PCSD#1 Eighth Grade Social Studies Teacher at Powell Middle School

Recognizing 20 years of above & beyond service to the District

Mrs. Baker has worked in education for twenty three years. She grew up in the country outside of Alva, Wyoming (population 50) and went to school in Hulett. She graduated from the University of Wyoming. In her own words, she teaches American History and Civics to 8th graders. Former students recall how much they enjoyed her trivia to start out each class day.

"My favorite part is making history interesting and fun for kids. I want students to leave here interested in the world around them."



Lisa Barrus

PCSD#1 Shoshone Learning Center Administrative Assistant

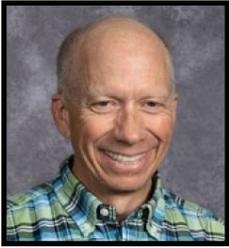
Recognizing 4 years of above & beyond service to the District

Mrs. Barrus has worked in education for five years. Originally from Powell, she graduated from PHS and received her Associate's degree from Rick's College. She worked in architecture until starting her family. She worked at home until her five children were in school. She served on the PCSD#1 Board of Trustees from 2014-2016 and then worked at Southside with Mr. D's kindergarten class.

As the Administrative Assistant at the SLC, she greets students with a smile as they show up for school, makes calls when they are absent, and encourages them throughout the day. She works closely with Mrs. Blackmore, Mrs. Kienlen, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Curtis, Mrs. Schwartz, and Mr. Lensegrav, making and keeping appointments straight, keeping track of courses and grades. She monitors the students as they come and go all day while trying to keep track of who is present, who is not, who is excused, and who is skipping.

"I absolutely love watching these students persevere and make it to the FINISH LINE – Graduation!! It is so rewarding, especially after some have shared with me the struggles they have to push through every day just be here."

November's Staff Recognition



TJ Bell

PCSD#1 Maintenance Department

Recognizing 27 years of above & beyond service to the District

Mr. Bell has worked for PCSD#1 for over twenty-seven years. He is originally from Powell. He started with the District as a bus driver and Kindergarten route driver, when Kindergarten was only a half day program. He then worked as a custodian at Southside. He maintains the grounds and serves as a maintenance technician.

He describes his job as to follow God's will and fix the wrong and lacking. According to the Schooldude Maintenance request system, he does a lot of fixing! He takes great care in maintaining the grounds and the trees on the district property.

"My favorite part of the job is finding the wrong and lacking."



Phoebe Cox

PCSD#1 First Grade Teacher at Southside Elementary

Recognizing 12 years of above & beyond service to the District

Mrs. Cox has worked in education for sixteen years. Originally from Upton, Wyoming, she graduated from the University of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls, SD with a Bachelor of Arts in elementary education. She worked as a preschool/Title I teacher in Lingle, WY, for four years. She has coached a plethora of sports including high school and middle school track, volleyball, and basketball.

She has spent the last twelve years as a first-grade teacher at Southside Elementary, where she considers herself the keeper of a first grade happy place. In this happy place, they learn to work hard and have high expectations for each other. Her goal each morning is for her students to have a safe place to grow and learn. Some of her students shared what they say she does: "She teaches us how to write big, big words. She teaches us good stuff like be nice to teachers and our friends." -Brody "She teaches people. She usually gives us papers or iPads. We do a lot of math, that's my favorite. She's a really good teacher." -Eden "She teaches us math equations. She reads us books. She likes Dr. Seuss. She likes playing games with us in math. She wants to help us learn. She wants us to be smart when we grow up." -Ellie

"My favorite part of teaching first grade is being around people. Little people, teacher people, parent people all working together to be their best."

Student Spotlight

These 5th graders from Southside crafted their own write-ups for their recognition!



Santiago Gutierrez

My hobbies are playing video games and drawing. One of my favorite games is Roblox and Yakuza 0. I want to travel to Japan and learn animating and then learn more about coding to make a video game on Roblox. I beat Yakuza 0 in just a few days. I don't really like going outside in my free time, I only play video games or draw! I only like spending my free time outside if there are people visiting. I sometimes play multiplayer games. I want to buy more games from the Yakuza series, for example, Yakuza Kiwami, Yakuza Kiwami 2! My teacher is Mr. Galindo.



Landon McDonald

Landon is 11 years of age. He was born in Powell, Wyoming. He currently lives in the countryside of Wyoming with a family of five, his two younger siblings and his two parents. He enjoys riding horses, playing sports, and fishing. He has many more hobbies but there is not enough space on this paper! He is in the fifth grade. He likes to read, write, and just hang out with his friends. In the future, he is going to play football and maybe go to the armed forces. He is going to buy a piece of land that is big enough to build a ranch with all sorts of animals. He is going to have a big house so he can store all of his stuff. He is going to build a pond so he can fish for hours and a bunch of houses that people can rent from him.



Tucker Muecke

Hello. Tucker Muecke speaking here. I am 11 years old and love hunting and fishing. I was born and raised in Powell, Wyoming. My favorite sport is football. My dream one day is to become an NFL player, or a mountain man. The reason I want to become a mountain man is because I love hiking and exercising and being outdoors in general. I am in 4-H because I love animals. My favorite NFL team is the Pittsburgh Steelers. My favorite food is pizza and a close second is lasagna. I really like shooting even if it hurts my shoulder.



Around the District



7th and 8th Grade Girls Basketball



Watch for the MS Cheerleaders in our next edition!

Around the District



On November 9, the 6th, 7th, 8th grade bands and the MS Jazz Band performed under the direction of Mr. John Fabela.

6th grade performed a sampler of what they have learned over the last three months

7th Grade performed "Colossus" "As Eagles Soar" and "Star Wars."



The 8th Grade Band played "Eighties Gold" and "Sweet Caroline." In honor of Veteran's Day, they played "Armed Forces on Parade" and "The Legacy of Heroes."

The Jazz Band finished out the evening with "Viva la Vida" and "Spinning Wheel."

Around the District



Under the direction of Mrs. Rachel Schoessler and accompanied by Tim Schoessler, the 7th, 8th, and combined choirs performed at PHS. The 7th Grade Choir sang "One Word" and "Go the Distance." The 8th Grade choir performed "Walls Come Tumblin' Down" and "The Clouds." The Combined Choir performed "America, My Country."

Around the District



The PHS Guitar Ensemble performed “First Time Around” “A Minor Thing” “Spanish Trio” and “You Are My Sunshine.”

The PHS Jazz Band performed “It Had To Be You” “Moondance” “Hooked On a Feeling” and “Doxy.”

The Guitar Ensemble and Jazz band are directed by Mr. John Fabela.



The Combined Choir performed “A Million Dreams” from *The Greatest Showman*.

The Concert Choir sang “The Star Spangled Banner” “Beautiful America” “Armed Forces—The Pride of America!” “Stand By Me” and “Bridge Over Troubled Water.”



The PHS Singers performed “It Don’t Mean A Thing (If it Ain’t Got That Swing)” “Thank You, Soldiers” and the “James Bond Theme.”

EROCNE performed “When October Goes (with Autumn Leaves)” and “Virtual Insanity.”

All the choirs are directed by Mrs. Rachel Schoessler and accompanied by Tim Schoessler.



Around the District

Mrs. Wenke's 8th grade Breakfast Club wanted to raise money for families in need. They devised Powell Middle School's first-ever Turkey Hunt! Each homeroom class had a collection jar for cash or spare change. Donations were collected until November 19th. The original plan was if the students raised \$25.00, Mr. Buck would dress up like a turkey. If they raised \$50.00, Mr. Buck AND Mr. Rohrer would dress up like turkeys. If the student body raised \$75.00, Officer Koritnik would also be involved. As of result of the school's generosity (or desire to see Mr. Buck and Mr. Rohrer in a turkey costume!) they well exceeded their goals!

In 3rd place, Mrs. Simpson's 6th grade homeroom collected \$131.37.

In 2nd place, Ms. Faxon's 8th grade homeroom collected \$146.89.

The winning classroom that assisted in hiding the 'turkeys' was Mrs. Holmes's 7th grade class raised \$177.14!

Some very creative students provided the turkey costumes. Officer Koritnik and Mr. Hedges stalked the turkeys throughout the school and live-streamed the hunt to the Middle School's Facebook page.

Grand total raised: \$950.20!!



Shout outs!

Shout out to TJ Bell.
A community member had her car die right in front of the SSB. TJ took the time to assist her and a staff member jump her car and send her on her way.

Dear Technology Department,

I just wanted to say THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!!!

My new document camera allowed my virtual learner to truly enjoy the book today. Her reaction was priceless and I wished I could share it with you. When she realized she could see the words and the pictures just like the other kids...it was just awesome.

Thank you for problem solving with me. I can't wait for her to experience math tomorrow!

I really appreciate all your hard work to help get the learning to all different types of learners during this crazy time.

Kix Carter

Do you have a teacher, staff member, student, event or activity you would like to recognize in our Shout Out section? Please email your shout out nomination to Amy at ALJohnson@PCSD1.org

FYI



Please check out the latest addition to our district newsletter, OUCH!, from our partners at SANS Security Awareness. The November edition covers cyber attacks and social engineering.

OUCH!

The Monthly Security Awareness Newsletter for You

Overview

A common misconception about cyber attackers is that they use only highly advanced tools and techniques to hack into peoples' computers or accounts. Cyber attackers have learned that the easiest ways to steal your information, hack your accounts, or infect your systems is by simply tricking you into doing it for them using a technique called social engineering. Let's learn how these attacks work and what you can do to protect yourself.

What is Social Engineering

Social engineering is a psychological attack where an attacker tricks you into doing something you should not do through various manipulation techniques. Think of scammers or con artists; it is the same idea. However, today's technology makes it much easier for any attacker from anywhere in the world, to pretend to be anything or anyone they want, and target anyone around the world, including you. Let's take a look at two real-world examples:

You receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from the government informing you that your taxes are overdue and that if you do not pay them right away you will be fined or arrested. They then pressure you to pay over the phone with a credit card, gift card, or wire transfer warning you that if you don't pay you could go to jail. The caller is not really from the government, but an attacker attempting to trick you into giving them money.

Another example is an email attack called phishing. This is when attackers create an email that attempts to trick you into taking an action, such as opening an infected email attachment, clicking on a malicious link, or giving up sensitive information. Sometimes phishing emails are generic and easy to spot, such as pretending to come from a bank. Other times phishing emails can be highly customized and targeted as attackers research their targets first, such as a phishing email pretending to come from your boss or colleague.

Keep in mind, social engineering attacks like these are not limited to phone calls or email; they can happen in any form including text message, over social media, or even in person. The key is to know what clues to look out for.

Common Clues of a Social Engineering Attack

Fortunately, common sense is your best defense. If something seems suspicious or does not feel right, it may be an attack. The most common clues include:

- A tremendous sense of urgency or crisis. The attackers are attempting to rush you into making a mistake. The greater the sense of urgency, the more likely it is an attack.
- Pressure to bypass or ignore security policies or procedures you are expected to follow at work.
- Requests for sensitive information they should not have access to or should already know, such as your account numbers.
- An email or message from a friend or coworker that you know, but the message does not sound like them - perhaps the wording is odd or the signature is not right.
- An email that appears to be from a coworker or legitimate company, but the email is sent using a personal email address such as @gmail.com.
- Playing on your curiosity or something too good to be true. For example, you are notified your package was delayed, even though you never ordered a package or that you've won a prize in a contest that you never entered.

If you suspect someone is trying to trick or fool you, do not communicate with the person anymore. Remember, common sense is your best defense.

Guest Editor

Christian Nicholson (@GuardianCosmos) is a SANS instructor for SANS SEC560 and SANS SEC504, as well as Partner/Cyber Lead at Indelible (<https://indelible.global>). Christian specializes in Application Security, Purple Teaming, and Automation for secure integration, programming and engineering.



Phone Call Attacks: <https://www.sans.org/security-awareness-training/resources/phone-call-attacks-scams>

Stop That Phish: <https://www.sans.org/security-awareness-training/resources/stop-phish>

CEO Fraud / BEC: <https://www.sans.org/security-awareness-training/resources/ceo-fraudbec>

Personalized Scams: <https://www.sans.org/security-awareness-training/resources/personalized-scams>

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