



# PARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

## Community Link

**Excellence in Education .....Every Student.....Every Day**

### April 2020 Events

March 2020 Edition

- ⇒ 14-17: Lunch Pick Up at Southside Elementary (9am-11am)
- ⇒ 20-24: Lunch Pick Up at Southside Elementary (9am-11am)
- ⇒ 27-30: Lunch Pick Up at Southside Elementary (9am-11am)

All events, activities, games and concerts through April 30, 2020 have been cancelled. For the latest on events and cancellations, please visit [pcsd1.org](http://pcsd1.org)

## COVID-19 UPDATES

FAQs and Event Cancellations

PreK-12 Optional Education Resources

Closure Special Services

Mental Health Resources

Parent Tutorials

### Superintendent's Message

**Mr. Jay Curtis**

What a strange time we are living in right now! I am having such a hard time getting used to empty buildings in April, and I struggle daily with thoughts of missed opportunities for our students, particularly our senior class of 2020. I worry about the missed classroom time and the impact that will have on our students, particularly our most at-risk and vulnerable learners. I worry about our families, and the financial toll this has wreaked on our community. I worry about a million OTHER things that keep me up at night! However... in spite of all that worry, I have had the opportunity to find a few silver linings in all of this for our school district. I have learned that our organization of 350 plus employees, is resilient! As soon as the initial shock wore off, our staff was able to transition our normal "brick and mortar" school system, to an online platform for 98% of our students. I learned that our staff, when met with new challenges, do not hesitate to attack those challenges head-on when it comes to serving students. Many people will never know or understand the difficulty and complexity of transforming a classroom to a digital delivery at the drop of a hat including the technology challenges that arise, the logistics of feeding hungry students, teaching a 5-year-old how to read on ZOOM, or supporting a special needs child while they are trying to learn on a digital platform. PCSD1 staff in every department rose to those challenges and met them without fear or hesitation. This fearless dedication and action started with our Board of Education, who tackled the issues to ensure our students are being served and our staff has been cared for. I am so proud of our staff, administration, and Board for their relentless commitment and perseverance in these challenging times. Another silver lining is that we will be ten times better at using technology as a tool to enhance teaching and learning at every level, even when we have students back in the classrooms.

None of this is to say that we did everything perfectly and without our share of tribulations. I can say with 100% confidence that it was not for lack of trying. In fact, I have never been more impressed with our organization than I have been since the COVID-19 closures began.

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

# February's Staff Recognition



## **Amber Beaudry**

**PCSD#1 Special Services Administrative Assistant**

*Recognizing 9 years of above & beyond service to the District*

Mrs. Beaudry has worked in education for nine years. She attended Northwest College for Computer Information Technology. Her first job was with Fitch, as a credit card analyst. After time in New York City and North Carolina, she returned to Powell as the Marketing Director for Eastman Publishing. She worked for Mountain West Computer on the days her children attended preschool. She began working for Park County School District #1 when her youngest child entered Kindergarten.

In April 2011, Mrs. Beaudry began as the Interim Special Services Administrative Assistant and was quickly granted a fulltime position. Her current position consists of an immense amount of paperwork. She inspects IEP's and Evaluation reports. She is also responsible for several state reports throughout the school year. She conducts all ordering of specialized equipment and supplies for Special Education staff and students, plus provides trainings for enhancing the skill set of our Paraprofessionals. Finally, she assists in the organization and implementation of our Wyoming Autism Conference.

*"What I like most about my job is the opportunity to work with Ginger Sleep and the ability to assist with all Special Education staff needs!"*



## **Mark Lynn**

**PCSD#1 Westside Elementary Custodian**

*Recognizing 9 years of above & beyond service to the District*

Mr. Lynn has worked in education for seventeen years. He attended Ricks College and BYU. Mr. Lynn and his wife returned home to Powell to raise their six children. He initially began a career as a carpenter, but when the construction business slowed down, he was fortunate enough to start a twenty-one-year career as a Police Officer in Powell. He served as the School Resource Officer for the last eight years of his law enforcement career. Due to injuries sustained while working as a police officer, Mr. Lynn was forced to retire and spent four years working for the City of Powell Parks Department. He started as custodian of Westside Elementary nine years ago and wished he had been able to do this job sooner-he loves it!

As custodian, Mr. Lynn is responsible for maintaining the building during the school day as well as spending the summer doing a more complete cleaning of the buildings in the district.

*"My favorite part of the job is interacting with the students. There is not a single school day that goes by when I don't get at a hug from one of the students. Students are our job security and we have some of the best ones here at Westside."*

# February's Staff Recognition



## Wendy MaGill

**PCSD#1 Executive Administrative Assistant of Data & Curriculum**

*Recognizing 14 years of above & beyond service to the District*

Mrs. MaGill has worked in education for nineteen years. She started in Worland at East Side Elementary and moved to Greybull to the district's special education and consolidated grant departments. She began her time in PCSD#1 at Parkside Elementary as the building Admin Assistant. She transferred to the district office in June of 2010 as the Executive Administrative Assistant of Data & Curriculum.

She currently works with Infinite Campus (IC) to keep information accurate and up-to-date and help keep the programs running and functioning as they are designed to work. The information within IC is used to process a wide variety of complex data documents and materials to disseminate information in compliance with program, district, state, and federal requirements. She makes conference arrangements for staff attending federal grant funded trainings and tracks grant funding in coordination with the Business Services Department. She maintains a database of in-district training hours to submit to the Professional Teaching Standards Board (PTSB) for certified renewal hours.

*"Best thing about working for PCSD 1 is our district community. We have the most amazing staff, students and parents in the world! I miss the daily interaction with children but absolutely love the team and family environment we have at the district office. Working for the district makes me SMILE!"*



## Jodie Sanders

**PCSD#1 Powell Middle School Administrative Assistant for Attendance**

*Recognizing 5 years of above & beyond service to the District*

Mrs. Sanders has worked in education for over ten years. She received an associate's degree from Northwest College. She was able to stay home with her children as they were growing up. Mrs. Sanders had a fantastic experience as a second grade para at Southside Elementary while her daughters attended that school. She served as an office substitute throughout the district for five years and enjoyed getting to know the students in each age group.

As the Administrative Assistant for attendance at the Middle School, each workday is filled with phone calls, email, passes, helping people when they come into the school, and the challenges of keeping track of over four hundred students. She is thankful that she receives so much support from the staff.

*"My favorite part, certainly one of them, is watching the students smile, enjoy themselves, and getting to know their personalities."*

# Student Spotlight



**Logan Badura**

Logan is an outstanding 6th grader! He is very involved in school and

currently participates in Lego Club and Regional History Day. Logan sets an example of kindness and respect when interacting with his peers and teachers. He is an excellent communicator and is always dedicated to doing his best with

whatever task is put before him. Great work, Logan!



**Angelina Olson**

Angelina is a 7th grader at Powell Middle School. Ang is unfailingly kind to peers and staff alike. She demonstrates initiative in her classes, is a team player, and keeps an open mind when presented with a challenge. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade team and class are fortunate to have the opportunity to collaborate with Ang every day.

**Allie Gilliatt**



Allie is a dependable 8th grader who is determined to do her best at whatever task is ahead of her. She is kind to others, has shown a great work ethic, and has demonstrated great confidence in the classroom setting and extra-curricular activities. Allie's leadership skills are defined by seriousness as well as humor, as exhibited through her participation in cheerleading. She is currently involved in speech and debate while preparing for the regional History Day competition.

# Meet the Board

The PCSD#1 Board of Trustees includes seven elected members, each serving a four-year term. Board members volunteer their time to oversee the management of the district's schools, including the use of public funds, curriculum, employment, and facilities, as well as serving as the policy-making body within the district.

Kimberly Condie is in entering her fourth year on the board and serves as the Clerk. She was born in Cheyenne but grew up in Colorado and Texas before moving to Powell almost thirty years ago. She came to the board by way of an ad in the newspaper announcing vacancies that needed to be filled. She completed the application and interview process and was appointed to the Board. She continued on the Board after being elected at the end of her appointment.

Mrs. Condie loves learning. She enjoys the opportunities that she has as a board member to learn more about the education and learning that takes place in PCSD #1. The more she learns about the District and how hard staff works to go above and beyond for the students, the more she understands how great the District is. She loves the caring teachers and staff and is amazed by how they exhibit a true culture of caring.

When asked if she had any reading recommendations, she suggested the first book in the Little Britches series by Ralph Moody, "Little Britches-Father and I Were Ranchers."



**Kimberly Condie**

She is grateful to have even the smallest part in this organization. It is one of the most fulfilling things she has done.

# Around the District



Teachers and staff get in the spirit celebrating the 100th Day of School at Southside.

Photos courtesy of Southside



100th Day at Westside.  
Photo courtesy of Mrs. Woyak



## FEBRUARY 3 2020 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

### Officer Matt Koritnik, School Resource Officer (SRO)

Beginning February 3, a familiar face arrived at the Middle School campus. Powell Police Department has added a second School Resource Officer (SRO) to PCSD#1 based at the Middle School. Officer Matt Koritnik has been a police officer for nine years. He started his career at the Lovell Police Department and moved to Powell in 2018.

Officer Koritnik was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and grew up in Cody and Lovell. He is a graduate of Sheridan College and the University of Wyoming with degrees in Criminal Justice. He is already a member of the PCSD#1 family: his wife teaches second grade at Westside Elementary. They have two children and his family loves sports and exploring the great outdoors.

His message to our community, "I look forward to the opportunity to interact with you as I focus on maintaining a safe learning environment for both students and staff." Officer Koritnik is excited to assist with any challenges that may arise and to help with any questions about law enforcement and school safety. He says his office door is always open for questions or visits.



# Around the District



The 8th grade boys basketball team ended their season with a heartbreaking loss to Riverton 42-41 on Saturday, February 29. The Cubs finished their season 16-1 and second place in the conference tournament.

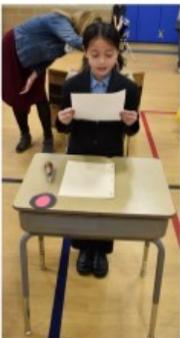
Congratulations on an amazing season!



# Around the District



Welcome  
to the 7<sup>th</sup> annual 3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
Wax Museum  
Doors will open  
at 10:00.  
~enjoy!



# Around the District



Westside Third Graders hosted their 7th Annual Wax Museum on February 12. Staff and students, families and friends visited the museum to learn about notable, inventive and creative figures from history.

Characters represented included:

Martin Luther King, Jr	Gustave Eiffel	Thomas Edison	Gary Paulson	Harry Houdini	Pele
Roberto Clemente	Alfred Nobel	Louis Braille	Mr. Rogers	Anne Frank	Cleopatra
Alexander Hamilton	Ruth Wakefield	John Deere	Steve Jobs	George Lucas	Squanto
George Ferris	Albert Einstein	Misty Copeland	Bindi Irwin	Julia Child	Rosa Parks
Alexander Graham Bell	Richard James	Stephan Curry	Walt Disney	Mark Twain	
Malala Yousafzai	Orville Wright	Neil Armstrong	Frida Kahlo	Jim Henson	
Theodore Roosevelt	Wilbur Wright	Wilma Rudolph	Annie Oakley	Tiger Woods	
Sonia Sotomayor	Mia Hamm	Jackie Robinson	Bessie Coleman	Eugenie Clark	
Leonardo da Vinci	Michael Jordan	Helen Keller	Jane Goodall	Sacagawea	

# Around the District



On February 27 the Powell Middle School Band performed at the PHS Auditorium. The 6th grade band played five songs including “Trumpets, Front and Center” with the trumpet section taking the lead. The 7th grade band played three songs ending with “Furiously.” The 8th grade band played three songs including the crowd favorite “Everything is Awesome!” The 7th and 8th grade combined band showcased their talent with a rendition of “Defying Gravity” from the Broadway show, *Wicked*.



# Around the District

February 27 – Powell Middle School Choir performed at the PHS Auditorium for their Winter Concert.



The 7th Grade Choir sang “The Gospel Ship,” “Raise a Ruckus,” and the entertaining number, “My Sha-La-La-La Locker’s Stuck” featuring Keona Wisniewski.



The Combined Choir ended the night with their version of *The Lion King Medley*, complete with Simba making an appearance during “Circle of Life.”



The 8th Grade Choir sang “Jubilate, Exultate!” “We’re Singin’” with a number of soloists exploring their jazz space. They ended with “Don’t Stop Believin’”

# Around the District

The PHS Speech and Debate Team has had a successful season. November-February, the team has participated in 9 tournaments and hosted a home tournament at Powell Middle School.

At their first tournament in Worland on November 8, PF Debate Team Taryn Feller and Shyanne Mills took first place, Courtney Childers won first place in Poetry, Augusta Larsen took 2nd in Poetry, and duo Abby Landwehr and Ashley Dunkerley placed third. At the next tournament in Sheridan, Duncan Bond placed 6th in Program Oral Interpretation (POI), Thallen Sessions placed 5th in Drama, Olivia Lobingier placed 3rd in Novice POI, Aiden Chandler placed 2nd in Lincoln-Douglas (LD) Debate, and duo Kaitlyn O'Rourke and Shyanne Mills placed second in Duo. At the Northwest Speech and Debate Tournament, Duncan Bond took 6th place POI, duo Elsie Spomer and Jaxton Braten took 5th, and Aiden Chandler placed first place in Oratory.

At the Campbell Classic, Elsie Spomer took first place in Humor, Jaxton Braten and Elsie Spomer took third for Duo, and Aiden Chandler took 4th place for Oratory. The team took first place for Sweepstakes in Wyoming and 2nd for overall Sweepstakes with teams from Montana and South Dakota participating. At the Cody Invitational, Aiden Chandler took 4th place in Oratory and 5th in LD, Bailey Phillips took 4th in drama, and Camryn Patton received 3rd in Informative.

At the Thunder Basin Speech Tournament duos Kaitlin O'Rourke & Shyanne Mills and Taryn Feller & McKenna Alley placed in semi-finals. Ashley Phillips also placed into semis with her drama piece, and Hannah Hawley went to semis with her humor piece. Duo Jaxton Braten and Elsie Spomer placed 4th in the tournament while Elsie Spomer placed 4th for her humor piece. Aiden Chandler took first place with his Oratory. The team took 3rd for sweepstakes competing against 23 other schools.

While preparing for all of these tournaments, the PHS Speech and Debate team members have also taken time to mentor the newly formed Middle School Speech and Debate Team. The MS team was able to perform their pieces at the Cody Invitational and at the home tournament in Powell.

High School Speech and Debate Team



Middle School Speech and Debate Team

# Shout outs!

Kix Carter to the staff at Westside: The staff flooded the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to help support students. This year was above and beyond helpful in moving supplies down to the gym, shoveling sidewalks for visitors and last minute tweaks to facilities. The wax museum wouldn't be the same without all of the help and made the kids feel great!

Special thanks to the following:

Chase Easum	Mark Lynn	Sarah Wormald	Diana Whitney
Cale Ostermiller	Jen Decker	Angie Woyak	Katie Powell
Shawn Mollett	Vicky Coy	Luke Robertson	

There were of course more hands helping where they could, but these folks went above and behind to make the smoothest wax museum set up/take down we have ever had.



Thank you to the maintenance department. They go above and beyond taking care of the sidewalks and parking lots. Of note is the extra mile that they go to provide walkways through the snow to make it easier for the elementary schoolers to get to the busses and the high schoolers and teachers to get to their cars parked along 7th Street.

Sherri Simpson: Shout out to Mr. McCray, Francis, TJ & Rob for snow removal. They ROCK!!

Powell Middle School: Shout out to the maintenance department! They are all so very responsive and many times seem to drop what they are doing to accommodate our needs. Thank you specifically to Sherri & TJ for helping us with our mountain of ice by the basketball courts on February 19!

**Do you have a teacher, staff member, student (Class of 2020?), 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](mailto:ALJohnson@PCSD1.org)**

*Watch for our next edition of the Community Link that covers the events and happenings in the District in the month of March and the COVID-19 closure. Stay healthy!*