



Monthly Newsletter

March 2020

Parents: Did you know that nearly all the data concerning student performance links high achievement and appropriate behavior at school to positive parental involvement in the education of their child? This high achievement is associated largely with parent-child communication at home. The bottom line is that parents have the power to be a tremendous asset to their child's education.

New School Resource Officer (SRO)! We are excited to announce Officer Matt Koritnik as the additional SRO to the district. Officer Koritnik is based out of the middle school and also serves Parkside and Westside Elementary. Plan to see Officer Koritnik around school, in the halls, at lunches, and at extra-curricular activities.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Conferences will be held on Monday, March 9th and Tuesday, March 10th from 5 pm to 8 pm. Please enter through the front entrance of the middle school. We will have our P.E., Art, and Music teachers meet with parents in the Commons. *We would like parents with the last name A-L to visit on Monday, March 9th and M-Z on Tuesday, March 10th.* We want to give all parents the opportunity to meet with all teachers, so we would ask that *conferences be limited to 5 minutes.* If more information needs to be shared, please schedule an individual conference with the teacher at a later date and time. We look forward to meeting with you. See you there! Mr. Fabela and Mr. Miller will be at the middle school conferences on Tuesday night.

8th Grade Transition: Throughout the month of March, the 8th graders will begin the process of transitioning to the high school. Over the course of this month, the high school counselors will be discussing high school graduation requirements as well as the requirements for the Hathaway Scholarship. They will be taking the students through the registration process and touring the high school to learn about the various Career and Technical Education classes offered. This will allow them a chance to see what type of classes they may want to explore during their high school career. There will be a High School Registration and Parent Night at Powell High School on Tuesday, March 24th, starting at 6 pm. On March 27th, the high school counselors will be at the middle school for the last time to lead the 8th graders through the final registration process, starting at 8 am. This process will not only get them ready and registered for high school, it will also meet the first requirement of the Hathaway Scholarship (the 8th grade Unit of Study). If you have any questions about this process, please feel free to contact Lisa Fitzgerald at 764-6185.

Safe2Tell Hotline

Safe2Tell Wyoming provides a way for students, parents, and community members to report unsafe and risky behaviors. Each concern reported to Safe2Tell allows for caring, concerned adults to effectively intervene in the life of a child or youth who is struggling. Anyone who has information about a potentially dangerous situation can call toll-free at 1-844-WYO-SAFE (996-7233). Instead of calling the toll-free number, a web report can be made by clicking on <http://safe2tellwy.org>, then clicking on the "Submit a Report" button at the top of the page. Another reporting option is to download the mobile app and submit a Safe2Tell report from a smartphone.

Dinner and Parent Support Training: If you are the parent/guardian of a special education student, please join us for a FREE dinner and parent support training. A Taco Bar and Churros Dinner will be held on Tuesday, March 31st at the Powell Middle School Cafeteria, beginning at 5:30 pm. Child care services will be provided. Please call Amber at 764-6110 to RSVP by Tuesday, March 24th. Some of the topics for parents/guardians of a child on an IEP include Sensory Processing and Mental Health. Please watch your email for additional information.

State Science Fair: The Wyoming State Science Fair will be held in Laramie on March 1st through March 3rd. Good luck to all of the Powell Middle School students competing at the state level in Laramie!!

Art Show: Please come to the Art Show during middle school parent/teacher conferences on Monday, March 9th. Artwork from 2nd and 3rd quarter art classes will be featured. Seventh grade students are welcome to take their artwork home from quarters 1 and 2.

Bingo for Books: "Launched in 1998 by the National Education Association (NEA), Read Across America is the nation's largest celebration of reading. This year-round program focuses on motivating children and teens to read through events, partnerships, and reading resources that are about everyone, for everyone." In celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2nd and Read Across America, the Powell Education Association invites the community for a fun evening of Bingo with books given away as prizes for winning. Bingo for Books will be March 2nd from 5 pm to 7 pm in the Powell High School Commons. The parent support groups from each elementary school donated money and/or books for the event. A big "thank you" goes out to the Southside, Parkside, and Westside parent groups for your support!

Attention all 6th Grade Parents

A Tdap (Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis) immunization clinic conducted by Park County Public Health will be held on Thursday, 3/26/20 during 1st and 2nd class periods in the Powell Middle School da Vinci Lab. This vaccination is a Wyoming state requirement for students entering 7th grade or higher. Your child will need to either receive the vaccination or have the appropriate exemption forms filed with the state BEFORE entering the 7th grade.

A \$20.00 fee is required and checks may be written to Park County Public Health. However, if your child is enrolled in the Kid Care Chip Program OR is on Wyoming Medicaid, you can instead submit a copy of his or her ID card and Public Health will bill them directly for you. If your child has not already received this vaccination and you would like him/her to participate in this clinic, please return the **signed permission form that you will receive in the mail to the Middle School Nurse no later than Friday, 3/20/20**. If you have any questions, please call Denise Schuler RN, Powell Middle School Nurse, at 764-6185.

MATHCOUNTS: Our MATHCOUNTS Team (Gabe Rose, Cade Queen, Dallin Waite, and Dexter Opps) has qualified for the State MATHCOUNTS Contest in Laramie on Saturday, March 7th. The competition includes teams from schools of all classes from across the state. The competition consists of 4 rounds: 1st is the Sprint Round (40 minutes), 2nd is the Target Round (40 minutes), 3rd is the Team Round (20 minutes), and 4th is the Countdown Round (top eight places). There are individual and team awards given to the top mathletes. The top four individuals make up the national team which is led by the coach of the winning state team. Good luck to all of the Powell Middle School students competing at the state level in Laramie!!

Educating Parents Around Social Media: Social media concerns seem to be increasing by the day. We, as educators, are working hard to keep up with the changes that seem to happen on a daily basis. In February, you received a text message informing parents regarding the uptick in inappropriate social media activity. We encourage you as parents to be aware of where your child is spending their time on their phone and specifically monitor their activity on accounts such as Snapchat, Instagram, and TikTok. Within these apps, groups are being created that are inappropriate, hurtful, and often times, derogatory. Again, please take the time to monitor and educate your child on appropriate uses of social media. We appreciate all your support in keeping your child safe. Also, please be aware that some students that have lost the privilege of a phone are accessing phones through their peers, then signing on to their social media accounts via wi-fi. Lastly, The Safer Schools Together website is a great resource for parents to refer to when discussing social media with your child. For more information, please refer to the SST link at <https://saferschoolstogether.com/parent-resources/> for additional resources. Please find the time to connect with your child in regards to where they spend their time on their phones.

Jazz Concert: On Thursday, March 26th, the Powell High School and Middle School Music Departments will present a Jazz Band Concert at 7 pm in the Powell High School Commons. See you there!!

National Nutrition Month: The month of March is National Nutrition Month. Park County School District #1 offers healthy meals every school day. We offer a variety of fruits and vegetables, and use “offer vs. serve” in our school lunch program. The use of “offer vs. serve” enables the children to have a choice in what they might choose to eat. We also offer breakfast in all schools as part of our program. Our school meals meet all of the nutritional guidelines as set forth by the state and federal guidelines based on the USDA Dietary Guidelines. At the high school and middle school levels, we also offer ala carte options; this menu offers a variety of food and drink choices. Health bars, which are stocked with prepared fresh fruits and vegetables, are also offered every day (free of charge) at all of our schools, promoting good nutritional options for all students and staff.

For middle school students, a breakfast costs \$1.65 and a lunch is \$2.90. Your children may qualify for the free or reduced price meals. The reduced price is .30 cents for breakfast and .40 cents for lunch. As a reminder, if your child qualifies for the free or reduced price lunches, he or she will also qualify for the free or reduced breakfasts.

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 March is National Nutrition Month! Wyoming State Science Fair	2 National School Breakfast Week March 2 nd - 6 th "Bingo for Books" from 5 to 7 pm - PHS Commons Wyoming State Science Fair	3 7 th - 8 th Swimming at Powell - 4:15 pm Wyoming State Science Fair	4	5	6 Orange Schedule 8 th Grade College/Career Jeopardy Day with the PHS Counselors at PMS - 8 to 11:40 am	7 MATHCOUNTS Competition in Laramie
8 Daylight Saving Time Begins	9 First Track Practice First Soccer Practice MS Parent - Teacher Conferences and Middle School Art Show - 5 to 8 pm	10 MS Parent - Teacher Conferences - 5 to 8 pm	11 Regional History Day Competition at Greybull	12	13 Black Schedule 8 th Grade HS Pre-registration Day with PHS Counselors at PMS - 8 to 11:40 am <i>Last Day of Quarter 3</i>	14 7 th - 8 th Swimming Conference at Worland - 10 am
15	16 No School	17 Spring Break St. Patrick's Day	18 Spring Break	19 Spring Break Spring Begins	20 Spring Break	21
22	23 <i>First Day of Quarter 4</i>	24 8 th Grade Parent-Registration Night at PHS Auditorium - starting at 6 pm	25	26 6 th Grade Tdap Clinic during class periods 1 & 2 8 th Grade PHS Tour - 12:40 to 3 pm Soccer at Worland - 3:30 pm MS & HS Jazz Concert at PHS Commons - 7 pm	27 Orange Schedule 8 th Grade Online Registration with PHS Counselors at PMS -- starting at 8 am	28
29	30	31 Special Education Dinner at PMS Commons - 5:30 pm	April 1	2	3 Black Schedule	4

Environmental Action Committee meets every Monday after school in Mrs. Hanks' room.
Creative Writing Club meets every Tuesday after school from 3:30 to 4 pm in Ms. Faxon's room.
Science Olympiad meets every Tues., Wed., & Thurs. after school Mrs. Hanks' room.
Lego Club meets in the da Vinci Lab every Wednesday after school.
MATHCOUNTS meets every Wednesday morning at 7 am in Mr. Estes' room.
Girls Who Code Club meetings on Friday, 3/6 & 3/27 from 1 pm to 4 pm in Mrs. Hanks' room.