



Monthly Newsletter

October 2021

Powell Middle School Staff: We at PMS are proud of the professional level and qualifications of our entire staff. Parents may review credentials of the staff by making a written request to Mr. Jay Curtis, 160 N. Evarts. Great teachers + Great kids = Amazing Opportunities!

National Blue Ribbon Recognition: In late September, we were officially recognized as a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School!!! We are one of two schools recognized in the state of Wyoming and are the only middle school from Wyoming on this year's list of schools.

To be recognized is certainly an honor and an achievement that could not have happened without the amazing staff and students at Powell Middle School. We would like to acknowledge our families, the community, the district, and our school board for the support we have received. A public celebration is planned for Wednesday, October 13th at 2:15 PM. For the complete list (by state) of all 2021 National Blue Ribbon Schools, please click on the link below.

https://nationalblueribbonschools.ed.gov/awardwinners/reports/2021/all_2021_national_blue_ribbon_schools.pdf

Parent vs. Friend - Important Reminders: Being a friend comes easy - it's knowing when to be a parent that is difficult. Listed below are some practical reminders for knowing when to be a parent and not a friend:

- When what your child wants conflicts with what you know they need, be a parent.
- When your child is being disrespectful, argumentative, or manipulative, be a parent.
- When your child is being disobedient or misbehaving, don't excuse their behavior - be a parent and deal with it.
- When it's more convenient to be a friend, but you know you should be a parent, be a parent.

I believe that every parent should strive to have an absolutely amazing relationship with their child, if at all possible. However, we all know there are times when being both a parent and a friend just won't mix. We have a lifetime to be their friend. Children often need direction and correction, and friendship just doesn't work in those moments. Simply remember that you've got to care more about your child's *future* than you do about your child's current feelings, and you will set them up for a lifetime of success. We only have 18 short years to be our child's parent, but we have a *lifetime* to be their friend!

Fall Conferences: Powell Middle School will host Parent/Teacher Conferences from 5:00 to 8:00 pm on Monday, October 11th and Tuesday, October 12th.

- From 5:00 to 6:00 pm, conferences will be individually scheduled both Monday and Tuesday by grade level teams, so the core teachers will be occupied. Elective teachers will still be available from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.
- Mr. Fabela and Mrs. Schoessler will be in attendance for middle school conferences on Tuesday, October 12th.
- Conferences will be open to all middle school parents from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Monday and Tuesday.

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.

(Fall Conferences, continued)

We will be sanitizing throughout conferences to ensure the facility maintains a high level of cleanliness. We are also encouraging parents to use discretion when choosing to attend conferences at the school. If you feel that you are comfortable with how your child is doing and are comfortable communicating through Canvas and email, please feel free to choose those options.

For those that choose to attend in person, we ask that *conferences be limited to 5 minutes maximum per teacher*. 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!

Canvas Parent Guide - The URL following is a step by step setup guide for parents. Please take the time to get your account setup and paired with your child. [Canvas-Parent-Guide.pdf](#)

Picture Day: Powell Middle School Picture Day will be on Thursday, October 7th. All students will have school photos taken during their P.E. class.

Sustaining Middle School Success: It is the desire of the Powell Middle School faculty and administration that your child be successful within all academic areas. We encourage you to contact any instructor to discuss your child's academic progress. To contact staff by email, go to <https://pms.pcsd1.org/Staff> on our school website.

Teachers are available to students after school for help with course work. We, as a staff, are interested in helping your son/daughter to become successful in his/her courses, as well as in their middle school experience. If you have any further questions, please call. Thank you!

Tips for Success:

- Homework – Have a consistent time and place established.
- Accurate contact information - (such as email addresses and phone numbers) for O.R. (Opportunity Room) notices and checking grades frequently on CANVAS.
- Laptop/Technology – Establish certain locations by designated times (example, 9:00 pm dinner table).
- Communicate – Ask your student(s) how their day went. Notify teachers with concerns.
- Familiarize yourself with how to log in to school email, social media sites (Snapchat, for example), text messages, etc. Review phones periodically.

Facebook: Powell Middle School's Facebook page enables you to see what activities are coming up for the week, find out the scores from recent activities, read the newsletter, look at the monthly calendar, pictures, and see any other announcements. Like us at: <https://www.facebook.com/powellmiddleschool> for Powell Middle School's page.

Uniforms and School Equipment: Coaches will specify a date for the return of all school equipment and uniforms. Students not returning the uniform or equipment in a timely fashion (or in good condition) may be charged for the replacement cost of the uniform or equipment and not allowed to participate in future athletic contests and/or afterschool events until the uniform or equipment is returned or paid for. Please properly wash the uniforms prior to turning in to the coach.

Football, Volleyball, and Cross Country Recognition: Powell Middle School would like to thank the cross country, volleyball, and football teams for representing us so well this fall. Great Job!!

Grading: Grading at the middle school is set at a 60/40 blend. Common assessments will be worth 60% of the final grade, while acknowledging that students that did not pass a common assessment on the first attempt will be given an additional opportunity to retake the assessment. Students must make an attempt to gain more understanding of the knowledge either through intervention or work to demonstrate understanding. The formative work consisting of daily work will encompass the other 40% of the final grade.

Bus Passes: Parents, just a reminder that in order for your child to ride a bus with a friend or change destinations, we require **written permission** from you be sent the office. Please state your child's name, who they are riding with, and be certain to sign and date the note. You can also email JRSanders@pcsd1.org with your request. We will be happy to issue your students a pass. If the need to ride the bus is frequent, please call the bus barn at 764-6189 to be listed as an occasional/frequent rider. Thanks for your help.

Social Emotional Learning in Middle School

~ Adrienne Cronebaugh, Community Mental Health Coordinator ~
ascronebaugh@pcsd1.org

This month, we will begin Second Step Middle School, a research-based social-emotional learning program designed to improve our students' social-emotional skills. Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. Second Step skills and concepts are designed to help students be successful both in and out of school.

If you have any questions about Second Step Middle School, please do not hesitate to contact me or your school counselor for more information. Thank you for your support as we work to build a safe and supportive school community.

Breakfast: Just a quick reminder that the middle school cafeteria is open for breakfast every morning from 7:30 – 7:55 am. Please visit <https://www.pcsd1.org/Food-Services> to check out our breakfast menus.

A Thank You and a Reminder to Parents

Thank you for continuing to submit free and reduced meal applications!! We are still using the free and reduced meal applications for the benefit of other programs and for funding requirements in those programs.

As the district office is still qualifying applicants as free, reduced or paid, please understand this process generates a letter that we are required to send to you. Those that received reduced or denied applications often call in response to the letter with a question of whether money is due on their child's lunch account.

Breakfasts and lunches are free to all enrolled students through the end of the school year. We apologize for the confusion this may have caused our parents.

Challenge of the Books Competition: Any students who love to read and would like to join the Challenge of the Books should visit the Learning Commons and sign up. Students will read a minimum of three of the titles displayed throughout the school and take a test over the books by December 3, 2021.

The students who read the most titles and score the highest on the tests will be selected to be on this year's team. The team will consist of six students and will travel to Basin in January to compete against other schools. Questions should be e-mailed to djcatlin@pcsd1.org.

Park County School District #1 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment of employment in, its educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, and ADA may be referred to Park County School District #1, Ginger Sleep, Civil Rights Coordinator, 160 North Evarts, Powell, Wyoming 82435, or the Office for Civil Rights, Region VIII, U.S. Department of Education, Federal Building, Suite 310, 1244 Speer Blvd., Denver, Colorado 80204-03582, (303) 844-5695 or TDD 303-844-3417.

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Black Schedule	2 FB – 9:30 am ➤ 7 th at Worland ➤ 8 th at Powell
3	4	5	6 Creative Writing Club begins after school today with Ms. Faxon (Room 5230)	7 School Picture Day 7 th - 8 th Girls VB at: Burlington - ➤ 8B - 4:15 pm ➤ 7B/C - 5:15 pm Thermopolis – ➤ 7A - 4:15 pm Powell – ➤ 8A - 4:15 pm 7 th - 8 th FB at Lovell ➤ 8 th – 4:15 pm ➤ 7 th – 5:30 pm	8 Orange Schedule 7 th - 8 th X-Country Conference at Powell - 2 pm	9 7 th - 8 th Girls VB at: Lander ➤ 7A – 10/11:15 am ➤ 8A – 10/11:15 am 7 th - 8 th Girls VB Jamboree - 10 am ➤ 7B - Worland ➤ 8B - Powell 7 th - 8 th FB at Powell ➤ 8 th – 10:30 am ➤ 7 th – 12:00 pm
10	11 Parent - Teacher Conferences & Student Art Show 5 - 8 pm Wrestling Practice Begins	12 Parent - Teacher Conferences 5 - 8 pm	13  National Blue Ribbon Recognition at Powell MS – 2:15 pm	14	15 No School	16 7 th - 8 th Girls VB Conference – 10 am ➤ 7 th at Cody ➤ 8 th at Riverton
17	18 Girls BB Practice Begins	19	20	21 Middle School Band & Choir Concert at PHS - 7 pm	22 Activity Day - 8:50 am Quarter 1 Ends	23 7 th - 8 th Wrestling Invite at Powell - 10 am
24	25 Quarter 2 Begins	26 High School & Middle School Jazz Concert at PHS - 7 pm	27	28	29 Black Schedule	30 7 th - 8 th Girls BB - 10 am/12 pm ➤ 7 th at Cody ➤ 8 th at Powell 7 th - 8 th Wrestling at Lovell - 9:30 am
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Creative Writing Club meets each Wednesday after school until 4 pm in Ms. Faxon's room, starting Oct. 6th.
MATHCOUNTS meets every Wednesday morning at 7 am in Mr. Estes' room.

The groups seen below will meet in Room 5127 (with Mrs. Hanks/6th grade Science lab) from 3:30 – 4:30 pm:
Monday - Science Olympiad Practice
Tuesday & Thursday - Science Bowl Practice
Wednesday - Girls Who Code Club