



Monthly Newsletter December 2020

P.R.O.P.S. – Parents Recognizing Outstanding Professionals: We will continue with the initiative for parents to share positive experiences and kind words regarding your child's interaction with a professional (coach, teacher, para, anybody) at Powell Middle School. All notes can be sent to Kyle Rohrer at KTRohrer@pcsd1.org or Chanler Buck at CJBuck@pcsd1.org.

- Huge shout out to everyone at the Middle School for doing their part and keeping kids in school...we have made it to day 50!! I know we are so glad to have our child in school and that we have made it this far!! THANK YOU to you and your AMAZING team for all your hard work!
- Great job to all those that were involved in the Veteran's Day Video. The video was a great project of students representing Powell Middle School and honoring our Veterans.

Tier 2 Planning...Just in Case!

We have successfully completed thirteen weeks of full-time in-person instruction, also referred to as Tier I. During this time, our students have adapted to the new safety protocols and are making tremendous strides in their academic growth. While we celebrate our progress thus far, we need to be ready to transition to a different tier – Tier II or Tier III – should covid-19 prevalence rates require us to do so. We want to notify you of our plans well in advance so that you have sufficient time to make necessary plans.

Under Tier II, identified students will be expected to attend brick and mortar school, and those students/families will be notified. The majority of our students will attend school remotely. Students will have access to video lessons, live Zoom, office hours, and email as communication to work with teachers each day. Attendance – either in-person or remote – will be mandatory for all students Monday through Thursday. On Friday's, teachers will schedule students identified as needing additional instruction and support in-person or remotely.

We feel this schedule is best because it allows students to be able to access all classes every day, as opposed to every other day. We also are aware that, for some families, this schedule allows older siblings to assist with younger siblings. Although we all realize remote instruction is not as powerful as in-person instruction, we do feel we have prepared the students to be successful remotely through the use of Canvas, Zoom, and other online tools.

Again, please remember this message is strictly for communication purposes. We will continue to communicate to parents and guardians as our plans develop. Our goal, as it has been from the beginning of the school year, is to keep our school open and to keep students learning in-person with their teachers. We just need to be ready in case that option is not available to us in the future. Thank you for your support.

Computer Care and Communication: As the weather changes, we would like to have students take extra care with the computers. The computer is sensitive to the elements and needs extra care when it is cold. When the computer is cold, it is **important to let the computer warm up to room temperature before using**. We will be talking to the students about this process at school; parents, please reinforce it at home.

Parent Email Address Updates: As a school, we are looking for ways to better communicate with our parents and students. We will be emailing our students periodically to inform them of things that they need to be aware of. The students will be asked to share some emails with parents to help facilitate school-to-home communications. Additionally, our school newsletter and calendar will be emailed to students, parents, and staff each month. Please contact Mrs. Brenda Sessions at BASessions@pcsd1.org if you need your email updated in our system.

Opportunity Room/ICU Database: Our program will help us to communicate more efficiently with parents in regards to your child's daily assignments. When a teacher enters your child into the ICU program for a missing assignment, parents will instantly be notified by text and/or email and will also be notified once the assignment has been completed. The program currently sends out a maximum of two emails and one text message per student. Please keep the school updated on any phone or email changes.

CANVAS Learning Management System: Our students use the CANVAS Learning Management System (LMS) to access their class information, grades and assignments. If for some reason you need any assistance with the CANVAS system, please contact Mr. Zac Opps at ZTOpps@pcsd1.org.

Art class: Artwork done by 1st quarter, 7th grade art students needs to be picked up from the Art room or by contacting Ms. Woods at JVWoods@pcsd1.org for further information.

Lost and Found: We have numerous coats, shorts, jackets, and shoes in our lost and found in each hall. Please take a look to see if anything is yours! All leftover items will be donated before Christmas.

Student Lunch Account Access

Parents, did you know you can **access your student's lunch account** through **Infinite Campus**? You can also pay for any **fines** your student has.

(First time users: You will need to contact your child's school to get an Infinite Campus Portal Activation Key. This number is needed to associate you with your student and will be used to create your account.)

Established users sign in with your username and password. Forgot your username or password? If your user preferences were previously set-up, you can click on "forgot your password" or "forgot your username" to begin the process of recovering them.

- Step 1: Using the link <https://pcsd1.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/park.jsp>, log on to the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
- Step 2: Click on **Fees** in the left-hand corner.
- Step 3: From this point, follow the directions to navigate through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. If you need clarification, please call the Middle School at 764-6185 and we would be happy to email you more detailed instructions.

Happy Holidays!

Our winter break begins on December 23rd and school resumes on January 6th, 2021. We would like to wish all of you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 29	November 30	1 7 th – 8 th Wrestling Dual at Powell - 4:15 pm	2	3 8 th Girls Basketball at Powell - 4:15 pm 7 th Girls Basketball at Powell - 5:30 pm	4 Black Schedule	5 7 th - 8 th Wrestling Invite at Thermopolis - 10 am
6	7 8 th Girls Basketball at Cowley - 4:15 pm 7 th Girls Basketball at Cowley - 5:30 pm Middle School Jazz Concert at PHS – 7:30 pm	8	9	10 8 th Girls Basketball at Thermopolis - 4:15 pm 7 th Girls Basketball at Powell - 4:15 pm Middle School Band Concert at PHS – 7:00 pm	11 Orange Schedule	12 7 th - 8 th Girls Basketball at Riverton - 10 am and at Lander - 1 pm
13	14 Middle School Choir Concert at PHS – 7:00 pm	15	16	17	18 Black Schedule	19
20	21	22 Activity Day Last Day of Sem. 1 (Quarter 2)	23 Winter Break	24 Winter Break	25 Winter Break	26
27	28 Winter Break	29 Winter Break	30 Winter Break	31 Winter Break	January 1 Winter Break	January 2
January 3	January 4 Winter Break	January 5 Winter Break	January 6 Students return to school First Day of Sem. 2 (Quarter 3)	January 7	January 8 Orange Schedule	January 9

Math Counts meets every Wednesday morning at 7 am in Mr. Estes' room
Creative Writing Group meets every Wednesday after school until 4 pm in Ms. Faxon's room.
Girls Who Code Group meets each Wednesday after school in Ms. Hank's room.