

PITTSVILLE

School District

2011-12 First Quarter Newsletter

From the Desk of District Administrator, Terry Reynolds



The fall season is now upon us, and school is in full swing. With the advent of the change in seasons, it is very important that everyone begin thinking about the possibility of school cancellations. As you are aware, in Wisconsin our weather can be very unpredictable, and parents should begin preparing for school cancellations, postponements, etc. Do you have a child care plan if school is cancelled? If school is dismissed early, does the office, your provider, the bus company, and your child know what your plan is? To make plans the day school is cancelled is not a good idea. As with over 630 students enrolled at Pittsville, it would be virtually impossible to deal with all telephone calls coming in from parents. Today is a great time to review and communicate your desires by updating your emergency contact information, if you have not already done so. The District will again be utilizing our Instant Alert system to notify parents of any cancellations. Parents should update any changes of their phone contact information as soon as possible. Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding the Instant Alert system.

In Other News:

The Strategic Planning Committees continue to work on new Action Plans for the District. Through this process, the District will be building the educational foundation that it will be following for the next decade and beyond. The two plans will be completed this year and recommendations will be made to the School Board for adoption. The two action planning teams meeting are:

- 1) Strengthen Communication and Partnerships - we will implement procedures and activities which promote family and community involvement in education.
- 2) Improve Student Achievement - we will establish competencies, which require action steps and staff development required to compete in a global and technological society.

The District is very fortunate and grateful to have community members, staff, and students involved in creating these action plans. The commitment for continuous improvement is very important and evident in the Pittsville School District. Thank you to everyone involved!

The School Board is now in the process of developing school calendars for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years and would like your input.

A survey has been created and posted to the District website www.pittsville.k12.wi.us. This survey will allow staff, students, and parents to provide their input into how the 180 student contact days should be scheduled. Please take a few moments of your time to provide us with your suggestions/preferences. The survey is very short and will only take a couple of minutes of your time. Thank you in advance for your input!

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Budget Adoption and Tax Levy Certification

At a Special School Board meeting held on October 19, 2011, the Board approved the 2011-2012 School District of Pittsville Tax Levy at \$3,340,311.00 and adopted the 2011-2012 School District of Pittsville Budget totaling \$8,485,902.00, an -8.87% decrease from last year. This levy is equivalent to \$10.79 per \$1,000.00 of equalized valuation which compares to the \$11.17 rate in 2010-2011.



PARENTS: Please keep your Skyward Family Access Account up-to-date.

SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS...

is a free web-based application that gives parents and guardians online access to their child's grades, assignments, attendance, schedule, emergency information, and more! This access is made possible through our student information system, Skyward Family Access. Please contact your school's office for Family Access login names and passwords.

OPEN ENROLLMENT IN WI PUBLIC SCHOOLS



The open enrollment application period for 2012-13 school year is from February 6-24, 2012. The application period closes at 4:00 pm on February 24, 2012. **Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.**

Parents may apply in one of two ways:

- On-line (recommended) at <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/psctoc.htm>
- Although on-line application is recommended, paper applications may be obtained from the Department of Public Instruction or any school district after January 2, 2012, and must be delivered (hand-delivery is recommended) to the nonresident school district during the application period.

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS, DELAYS, EARLY DISMISSAL

If weather conditions are such that you think the school schedule may be interrupted, please listen to one of the radio stations listed below. Notification of cancellations, delays, or early dismissals due to inclement weather will also be made through the Pittsville School District Instant Alert System. Parents should have an emergency plan for dealing with these situations for the safety and health of their children. Do not drop children off at school on mornings when school is to be delayed, as there is not supervision available on those days.

WIFC	95.5 FM	WOFM	94.7 FM	WSAW	TV-7
WOSQ	92.3 FM	WGLX	103.3 FM	WAOW	TV-9
				WEAU	TV-13

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

APRIL 3, 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the School District of Pittsville on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 the following office is to be elected to succeed the present incumbent listed. The term of office for a School Board Member is three years beginning on Monday, April 23, 2012.

Office
Member

Incumbent
Julie Strenn

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that a Campaign Finance Registration Statement and a Declaration of Candidacy must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2012, in the Office of the School Administrator.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

Forms for filing can be obtained from the School District's Administration Office.

Connie Potter, School District Clerk

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Terry Reynolds, District Administrator
715-884-6694

John Olig Senior High Principal
715-884-6412

JoAnn Sondelski, Elementary Principal
715-884-2517

PITTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



I want to begin this article by addressing our success with Advance Placement (AP) testing. Taking AP tests allow students to receive college credit for high school courses, provided they receive a qualifying score on the respective AP test for that content area. Most colleges will award credit for a score of three or higher; the actual score accepted for credit is established by the college. The College Board, the company that publishes the AP tests, recommends credit for a score of three or higher. When statistics are published about students who pass AP tests, three is the score the College Board uses. AP tests scores range from one to five.

Last year, Pittsville High School students achieved the best results ever on AP tests. Four out of the five students who took the English Language test received a three or higher. In English Literature, four out of six students received a three or higher. The students taking these AP tests were enrolled in the AP Literature Course taught by Ms. Sarah Freedlund. The course is generally taken by juniors and seniors.

Another course usually taken by juniors is Advanced US History. This course is taught by Mr. Bob Piotrowski. Of the seven students who took the test, three received a passing score. An additional six other tests were taken by students who completed online class work, and all received a score of three or higher.

Another set of data from last year showed that 78% of our AP students received a three or better. That was 8% higher than the state average of 70%. The national average is only 60%. Our students were 32% more successful than in any previous year. I attribute part of this success to the changes staff made in preparing students for the AP tests. I also want to congratulate our students who took a serious approach to the AP testing.

**HIGH SCHOOL
PICTURE
RETAKE DAY
NOVEMBER 8TH**

One of our seniors last year passed four AP tests. This student also passed three AP tests as a junior. The student received 24 credits as a result of participation in advanced classes while in high school. This is equivalent to two full time semesters of college credits. An AP test costs roughly \$90.00. For approximately \$720.00, this student has completed a year of college course work while in high school. The college tuition at Stevens Point for a year is currently \$7000.00. This student has the possibility, provided the student does not change majors, to complete a four-year program in three years. This student's experience is a great example as to why we offer AP curriculum both in our school curriculum and in the form of online classes. AP classes can save our graduates time and money.

I want to share some other data about what our high school students do after high school. Last year, 59% of our graduates participated in the ACT tests. Statistically, 30% of high school students complete a four-year college program. Within three years after graduation, 53% of our graduates are enrolled in a technical college, usually Mid-State Technical College. I point these statistics out to help parents assist their son or daughter in making educational choices. Approximately 15% to 20% of graduates who chose a four-year school, without fully investigating technical colleges, may be losing time and money by changing to a technical college after starting one or two years of a four-year program. The tuition at UW-Marshfield/Wood County is \$5000.00 a year. A year of tuition at Mid-State is \$2700 depending upon the program. A technical college can be a less expensive option for a student who is looking to see whether or not college is for them. Technical college credit, in many cases, can be transferred into four-year programs for students who decide to enter a four-year program later. I hope these thoughts assist parents in guiding their child's decision about educational options after high school.

Mr. Olig, Senior High Principal

Spirit Evident in Halls of PHS!

The last week of September found a festive atmosphere as Homecoming Week was celebrated. Many activities were planned and there was good participation in the dress up days such as costume day, twin day, blackout day, Fashions Don't day, and Panther Pride day in which the school dressed up in Purple and Gold.

Activities during the week also included class competitions such as an obstacle race, dizzy race, Tug O' War, Marshmallow drop, Orange Pass relay, push ups, shoe scramble, and volleyball games. The Pep Club also was involved in creating a positive climate with the painting of windows and spirit posters. They also created a skit that was performed on Friday afternoon, along with some excellent cheers and a pom pom routine.

On Friday evening, the Homecoming Court was introduced at halftime. Members of the court were Jennifer Quinnell escorted by Scott Maronick, Brittini O'Keefe escorted by Joe Schooley, Hannah Marti escorted by Hawk Sabin, Tyneshia Holstine escorted by Chris Downs, and Mariah John escorted by Thomas Hughes. Friday evening saw the Panther football team defeat the Screaming Eagles of Chequamegon.

The Homecoming Dance on Saturday evening had music provided by Electra Sound and a terrific week of festivities concluded as 2010 Homecoming King Jordan Rayburn crowned Hawk Sabin as 2011 Homecoming King and the 2010 Homecoming Queen Michaela Wolf crowned Hannah Marti 2011 Homecoming Queen. Thank you to all the parents and community members for making this year's homecoming a fun and safe week for the students and our community!

FFA & Agriculture News And Notes



The PHS greenhouse is up and running. Mr. Urban with the help of his seventh and eighth graders is currently growing poinsettias, romaine lettuce and germinating tomato seeds. The poinsettias are coming along as the first plants in the greenhouse. The romaine lettuce is being grown hydroponically (without soil) and the tomato seeds are just getting underway. The students are currently getting "bucket gardens" ready to plant. Mr. Urban just recently met with Don Josko for two hours after school to get better understanding of how the cooling and heating system works, as well as technical advice on the new hydroponic systems and their nutrient requirements. Mr. Josko was very impressed with the structure and how well it all came together. Mr. Urban gave a tour to the FFA Alumni Monday, October 1, after their meeting. He answered questions concerning the greenhouse and the upcoming goals and usage. All the FFA Alumni expressed how impressed the new facility was and how happy they were that the School District made such a commitment to our students and the agriculture department.



Jenna Hughes is holding up two poinsettias that currently being grown in the new PHS greenhouse.

SPLASH OF RED CRANBERRY HIGHWAY TOUR "Celebrates 10th Anniversary"

It is amazing that ten years ago this month, the Pittsville FFA/FFA Alumni started conducting cranberry tours at Tom, Janeen and Wayne Gardner cranberry marshes. The tours started as a discussion on how to increase enrollment in the Cranberry Science Class. FFA Alumni member Marv Kohlbeck and FFA/Ag instructor Bill Urban approached Mr. Gardner ten summers ago asking for permission to give cranberry tours on his marsh and processing plant. The three things Mr. Urban remembers from that day was Mr. Gardner's willingness to help out the FFA and ag program anyway he could, the support we immediately received with our idea, and when asked how much money he would want for each tourist, Mr. Gardner replied "as long as the money goes toward helping the FFA members, he did not want a dime."

Ten years ago, the tour began with five dates and totaled 60 people. Last year, we had seven dates and educated over 600 guests about the cranberry industry in "Cranberry Basket of the World", including many fourth grade groups, lifelong learners, and high school groups. We have had guest from every state in the nation, as well from the countries of Australia, Germany, Japan, Canada and other parts of Europe. We have also hosted the Governor of Wisconsin, State Representatives, agriculture groups, FFA groups, Senior Citizen groups, school superintendent groups and many more vocations.

These student led groups have been recognized locally at the state and national level for their educational value to our students and uniqueness to our community. The comments heard by these student led tours include: What a great learning tool for young adults! It's nice to see young people in different situations that they will use later in life!

The satisfaction Mr. Urban receives as a teacher is the growth of the individual. As Mr Urban stated, "seeing actual growth of the students starting very nervous and unsure of themselves on the first tour, to leading a tour, speaking confidently to a group of adults by the end of the tour is very satisfying.

If you are a resident of the Pittsville School District you are welcome to come free as our guests. This two hour cranberry tour takes place just east of Pittsville in the heart of central Wisconsin Cranberry Country. Pittsville FFA Members and students of the only Cranberry Science Class taught in the nation will give this all-inclusive tour.

The tour will meet at the Pittsville Conference Room located on Elementary Avenue at 9:30 a.m. The tour includes the following: touring a current marsh under construction, new beds not yet in production, producing beds with the tourists given the opportunity to pick fresh fruit from the vine, as well as observing harvest, testing, cleaning and freezing of the berries.

Mr. Urban has said " it takes a village to educate and have a successful tour." The help of the Gardners, Pam Kumm taking reservations, the Minors supervising our cooks, Dan Hahn being flexible with his buses, FFA Alumni members Marv Kohlbeck and Matt Lippert filling in for Mr Urban when he is at the National FFA Convention and the support of the School Board and Administration makes the tour so successful. Without these peoples' willingness to go the extra mile, the tours would have died on the vine many years ago.

LOCALLY GROWN PRODUCE

Mrs. Leonhardt's Foods classes would like to thank the community for the generous donation of local produce. The students were able to create many different types of food products using the garden products that were donated. Some of the favorite activities included creating homemade salsa, apple crisp, apple pie, as well as zucchini bread. Thank you to everyone who brought in extra food from their gardens, it was a great educational opportunity for our students.

Pittsville Elementary School News



Dear Parents and Students,

We have made it through the first couple months of school! Congratulations. Beginnings sometimes can be bumpy, but over all we have all done a good job of working together to make the ride smooth.

Most of you have spent some time completing the MAP testing during the month of October. MAP stands for measures of academic progress. The purpose of this test is to determine where your strengths and needs are in the areas of math, reading and language arts. We will again be testing in January to see how much progress you have made in your learning. What will we do with the results? As teachers, we will meet to talk about those areas that there is greatest need for remediation in. We will also talk about those areas where students excel. The MAP test is an excellent tool for teachers to help meet each student's learning needs.

During the month of November, we will be administering the WKCE tests as required currently by the state for all students in Grades 3-8 and Grade 10. This test gives us and the state, a view of how we are doing as a school. We also use this data to analyze our curriculum. After looking at the results we ask ourselves, "Is our curriculum in line with the expectations of the State of Wisconsin" and if so "How are we doing in teaching so that students learn that curriculum?"

**Elementary Picture
Retake Day
November 7th**

Though it seems like our days are filled with testing, we really have a lot of other wonderful learning opportunities happening in our school. We are fortunate enough to have adopted a new math series this year. Students in Grades K-5 are learning math using a new series entitled EnVision Math. Students in Grades 6-8 are learning from the series Big Ideas. These series concentrates not only the basics of learning facts and operations, etc. but take students to a whole new world of application and problem solving. We know that excellent math skills and abilities is important in nearly every career. So, we are working together as a school to amp up our math program so that students can become leaders in their 21st century world.

Have you ever thought of helping out at school? Do you see the yellow school bus go by and long for the days when you used to ride it to school? Do you wonder what happens in schools and if all the negative media hype that you hear is true? Well, I invite you to come to school. We have many students who would benefit from some extra tutoring or help. Worried about whether you know enough to help? You know everything there is to know--and we would love to have you here. If interested, don't hesitate to call me at school. I can be reached at 715 884-2517 during the school day.

Our fall season was colorful and grand--here's looking forward to a wonderful winter season.

Mrs. Sondelski
Elementary Principal

September Golden Award Winners

Golden Dustpan/Broom: Mr. Schultz's Classroom
Golden Slipper Award: Ms. Coon's Classroom
Golden Book Award: Ms. Coon's Classroom
Golden Spoon Award: Mr. Sanken's Kindergarten
Golden Slide Award: Ms. Hartwig's 3rd Grade
Golden Table Award: Mrs. Brux's 3rd Grade
PANTHER DINER: Mrs. Coon's Classroom
There were 33 nominations for the Golden Slipper award. Keep up the great job students!

ATTENDING THE PRIMARY HOLIDAY PROGRAM DECEMBER 16?

Why not join your child for lunch that day.
Please make reservations by calling 715-884-2517. The cost is \$3.75 per person.

Have you moved?

It is extremely important that you provide the elementary office with any changes to your address, telephone number, or e-mail address. Also, be sure that you update this information in Instant Alert as well. If you have any changes to your emergency contacts, please let us know that also. Having this information up-to-date saves us precious minutes in the event of illness or emergency.

CHILDREN HAVING MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

It is absolutely necessary that parents bring their child's medication to the school office and fill out the permission forms. Our legal requirements for providing medication at school are: 1) the child's medication must be in a properly labels prescription bottle. 2) a signed permission form with direction from the prescribing physician. 3) a signed permission form from the parent or legal guardian.

If a child is to receive over-the-counter medication, they must be provided by the parent in the original container with dosages on the package. No OTC medications will be given without a signed consent form.



4th Graders Take Cranberry Tour

Pittsville 4th Graders recently joined Mr. Urban's Splash of Red Cranberry Tour. As part of the 4th Grade Wisconsin History curriculum, the students learned about one of our state's famous crop, the cranberry. The tour involved the high school students providing facts and trivia concerning the cranberry and how it is harvested. We are thankful to all those involved and especially Gardener's facility that provided the tour.

4-Year Old Kindergarten Parent/Child Activity Day

The 4K/EC classrooms held their first parent/child activity day on Friday, October 7th. We had 20 students in attendance with their parent, grandparent, or daycare provider. The activities that the children were able to complete included making a pumpkin pancake, playing a variety of educational board games, making a counting Frootloop necklace, playdough letters, and making a Rascal the Raccoon puppet. A fun time was had by all in attendance!



Distinguished Guests Visit 8th Grade Civics Class

Various distinguished guests visited Mr. Piotrowski's civics class on September 21 to discuss the best forms of government as well as help answer if the people can be trusted to govern.

The guests were from different walks of life and countries. They were Abigail Adams, Benjamin Banneker, Hiawatha, Thomas Hobbes, King Louis XIV, John Locke, Baron de Montesquieu, and Mary Wollstonecraft. Many questions were asked and there was some differences of opinion. It was determined by the class that the idea of "divine right" that King Louis XIV believed in was a difficult concept to agree to. Many of the students agree with Abigail Adams, Mary Wollstonecraft, and Hiawatha that women should be given more credit for what they do. The person most seemed to agree with was John Locke and his ideas of protecting life, liberty, and a person's possessions.

All in all, the 8th grade civics class appreciated the opportunity to civilly discuss various ways people could be governed. They also thought that trusting the people is a good thing, but there is also a lot of responsibility that goes along with that right.

If you have any questions regarding this distinguished group, do not hesitate to ask Mr. Piotrowski's 8th grade civics class!



2nd Grade Takes a Walk Through History

During the last week in September, the second grade students were "walked" through some of Pittsville's history as part of a unit on how communities change over time. The group started at the Pittsville Area Historical Museum, where they looked at two large picture displays. The pictures documented important historical events and scenes from Pittsville's past. Mrs. Marlene Neve then took the group on a guided "walkabout" through the downtown area, describing the changes in the area's businesses and buildings during the last 70 years. The students found out our city once had a theater, four gas stations, two car dealerships, and two doctors. They were also surprised to find out Pittsville used to have a creamery, a drugstore, multiple hardware stores, and a saw mill.

FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT

LOW LUNCH BALANCES

Accounts below \$25.00 will be notified weekly using email and the Pittsville School District Instant Alert System. The notice explains that your family food service funds are running low and money should be added as soon as possible.

If a family account gets below zero, a notice will be sent out stating if the amount due is not paid in three working days, your children will no longer be able to participate in the breakfast and/or lunch program. If no money is received, a note will go home explaining the account is closed and Pittsville Schools will no longer be providing breakfast, lunch, or milk. It is then the parent's responsibility to provide their child with a lunch from home. Once money is added, your children may again participate in the school's food service programs.

Here are a few tips to insure your family food service account is up-to-date and in good standing.

- Check with your answering machines and email to see if your family received an instant alert message concerning a low lunch balance.
- If you received a notice, please send payment as soon as possible.
- When sending in a payment, please include your family name and amount sent.

View your family account online through Skyward Family Access at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Dostal at 715-884-2517.

FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS

Your children may qualify for free milk, free meals, or reduced price meals. Free and Reduced Price School Meals Applications are available on the district website (www.pittsville.k12.wi.us). Be sure to fill out all required information and return the application to Joe Dostal, Food Service Director, 5459 Elementary Avenue, Suite 1, Pittsville, WI 54466.

The free or reduced lunch program not only benefits families but it also helps your school. More families on the program will generate more financial aid from SAGE, Title I, E-Rate, and other grants.

Please apply for free or reduced lunch at Pittsville Schools. Your application is completely confidential.

2011-2012 MEAL PRICES

4Kgn- Grade 4 Lunch	\$2.00
Grade 5-8 Lunch	\$2.50
Grade 9-12 Lunch	\$3.00
Adult Lunch	\$3.75
Reduced Lunch	\$.40
Milk	\$.25
4Kgn-Grade 12 Breakfast	\$.60
Adult Breakfast	\$1.20

COMMUNITY WALKERS

Pittsville Elementary
School will be open for
walking every Tuesday,
Wednesday, & Thursday
starting November 7th
from 5:30 - 7:00 pm.

INSTANT ALERT FOR SCHOOLS

Instant Alert for Schools is an essential tool for notification and communication. Within minutes of an emergency, school officials can use Instant Alert to deliver a single, clear message to the students' parents or guardians by telephone, cell phone, e-mail, pager or PDA in any combination. Instant Alert can also be used to notify you of a school closing due to inclement weather. It's an equally effective way to keep you informed of everyday activities, such as event times and locations as well as schedule changes. Keeping parents informed and involved helps to assure student safety and improve student success.

Instant Alert is Internet based, allowing each family to maintain a secure, password protected online profile. You can log into your profile at any time to update your contact information. Maintaining the accuracy of your profile will increase the ability of the school to keep you informed.

Your online profile will enable you to:

- Input your personal contact information.
- Select which type of school information you would like to receive on each of your contact devices.
- Add contact information of other caretakers of your children, such as a grandparent or neighbor.

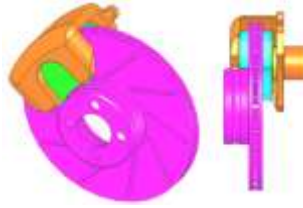
The system can be found through a link on the district website or at <https://instantalert.honeywell.com>. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity, as we will be utilizing this system for much of our school-to-home communication.

If you need assistance with your profile, please go to <https://instantalert.honeywell.com> and click on the **Help Request** link on the lower right hand side of the page, or contact the school at 884-2517 (elementary office), 884-6412 (High School office) or the district office at 884-6694. Be sure to set your e-mail spam filter to receive e-mail from Honeywell.com. If you do not have access to a computer, please feel free to come to the school to use our facilities.

Breakfast & Lunch Menus can be viewed on the district webpage at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us

Pittsville Technology Education Upgrades Drafting Program

The technology education program is leading the way in teaching students drafting, design, and basic engineering skills. With the upgrade to the AutoDesk design academy software, students will obtain knowledge and skills to pursue academic degrees and future careers in architecture, engineering, and design.



The software encompasses visualization and simulation skills for students to easily move between 2D and 3D design environments and fully enhance their creativity. The software encompasses 21st Century skills in digital literacy and provides students hands-on experience with the same tools industry professionals use. The program includes professional software in the following areas: basic drafting and design, mechanical drafting, residential/industrial/commercial architecture, and civil engineering/design.

While enhancing student knowledge and experience are vital, possibly the largest benefit of updating the curriculum and software is the opportunity students have to earn articulated credit with Mid-State Technical College. The dual credit opportunity is a great way for students to gain advancement in their postsecondary education.

PTO Newsletter Corner...

Pittsville PTO would like to extend a sincere thank you to our parent volunteers. We would like to thank you for turning in your volunteer forms. We would also like to thank the parents who volunteered for our teacher meal, book fair, entering Coke points, flu shots and as a teacher assistant. You help make our school a great place.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Little Caesar's Pizza Sale/No Pizza Sale. The total profit was \$4,747.00. This money will be used to provide students of the Pittsville School District with funds that will enhance their educational program.

Funds will be used for field trips, all-school assemblies, Accelerated Reading materials and specific educational items requested by teachers that enrich classroom instruction. A special thank you goes out to Pam Kumm, Karen Garrels and Dave Pearson for all their extra help. We sincerely appreciate everyone's support.

We are looking for a volunteer to help coordinate spring pictures through Becker Photography. This will be held in mid February. We are also looking for volunteers to help coordinate a cookbook. If you are interested, please contact Liz Knutson or Nikki Rademan.

PTO is looking for plastic magazine holders to be used in a classroom library. Please let us know if you have any you are willing to donate.

On October 13, staff at the elementary school participated in several enrichment activities related to the school forest. First, information was given on how to have students adopt a class tree with activities to engage their students learning concerning their tree. Lessons could include identifying the tree, making observations including changes in the seasons, a variety of methods for taking measurements, rubbings or prints, and journaling about their tree each year. Next, teachers were given several ways to create leaf prints with crayon rubbings and ink printing. Last, teachers selected authentic leaves to make t-shirt designs as is seen in the pictures.

SPORTS SCHEDULES

Please check out our website at www.pittsville.k12.wi.us and click on Athletics for the most current and accurate information.

PHS Walking Club Update

Mr. Lilly, Advisor

To date, we have walked at lunch/noon time every day except six days. Those six days were either rain delayed or Mr. Lilly was absent from school. Our highest outpouring of walkers was 20 on a very nice sunny day in October. Most days we travel with 5 to 7 students. Mrs. Leonhardt has been tagging along over the past few trips preparing for the upcoming winter months. We thank her for her desire to be a part of the PHSWC.

We are constantly looking for new members and always welcome the opportunity to show what our club has to offer to the diverse population of PHS. Our most distinguished member this season is a freshman, Calvin Amundson. He has missed only one day due to an absence/field trip. He is a faithful walker for sure.



October In-Service

Snowboard/Ski Club News

Friends of Bruce Mound have worked on improvements for Bruce Mound for the past six years. They are hopeful to have the new runs cleared for the upcoming season. With enough natural snow, the runs should be available for all to enjoy. On September 14, the Snowboard/Ski Club traveled to Bruce Mound after school to help clear the new runs. The students hauled logs to get ready for the arrival of the clearing equipment. Make sure you stop out this winter to see the great new runs.



Ecology Class

The Pittsville School Forest was visited by Mr. Steward's Ecology class on October 4th to conduct water quality testing in the pond located on the southeast corner of the forest. The students in Ecology class are Marissa Becker, Kaitlin Hahn, Ed Kleinhenz, Nick Krohn, Autumn Lutz, Dallas Oates, Casey Oleson, Julia Peaslee, Jessie Robus, Dylan Rudie, Joe Schooley, Olie Voight, and Jake Wipfli.

Chemical test conducted on the water at the pond included dissolved oxygen content, carbon dioxide, pH, nitrates, and sulfates. Also, an aquatic macroinvertebrate species water quality index was completed. Macroinvertebrates, aquatic insects, are an excellent indicator of the water quality of a river, lake, stream, or pond.



The image is of Olie Voight, Nick Krohn, Jake Wipfli, and Joe Schooley using a seine net to collect specimens, while the rest of the students assisted in the identification of each species collected. Some of the aquatic insects caught were Stonefly, Mayflies, and Caddis Fly larvae, along with Giant Water Bugs, Water Scorpions, and Predacious Diving Beetles, to name a few. The pond at the Pittsville School Forest scored on the edge between excellent and good for water quality.

The visit to the school forest provided students with a firsthand experience of sample collecting of aquatic species, testing and experimentation using chemical detecting kits in a real world setting, along with the opportunity to complete and evaluate the outcomes of each test. Overall the experience was a great learning opportunity for everyone.

SOIL CONSERVATION TEAM

The 2011 PHS Soil Conservation Team competed in the Wisconsin Rapids area. Team "Dirt" slogged through a wet day in the soils pits, while competing against Marshfield, Wisconsin Rapids, and Auburndale. Pittsville came in as the defending Wood County Soils Team. Prior to the competition, the team took an educational trip to Central Sands Dairy. The dairy is the largest in central Wisconsin, milking 3800 cows and averaging 70 pounds of milk per cow. The tour was hosted by owner Gordie Jones. In the afternoon the PHS Soils Team competed for the Wood County Championship, Marshfield, the traditional powerhouse in the soil judging contest. Marshfield was unstoppable, providing the top five members of the contest, but Pittsville remained Marshfield's largest threat. Between the two schools, they claimed the top dozen spots in the 70 contestant event.

The top Pittsville Team was composed of 6th, 8th, 9th and 11th place finishers Taylor Pralle, Hannah Marti, Trail Pierce and Eric Hahn. Pralle's score of 82 in pit 2 was the best in the contest for that pit.



THE 2011-12 PITTSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARBOOK IS ON SALE NOW!

Order your Elementary Yearbook before November 30 for ONLY \$16.

We are offering options with our soft cover yearbook again this year. For example, your child's yearbook could be personalized with his/her name at an additional cost of \$5.50. He/she could also order a clear protective cover for the soft cover book, just \$2.50 each. There are several more options listed on the order form. Information about each can be found on-line at WWW.JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM.

Know someone who is struggling financially, but their child would really like a yearbook? You can donate a yearbook - just fill out the order form on behalf of that student and send it in. We will let the child know that he/she a yearbook has been ordered. ☺

Paying with a check? **Please make check or money order payable to Pittsville Elementary School.** Please, do NOT send cash.

If you are interested, there is also the option of using your credit card to order on-line at WWW.JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM.

Remember to order early! If you wait until May, the cost will be \$20.

All yearbooks will be delivered to the school in the spring and distributed to the students.

1 SELECT YOUR YEARBOOK PACKAGE		PRICE	TOTAL
Yearbook		\$16.00	
Personalize It Package (Go to Step 2 to select cover personalization) Includes Yearbook, 1 Line of Personalization & 12 Fun Phrase Stickers		\$25.00	
Signature Package (Go to Step 2 to select cover personalization) Includes Yearbook, 1 Line of Personalization, 4 Signature Pens, Autograph Section, Photo Pockets & a FREE Icon		\$34.50	

2 PERSONALIZE YOUR YEARBOOK		PRICE	TOTAL
Personalize Your Cover with your name or special phrase & up to 4 icons to make your yearbook unique.			
NAME OR SPECIAL PHRASE <small>You must order 1 line of personalization in order to add a 2nd line</small>			
1st Line			\$5.50
2nd Line			\$2.25
ICONS — AT LEAST 1 LINE OF PERSONALIZATION MUST BE PURCHASED TO ORDER AN ICON!			
<small>Click the right icon code from below into boxes provided</small>			
Icon 1	Icon 2	Icon 3	Icon 4
			QTY \$3.50 ea.

3 ACCESSORY ITEMS		QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
Autograph Section 8-page insert offers extra space for special messages			\$2.50	
Photo Pockets A sheet of 6 adhesive-backed repositionable pockets to hold photos & memories			\$2.25	
Clear Protective Cover Protect your yearbook from scratches, spills and wear			\$2.50	
Hear the Year Download 12 songs to your computer from a dedicated music library and enjoy a fun bonus feature			\$12.99	
Donate a Yearbook Buy a yearbook for a deserving student in your school			\$16.00	

4 ORDER TOTAL		TOTAL	
Total Due Remember: At least one line of personalization must be purchased to order an icon.			
Don't miss this opportunity to remember the friends, fun and activities from the 2011-2012 school year by ordering a Yearbook. The cost is \$20.00 but if you order by NOVEMBER 30 you pay only \$16.00. There are two ways to order:			
Go to www.jostensyearbooks.com or bring this completed form to Mrs. T. Neve along with a check payable to PITTSVILLE Elementary School.			
If you wait until they arrive in May, the cost will be \$20.00 with no guarantee of available extra copies.			
Thanks and we look forward to your order by NOVEMBER 30.			

1st Grade Visit School Forest

Students in Mrs. Hautala's and Mrs. Kuehn's classroom enjoyed a beautiful October day as they ventured into the school forest. Accompanying them were high school students from Mr. Steward's ecology class. Having studied about the forest and pond ecosystems in science class, this field trip allowed the first graders to experience and see firsthand the intricate connections of nature in a forest setting.



The high school students led various stations that engaged the first graders in hands-on activities. They examined leaves, animal habitats, plant life on the forest floor, and insects and other organisms of the pond. Students were able to get impressions from real animal prints they found in wet areas of the forest.

After enjoying a sack lunch on this beautiful autumn day, they were able to further explore nature while hiking through the forest trails.

It was such an educational and meaningful day, that Mrs. Kuehn and Mrs. Hautala would like to thank Mr. Steward and his students for their collaborative efforts in this hands-on experience.



Music Department News...

HS Pops Concert

An exciting performance is on the horizon in Pittsville.

Make sure to attend Sunday, November 6th at 7:00 pm!

Music you can expect to hear at the High School "We are the World" Pops Concert::

- John Lennon • Lady Gaga
- Three Dog Night • Michael Jackson
- Music from the 60's • Bob Marley
- Shakira • U2



Heather Schubert works on her SmartMusic assignments.

Smart Music

School is in full swing here in mid-October and so is our work with **SmartMusic**. Band students hook up their instruments to the computer with a microphone, play their assignments, and then are graded based on what they play. It even records them playing so they can hear themselves AND so that their director can listen to them from another computer. If they play a note incorrectly, all they have to do is click on it and the computer tells them the correct way to play a note.

With limited time available for lessons one-on-one with Miss Lewin, this has been a great resource for beginning band students and for high school students. Soon we'll see this in use with our Junior High band and all of our choirs. If you'd like to purchase this software for your home, visit this site: www.smartmusic.com

Music Department Calendar at a Glance

- Marawood All Conference Choir & Band – Edgar HS 7:00 pm November 1st
- High School Pops Concert 7pm November 6th
- Veterans Day Assembly – November 11th at 11:00 am HS gym
- JH Winter Concert Monday Dec 5th
- JH Winter Concert Tuesday Dec 6th 1:45
- HS Winter concert Sunday Dec 11th

iPod Touch

All of the band and choir students in the district are working on music literacy. Last year, it meant timed paper quizzes twice a week and many hours of grading for Miss Lewin. This year, thanks to the district's purchase of iPod Touch products and applications, it means handing each student an iPod and having them take a quiz on it. It's been more fun to test note names and practice rhythms and is much more time efficient! What a great resource we have with those iPods!

Junior High Band students taking a quiz on iPods



Marawood All-Conference Choir
Miranda Coulthard, Shelby Freedlund, Jamie Dietz, Angela Rahm, Anna Schwanebeck, Matt Peckham, Olie Voight, Nathan Amundson



Marawood All-Conference Band
Miranda Stascak, Megan Piotrowski, Hope Moos, Bianca Skortz

Marawood Honors

On November 1st, eleven Pittsville High School students will be participating in the Marawood All-Conference Project. Each of the 17 schools in the Marawood music conference sent in applications for their strongest students. Congratulations to the following students who were selected and will perform with the conference's best band or choir students on November 1st at Edgar High School:

As always, check out the Pittsville Music Department website for updated news, photos, and recordings!

<http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us/faculty/lewinama>

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developing Innovative Students, strengthened through
Partnerships with parents and the community.*

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