

# Pittsville School District News

*Expecting Excellence and Integrity from all, developing Innovative Students,  
strengthened through Partnerships with parents and the community.*

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## FIRST QUARTER, 2012-13

### 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 620 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 be utilizing the new School Messenger (Skylert) system to notify parents of any cancellations. Parents should update any changes of their phone contact information as soon as possible in the Skyward Family Access Accounts. Please contact the School if you have any questions regarding the School Messenger system.

### In Other News:

The 2012-13 school year will bring many exciting changes to your child's learning in the Pittsville School District. This year will also bring changes to the way schools themselves are evaluated by the state.

Sometime in October, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) will issue a **School Report Card** for our school and for every public school in Wisconsin. The School Report Card, using multiple measures of student learning, will provide valuable guidance on how our school is doing and where it can improve. The new report cards will help all Wisconsin public schools get a better picture of how well they help children learn, advance to the next grade, and graduate ready for college and career.

The School Report Cards are just one part of a new statewide accountability system for schools. To develop the system, DPI worked closely with parents, educators, and members of the business community. The Governor, State Superintendent, legislative leaders, and the U.S. Department of Education also helped shape the new accountability system. This system, and the report cards, will grow and develop in future years.

Here's how the School Report Card will work. Each public school will earn a "score," called an accountability index score, from 0 to 100. These scores will be included on the report card. The accountability index score that our school receives will be based on our performance in four priority areas:

1. **Student achievement** in reading and mathematics on state assessments.
2. **Student growth**, measured by year-to-year improvements in reading and math achievement.
3. **Closing gaps** in performance between specific student groups (comparing English language learners, low-income students, students with disabilities, and members of racial or ethnic group with their peers).
4. **On-track to graduation/postsecondary readiness**, using reliable predictors of high school graduation and postsecondary success.

Based on our school's score, we will be placed into one of five categories, from Significantly Exceeds Expectations to Fails to Meet Expectations.

It's important to note that the 0 to 100 accountability index score is not a "percent correct" measurement, similar to a score your child might earn on a test in school. Instead, in combination with other school data, the accountability index score will help our school staff determine what areas we do well in and where we need improvement. The goal is to help every student in our school succeed, graduate, and be ready to pursue further education and a career.

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**From the Desk of District Administrator - CONTINUED**

The new statewide accountability system will also include methods to spread effective practices of high-performing schools and support to help struggling schools improve. School Report Cards will come out every year and student results on state tests will continue to be reported. Eventually, this system may include private schools receiving publicly funded vouchers as well.

The Department of Public Instruction will produce two versions of each school report card, the basic School Report Card and a lengthier Technical Report Card with very detailed information. For more information, please visit the DPI website at [dpi.wi.gov/oea/acct/accountability.html](http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/acct/accountability.html).

I am confident the new School Report Card, as well as the many other changes being implemented in Wisconsin schools, will help our school identify our strengths and promptly move to address our challenges. Please let me know your thoughts and questions on the School Report Card as they arise.

# MEET THE NEW STAFF MEMBERS...



**I am Ashley Raygo** and I am the new 4K-6 school counselor at Pittsville Elementary School. I graduated in 2007 from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work: Emphasis in Child Welfare and received my Masters of Arts in Counseling from Lakeland College in May 2012.

Before coming to Pittsville, I worked as a Child Protection Social Worker in Menominee County since 2007; during which I helped families utilize community based resources and work towards family preservation. I look forward to working in collaboration with parents, students, and teachers to assist in meeting the academic, career development, and social/emotional needs of all students. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please feel free to contact me: [raygoash@pittsville.k12.wi.us](mailto:raygoash@pittsville.k12.wi.us)



**My name is Emily Pearse**, and I am thrilled to be the new Choral Director here in Pittsville! I love that the community here is so supportive not just of music, but of all of our students' interests and accomplishments. I hope that I can provide my music students with the best possible music experience.

I am originally from La Crosse where I attended Aquinas High School. I did my first two years of undergraduate college at UW-Eau Claire, where I was fortunate enough to study abroad in Winchester, England. I transferred to UW-La Crosse and completed my BS in Theatre and Communication. I went on to finish my Masters in Education at UW-La Crosse, where I also studied Choral and General Music education. I spent a total of nearly 10 straight years in college, and I am excited to begin my journey as a teacher.

In addition to teaching music in Pittsville, I am also a private voice teacher at the Marshfield School of Performing Arts. I have an extensive performing arts background, and I have been fortunate to fill many roles in my professional career: dance teacher, choreographer, dance coach, theatre director, dance competition judge, musical director, choir director, and most recently, Zumba instructor.

I love travelling, staying active (running, biking, dancing), seeing live performances, football (Go Packers!), and spending time with my family. This past year I took up competitive running, and I have completed seven races/obstacle courses this year. My goal is to complete ten! I hope to move on to "bigger" races next year and complete a half marathon. In addition, I am learning to play the guitar.

Thank you all for making me a part of the Pittsville family, and I hope to see you all at music department events this year!

**SchoolMessenger  
Parent Notification System**

*The Pittsville School District will no longer be using Instant Alert for our instant messaging service. We instead will be using our Skyward system's SchoolMessenger. This service will allow you to update all your information in just one account. For this system to work, all you need to do is make sure all contact information in Skyward's Family and Student Access is updated. The district is also excited to announce that with this new service we will be able to deliver important information to you via SMS text messaging. This service is not intended to replace our existing means of communication—rather it will enhance them. The service is provided by SchoolMessenger. Information can be found at [www.SchoolMessenger.com](http://www.SchoolMessenger.com) or on the Pittsville School District Web Site. The district will only use the service to provide information that is timely and relevant.*

*In order to participate in the new feature of this service you must indicate your willingness to receive text messages to your phone. The process is simple and only takes a few seconds to complete. Simply text any one of the following words to the number **68453**: subscribe, optin, yes. You'll know you were successful if you receive the following reply message: "**You are registered to receive aprox 3 msgs/mo. Txt STOP to quit, HELP for help.**" You'll want to repeat the opt-in process for any wireless numbers that you wish to include. In addition to performing the opt-in process above you'll want to insure that the district has your wireless number(s) in our student information database. If you haven't already provided your cell information to your school please remember to do so in your Skyward Family Access account.*

*Please note, although the district does not charge you for this service, it does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by you for sending or receiving text messages. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges. If you have any questions please feel free to contact your child's school.*



# PHS News



It is amazing to think we are one-fourth of the way through the school year, and even though there are many changes here at the high school, things are flowing pretty smoothly.

Let me begin by defining a few terms (no pun intended) that have to do with the schedule. Since we are in the block, we run on a "term" basis. A term is a quarter of a year, and is the equivalent to a semester in the past, since block classes are twice as long as they were under the old schedule. That means that a semester class is equivalent to a year-long class from the past. A term class is worth .5 credits, and a semester class is worth one full credit.

We now have Panther Pride Time (PPT) between blocks one and two. This is a 44 minute period when, Tuesday through Friday, students go to one of their four classes for make-up work, enhancement activities, or study time. It is a great opportunity to get caught up or get ahead.

Every other Monday during PPT time is Advising, where students from each grade are assigned to a teacher who is their advisor for their four years at PHS. Students have a connection to the school with a person who will learn their interests and aspirations, and help them with high school and post high school planning. Themes such as the bullying prevention and test-taking skill activities were initiated during first term. Multicultural awareness and citizenship are other Advising activities we may pursue this year, along with the emphasis on academic success that is a constant during Advising.

The other Mondays during PPT will be spent participating in clubs that the staff has developed and the students choose, such as a Rock n' Roll Club and Cribbage Club, or participating in recognition assemblies.

We also have developed Solutions Teams, which are committees of teachers who, based on staff recommendations, work with students who are at-risk of failing. The Solution Team develops a plan to get them back on track.

So: There are many changes that come along with the block schedule. I appreciate how smoothly the staff and students have adapted to these changes. There is a very positive atmosphere at PHS, and I am developing a keen understanding of Panther Pride. It is more than athletics; it extends to students taking care of each other, the cleanliness of the building, and the smiles that I see in the hallways. I believe this positive school climate is due to our great student body and a very caring staff. I also believe that it will continue to increase, and show up in test scores and the choices that these you adults make now, and into the distant future.

Mark Weddig  
PHS Principal



**For more information or to get involved with future school forest projects, please contact: Stephen Hadfield, Technology Education Instructor at 715-884-6412 ext. 310**

## PHS Raises Outdoor Shelter

For the past six months, the Pittsville High School Building & Construction class has been busy preparing for the raising of the outdoor shelter at the school forest on Highway 80. Last year, the School Forest Committee decided to move forward with a timber frame design for the outdoor structure. The majority of the lumber was logged directly from the school forest and locally cut into the large timbers. In May, the concrete slab was poured for the foundation. Timber frame joinery (mortise and tenon) was milled at the school by B&C students.

On Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, several staff and community members fought through the cold and rain to raise the timber frame building. The frame consists of five bents (post and beam connections) and is 30 feet wide by 60 feet long. Next spring, the B&C class will finish the building by installing the rafters and roofing. The building will be used by K-12 staff and students to teach and learn about outdoor and environmental education.

Thank you to all the staff, students, and community volunteers. A special thanks to Beilfuss Timber Frames, Wilke Landscaping & Excavating, Maurer Roofing, Kuehn Forest Products, and Palmer Cornerstone Concrete for their dedication and donations.



*Pictured Left to Right: Mark Weddig, Todd Steward, Doug Beilfuss, Kristine Doering, Eugene Doering, and Stephen Hadfield Not Pictured: Jodie Wilke*





## “Local Foods” Class at PHS

The Family and Consumer Education department rolled out a new class this term, Local Foods.

The class focused on the benefits of eating food that is grown locally.

We used many different foods and prepared and preserved them in many different ways. The food was donated by people in the community as well as grown in the school garden on the Pittsville Elk Farm. Some of the favorite recipes were green tomato cake, tomato basil jelly and cranberry jam. Thank you to all who donated food to support this program.

## Pittsville FBLA to Host Regional Leadership Conference

Pittsville High School will be hosting the Region II Leadership Conference on Saturday, February 2, 2013 at Mid-State Technical College in Wisconsin Rapids. This will be the first time in the 40 year history of Pittsville FBLA that we have the pleasure of hosting one of the largest events of the year. Because of the size of this event, we are in search of people willing to help judge the events students are competing in.

Events that we are currently looking for judges include: Accounting II, Business Financial Plan, Business Plan, Computer Applications, Database Design and Applications, Desktop Publishing, Digital Design and Promotion, Digital Video Production, E-Business, Electronic Career Portfolio, Future Business Leader, Job Interview, Spreadsheet Applications, Web Site Design, and Word Processing I & II. These events will be judged on Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, at Pittsville High School from 5pm until all events are finished with dinner provided for all judges. At the Regional Leadership Conference on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, we are in need of judges in: Business Ethics, Business Presentation, Client Services, Digital Design and Promotion, Emerging Business Issues, Future Business Leader, Impromptu Speaking, Job Interview, and Public Speaking I & II. Events will be judged in these events starting at 8:30am until 12:30pm, with lunch being provided that day.

If seeing some of central Wisconsin's future business leaders in action is something you would like to be a part of or are interested in more information, please contact Jenny Jackson at Pittsville High School at 715-884-6412 or [jacksjen@pittsville.k12.wi.us](mailto:jacksjen@pittsville.k12.wi.us).

## Counselor's Corner: 1st Quarter, *Julia Backaus, 7-12 School Counselor*

### Pittsville Juniors Attend Wisconsin Education Fair at MSTC, September 21

Pittsville Juniors had the opportunity to visit with college reps from over 90 different colleges and universities across the Mid-West region at the annual Wisconsin Education Fair held at MSTC on September 21. Students were encouraged to visit with at least three different representatives and take notes about their conversations. Students were also encouraged to discuss their experience with their parents/guardians later that evening and bring back their discussion worksheets to the counseling office. Students will re-visit this experience again during their Individual Planning Conference which will be held later this month or next.

### Pittsville Junior High and High School Participate in Wisconsin's Bully Awareness Day, September 26, 2012

After a rigorous morning of testing at the high school, Pittsville's junior high and high school students and staff were given the opportunity to view the award winning documentary "Bully" at Roger's Cinema in Marshfield. As part of a national movement to put an end to bullying, movie theaters are showing this film free of charge for schools. This emotional movie takes its viewers through the lives of five different families/students in an attempt to show us all how precious each life is. It appeared that staff and students alike left the theater that afternoon with a new or perhaps renewed perspective of the power that lies within each one of us. Following the movie, both the junior high and high school students participated in activities that focused on the importance of kindness and respect towards others. Students were again reminded about what actions constitute bullying and the importance of reporting bullying to an adult when it occurs. The Pittsville School District would like to thank Roger's Cinema in Marshfield for providing this opportunity free of charge to our staff and students. We believe it was an impactful afternoon that will challenge us all to make our schools as "bully-free" as possible!

### Teen Leadership Council in Full Swing!

Students in grades 7-9 have a new person to lean on this year with the start of the new mentoring program, TLC (Teen Leadership Council.) Students in grades 10-12 applied last spring to be part of the TLC program based on their desire to help others and improve their own leadership skills. The students chosen for this group participated in a summer retreat to lay the foundation for the program and get a jump start on planning for the year. TLC mentor students meet with their assigned mentee group twice a month, once during lunch and once during RTI/PPT, to do different team building activities as well as discuss school and life topics. Mentee groups consist of approximately 5-8 students with one mentor. 7th grade students are paired with 10th grade mentors, 8th grade students are paired with 11th grade mentors, and 9th grade students are paired with 12th grade mentors. We have enjoyed a successful first month and look forward to seeing this program build as the year progresses.

## Important Reminders for Upper Classmen:

### SENIORS:

- Applications to Colleges and Tech Schools should be completed soon; Halloween = Ahead of the Game, Thanksgiving = On Time, and Christmas = Slightly Behind. Remember, the earlier you are accepted, the sooner you can apply for scholarships from your university/college.
- Please remember to inform Mrs. Backaus after you have applied to any college or university so she can send your transcripts and/or ACT scores.
- Please remember to continually check the scholarship webpage for updated scholarships; HS Home Page, School Counseling Tab, Scholarship Tab, 2012-2013 Scholarships and Contests Tab.

### JUNIORS:

- Junior Individual Planning Conferences are scheduled for October/November/December; please make sure have made your appointment.
- ACT Preparation: It is not too early to start practicing for the ACT. FREE ONLINE PREPARATION is available; HS Home Page, School Counseling Tab, Free Test Prep Tap, ACT. You can also check out larger preparations books from the library.
- ACT DATES: Register ONLINE at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
  - ✓ December 8th, 2012; Register by November 2nd, 2012
  - ✓ February 9th, 2013; Register by January 11th, 2013
  - ✓ April 13th, 2013; Register by March 8th, 2013
  - ✓ June 8th, 2013; Register by May 3rd, 2013
- Accuplacer: The Accuplacer is the admission test used by many technical colleges, including MSTC. The Accuplacer can be taken at any time at PHS for only \$10. Your scores are good for 5 years so taking it early will put you ahead of the game. Please see Mrs. Backaus for more information and/or sign up.



# Elementary News

Dear Parents and Students,

Just like the changing leaves, October has been a flurry of activity at the Elementary School. We celebrated our second monthly Civics Assembly dedicated to Columbus Day, the spirit of exploration, and Golden Awards.

Several eighth graders from Mrs. Fischer's Principal Advisory Committee led the festivities. Our first Panther Diner will be held Oct. 17, and will be enjoyed by the students in Ms. Schooley's Fifth grade class.

Kindergarteners will be involved for the first time in a statewide literacy assessment known as PALs during the week of Oct. 15. Our three kindergarten teachers spent time involved in training for this small group assessment, and are looking forward to finding out more about the students' understanding of letters and sounds and how they work together to create words. Parents will be hearing more about this at Parent Conferences Oct. 23 and 25.

First through eighth graders have all been involved in Measures of Academic Progress (MAPs) throughout October. These computer based assessments will be discussed during Parent Conferences, and are another way teachers use information to guide their instruction with students and meet students' needs with small group work. Fifth through eighth grade will be involved in the state-wide WKCE testing Oct. 22-25. Third and fourth grade will be involved in WKCE testing the week of Nov. 5th. The grades did testing a little differently this year, due to the revised high school schedule for WKCEs and the shared staff at both buildings.

Behind the scenes, teachers have been busy with team meetings. Once a month, teams meet to work on revising our curriculum (what we want students to know and be able to do, aligned with WI State Standards and Common Core Standards). Other teams work on Communication/Community Partnership, and School Climate, respectively. A team of teachers along with Mrs. Fischer were recently involved in a Response to Intervention conference. We are looking forward to continuing our commitment to providing excellent instruction for all students, and making our school a warm and engaging place for all students.

We will be finishing up our Little Caesar's Pizza fund raiser on Oct. 25. We are also looking forward to our PTO Book Fair in October. Both of these opportunities allow for our school to look at various ways that we can benefit students and look at ways of improving our services to students. Thank you again to all who have volunteered or contributed to our Book Fair and Pizza fund raiser.

Mrs. Fischer  
Elementary Principal

## 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 SchoolMessenger alert system 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.

## PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Parent support is vital to the overall effectiveness of our school programs. The use of school volunteers can help strengthen existing programs or introduce new programs. All parents and community members are encouraged to become volunteers. The only requirement is to complete a Volunteer Form and have an interest in the education of children. Please contact Mrs. Fischer if you would like to volunteer.



**Please join us for  
the 4K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Winter Program on  
Thursday,  
December 20 at  
1:00 p.m.**

## ELEMENTARY CIVICS ASSEMBLY





# Health Fair 2012



Health Fair was held on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Many families were able to participate in hands-on activities that included: karate, jazzercise, making healthy snacks, mini golf, and jump ropes. Area community members were present to share information with families about 4H, Curves, Ministry Health Care, Pittsville Fire and Police Department, yoga, and many others. A free meal was also offered on this great event! Thank you to everyone who shared their time and talents with Pittsville Elementary that evening!

## PES TO PERFORM "ALICE IN WONDERLAND"

Students of Pittsville Elementary are working diligently to learn their lines and create the set for this year's performance of Alice in Wonderland. About 60 actors and actresses auditioned for the play, each receiving a role in the performance. The cast is joined by 15 stage crew that will be working to costume the actors and collect the needed props. Please plan to join this talented group on December 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. for the community performance. There is no cost for the performance but a free-will offering will be collected.

## 2012-13 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARBOOK IS ON SALE

- The November price for the Elementary Yearbook is \$16 if you order on or before November 30.
- We will be offering a December price of \$18 if it is easier for you to order later. December orders are due on or before December 21.
- We will take orders until January 31. All books will be \$20.
- After January 31, we will not take additional orders. If you wish to purchase a book, they will be sold on a first-come first-served basis in the spring. Quantities will be limited, so it is best to order in advance if you are able.

**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.JOSTENS\\_YEARBOOKS.COM](http://WWW.JOSTENS_YEARBOOKS.COM).

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

### Elementary Yearbook Order Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Money Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to Pittsville Elementary School**

## 4-KGN & EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARN ABOUT FIRE SAFETY

The Pittsville Fire Department visited the 4K/EC classes to talk about Fire Safety. The children learned about how to get out of a building that is on fire, to stay low in fire, and to Stop, Drop, and Roll if your clothes catch on fire. The PFD also talked about calling 911 in case of an emergency. The children had fun trying on the coat and hat, and also seeing if they could hold the air tank. Thank you Pittsville Fire Department for keeping us safe!



# FOOD SERVICE NEWS

## THE NEW LUNCH GUIDELINES

The USDA has implemented the following new regulations for the National School Lunch Program starting the 2012-13 school year.

- All students MUST take ½ cup of vegetable or fruit with each lunch.
- Increase the amount of fruit and vegetables as well as offering the required servings for dark green and red/orange vegetables per week.
- ½ cup of legumes must be offered once a week.
- At least ½ the grains offered must be whole grain-rich. For the 2013–14 school year, all of the grains will be required to be whole grain-rich.
- Requirements include calorie, saturated fat, and sodium restrictions and the elimination of all Trans-fat.
- Calorie restrictions by grade are; K–5 (550-600), 6-8 (600-700), 9-12 (750-850).

The USDA has given schools specific guidelines as far as portion sizes and the number of grains, fruits, and vegetables that should be served daily to meet these standards. In looking over our menu at Pittsville Schools, we have already dropped food items containing Trans-fat. To meet the other requirements, we will need to cut down our portion sizes on grain items (pasta, bread, rice, buns, crackers, breadsticks) and increase the servings of fruit and vegetables. We also have some entrée items high in sodium and will be looking for alternatives throughout the year.

## ONLINE PAYMENTS

Parents can make online payments from home or work by using their VISA or MasterCard credit or debit card. Payments are made through the student's Skyward Family Access account. To make online payments:

- Visit our district website [www.pittsville.k12.wi.us](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us)
  - Click on **For Students/Parents tab**
  - Click on **Family and Student Access**
  - Log in to **Skyward Family Access** (you will need your Login and Password)
  - Use your **MasterCard** or **VISA** (Debit or Credit Card)
- Payments made through Skyward Family Access will immediately be posted to the student's food service account. Parents will be charged \$2.50 for the convenience of making an online payment.

### 2012-2013 MEAL PRICES

4K- Grade 3 Lunch	\$2.00
Grade 4-8 Lunch	\$2.50
Grade 9-12 Lunch	\$3.00
Adult Lunch	\$3.75
Reduced Lunch	\$.40
Milk	\$.25
4K-Grade 12 Breakfast	\$.60
Adult Breakfast	\$1.20

Breakfast & Lunch menus are available on the district webpage at [www.pittsville.k12.wi.us](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us)

## LOW LUNCH BALANCES

Accounts below \$25.00 will be notified weekly through the Pittsville School District's SchoolMessenger 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 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](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us). If you have any questions, please contact Joe Dostal at 715-884-2517.

## Athletic Department Sports News



Greetings from the Pittsville Athletic Department,

The fall athletic season has come and gone, and we are now busy preparing for the winter athletic season. Before we move on to the Wrestling, Basketball and Pom Pon seasons, I'd like to congratulate our fall athletes, coaches and fans on a great season. The Panther teams represented our community extremely well, and their hard work and determination is very much appreciated.

As we head into the winter season, I would like to remind parents and athletes that every athlete will again need to fill out the concussion form stating that they have received and understand the information provided to them about concussions. According to the new state law, if an athlete participated in a fall sport, they will still need to fill out the form before they are allowed to participate in the winter season. Concussion forms will be provided through the coaches, or they can be picked up in the school offices.

Finally, with winter weather quickly approaching, it is very likely that there will be weather related athletic postponements or cancellations. There are two ways that I will be communicating those changes with parents and the public. The quickest and easiest way for fans to find out when there are athletic changes is to sign up with the Notify Me! option on the district calendar ([www.pittsville.k12.wi.us](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us)). The district calendar is in the top middle of the webpage, and if you click on a date, you can see what is going on in the district on that day. If you look in the upper right hand corner by the monthly calendar, there is a link labeled Notify Me! By following this link and filling in the information, you can be notified as soon as there is a change to any of the events that you sign up for. The second method we will use for informing parents and students of athletic postponements or cancellations is through the use of the Skylert School Messenger system which will make the automated calls to those involved in the events that are affected. It is important that the Skyward system has current contact information for each family in order for these alerts to reach everyone. If you need help in updating or checking your contact information, please contact your child's office for assistance.

Thanks for all of the support our student athletes receive, and I look forward to a great winter season. Go Panthers!

### SPORTS SCHEDULES

Please check [www.pittsville.k12.wi.us](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us) and click on **Athletics** for the most current and accurate information.



# Music Department News...

Pittsville bands and choirs have been hard at work preparing for their first series of concerts! We are very excited to be working with a community that supports music.

The High School Choir, High School Band, and Swing Choir have also been hard at work preparing for their first performance. The Pops Concert will be Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Pittsville Auditorium. The theme for the high school concert series is "The Elements," and we kick off the year with "Water" in its many forms. Join us for an evening of music and raffle prizes. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for students, and preschool age children are free!

The Junior High and Sixth grade bands and choirs will be honoring our Veterans with patriotic music on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, during a Veterans Day program. Please come support not only the choirs but our local Veterans that morning - time is to be announced.

High School Band and Choir will also be honoring the Veterans with music during the Veterans Day program, hosted at the High School at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to join us as we honor those who have served our community and country!

The following students were selected to the Marawood Honors Concert: Marissa Ortner, Miranda Coulthard, Jamie Dietz, Sophia Schwanebeck, Ashley Steele, Austin John, Nathan Amundson, Calvin Amundson, and Olie Voight from choir; Walter Harris, Aileen Ida, Megan Piotrowski, and Angela Rahm from band. Congratulations to these musicians on their achievement! The concert will take place on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, at Marathon High School at 7:00 p.m.

In other news, the Music Department has received approval and sponsorship to begin a Tri-M (Modern Music Masters) Music Honor Society in Pittsville! We will have two chapters: Junior Chapter (grades 6-8) and Senior Chapter (grades 9-12). This is an honor society that recognizes music students who also maintain a high grade point average (or at least a C average). Once we have received our charter information, we will begin the selection and induction process. Tri-M is a service based society that will take on projects that will benefit not only the music department but also the Pittsville Community. Contact us for further information or if you have an idea for a service project!

**ON THE HORIZON:**

Sunday, Nov. 4, 7:00 p.m. - High School Pops Concert

Tuesday, Nov. 6, 7:00 p.m. - Marawood Honors Concert at Marathon H.S.

Monday, Nov. 12 - Veterans Day Performances

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 1:45/6:00 p.m. - Junior High Winter Concert

Sunday, Dec. 9, 7:00 p.m. - High School Winter Concert

**Administrative Contacts**

Mr. Reynolds, District Administrator  
715-884-6694

Mr. Weddig, Senior High Principal  
715-884-6412

Mrs. Fischer, Elementary Principal  
715-884-2517

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Julie Strenn	President
MaryAnn Lippert	Vice President
Connie Potter	Clerk
Jane Wesely	Treasurer
Lisa Schulz	Member-At-Large

**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's SchoolMessenger 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



**Saturday, November 3, 2012**

**Randy Sabien**

Randy Sabien is a jazz violinist for whom the term Jazz Violin is little more than the name of the musical genre where his recordings are found. He regularly steps beyond the boundaries of what many think of as jazz, forging headlong into the worlds of rock, blues and funk. Randy is a product of his time - someone who grew up playing the violin while immersed in the music of the 60s and 70s. Visit him at [www.randysabien.com](http://www.randysabien.com)



Sponsored in part by: Pittsville Therapy Services Inc., Pittsville Vision Center, Alliant Energy, Pittsville Family Dental, Health Centered Dentistry - Dr John and Judy Laughlin, Central Hardware and Supply, Heuer Brothers Construction.

**Pittsville Auditorium - Showtime: 2:30 pm - Tickets: Adult \$10, Senior \$8, Student \$5**

**COMMUNITY WALKERS**

Pittsville Elementary School will be open for walking every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Please use Entrance B.

**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.



### PTO Corner....

October was a busy month for the PTO and its many parent volunteers. Thank you so much for our many volunteers to make our busy October such a successful month! We couldn't have done it without you!! Special thanks to Jodi Wolfe for all her help with the book fair and Dave Pearson for all his help with our fall events. We held the Scholastic book fair, Little Caesars pizza/no pizza sale and provided meals to the teachers during parent teacher conferences. Thank you to our volunteers for working at the book fair, we are able to earn Scholastic dollars to purchase more books for the school. Thank you to everyone who donated a food item to the teacher meals. Because of your generosity we were able to provide these meals without any use of PTO funds. Thanks to everyone for your support in the Little Caesars pizza/no pizza sale. Awards will be handed out later in November.

**Attention Community Members:** We are looking for community members who want to help make our schools even better for our students. Are you willing to read an Accelerated Reader test to a child who is unable to read on their own, help a child with a homework assignment or help at lunch or recess? Can't come in but you still want to enhance our school district? How about entering Coke points or allowing us to use your email address to enter them, trimming and counting soup labels, or donating a food item for events. The possibilities are endless. Please fill out the enclosed form, return it to Pittsville Elementary School and/or contact Pittsville PTO at [pto@pittsville.k12.wi.us](mailto:pto@pittsville.k12.wi.us), Liz Knutson, PTO President at 715-884-3314 or Kim Fischer, Elementary School Principal. We can't wait to hear from you!

**Black Friday Sale:** PTO Cookbooks are \$10 and will be buy one get one free from Thursday, November 23 throughout the Christmas season or until supplies last. Books are available at Healing Hands Chiropractic, Pittsville Family Dental, Hardware Hank, Pittsville Therapy, Baum's Mercantile, Pittsville Community Library and Pittsville Elementary School. Thank you to these businesses for their help.

The Pittsville PTO supports several activities throughout the year and we need your help! We need great volunteers like you to make it a successful year. Please look at the following list of volunteer opportunities and consider how you could help. Do you have a skill you would like to share but don't see it listed on here please contact us and we'd be happy to discuss it with you. (The contact information you provide will only be used for PTO business and will not be shared with anyone except PTO members.)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time to Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Method of Contact (Circle One):      Phone      Email from the PTO      Postcard

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Opportunities Available for Fall 2012 Semester:**

- Classroom Assistant – tasks will vary based on the classroom.
- Art Room Assistant – Help prepare materials for upcoming projects
- Music Room Assistant – Help at concerts, fund-raisers, and with the Music Boosters
- General Photo Copy Assistant –You may come in at your convenience to run these copies.
- Bus Assistant – Help students get from the bus to school safely. Wed. 7:30-7:50 am
- Lunch Line Assistant – Help students at lunch time: 10:50-12:12. This is flexible and may be a daily, weekly, monthly or seasonal opportunity. Our volunteer coordinator will contact you.
- Recess Assistant – Helps supervise students at recess time
- Tutor – Give students a little extra help when needed
- Donate a food item-this is done periodically throughout the year for events such as parent-teacher conferences or Teacher Appreciation Week
- Book Fair –Chair Committee      Set-up/Take Down      Work a shift
- Coke Points – enter Coke points -you must have an email & this can be done at home
- Labels for Education – Helping cut these and prepare them for mailings
- Miscellaneous – permission to contact for those extra items that come up throughout the year

Don't forget to save your Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Labels for Education, milk caps, Coke points to help us earn free items for the school. We have collection containers in the Elementary School lobby. Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. Please feel free to contact either Kim Fischer, Elementary School Principal, at (715)884-2517 or the PTO via email: [pto@pittsville.k12.wi.us](mailto:pto@pittsville.k12.wi.us)

### Second Grade Takes Cran-Tour

On October 12, the second graders in Miss Sischo's, Mrs. Denniston's, and Mrs. Look's classes toured Gardner Cold Storage. The Pittsville High School Cranberry Science Class and the FFA members gave the tour. The second graders got to see the cranberry beds and the cranberries being harvested. They also were able to taste fresh cranberries. The second graders and teachers got to enjoy some delicious cranberry juice donated by Wayne Gardner and some yummy cranberry bars donated by the Pittsville FFA. The Pittsville FFA also donated the bus transportation. The second graders and staff had a wonderful time. Thank you Mr. Wayne Gardner, Pittsville FFA members, Mr. Bill Urban, and Dan Hahn for a great day!

### Second Grade Learn about Pittsville History

During October, 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 its own doctors. They were also surprised to find out Pittsville used to have a creamery, a drugstore, multiple hardware stores, and a saw mill. We greatly appreciate Mrs. Neve donating her time to teach us more about Pittsville's history!



**Students helped harvesting cabbage from the garden. They also harvested green peppers. They'll be yummy in our school lunches!**

### FFA Members to attend National FFA Convention in Indianapolis

Megan Christiansen, Connor and Ciera Coyle, Jenna Ginter, Emily Kissner, Calvin Amundson, Eric Huber, Tristan Gardner, and parent chaperone Janeen Gardner will be attending the National FFA Convention held at Indianapolis, Indiana October 24-27. While at the Convention, the FFA members will be attending leadership workshops, listening to inspirational speakers, touring and meeting other FFA members. The National Convention is the largest student organization convention in the United States with over 50,000 FFA members attending. Once again the FFA Alumni is helping support our student members to the National FFA Convention by donating \$700 to help support their trip. The proceeds from the June Dairy Breakfast and Meat and Labor Auction help support the Pittsville FFA and its members.

### Splash of Red Cranberry Highway Tour Celebrates 11th Anniversary



Pittsville senior Cranberry Science member Olie Voight explains the harvesting process of cranberries to tourists during the Splash of Red Cranberry Tours. Olie was also interviewed for television station WAOW, where can go to their website and see the interview at <http://www.waow.com/story/19809084/how-are-cranberries-harvested>.

It is amazing that 11 years ago, 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. When FFA Alumni member Marv Kohlbeck and FFA/ag instructor Bill Urban approached Mr. Gardner eleven 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."

Eleven years ago, tour began with five dates and we totaled 60 people. This year we had nine dates and educated over 800 guests about the cranberry industry in "Cranberry Basket of the World," including many fourth grade groups, life long learners, and high school groups. Over the years, we have had guests 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! They are so well behaved and professional looking! What a beautiful auditorium and facilities you have here at Pittsville

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.

Finally, Mr Urban has said "it takes a village to educate and have a successful tour." Without the help of the Gardners, other cranberry growers such as the Potters, Mark & Sue Redmond, Heurer Brothers, 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 School Board and Administration supporting the tour to help make it so successful. Without these people willingness to go the extra mile, the tours would have died on the vine many years ago.



FFA President Megan Christiansen picks yellow bell tomatoes at the Ray and Nancy Stauner's Farm. The garden's first year of production produced over 600#s of produce used both in the school lunch program and Foods Classes.



Pittsville David Soyka is picking cherry tomatoes at the Ray and Nancy Stauner Farm. The Stuaner's have volunteered a parcel of land for the Farm to School program starting in the Pittsville School District.



Sara Minor and Danielle Grimm smile as they write down the latest box of meat to be sold at the FFA/Alumni Meat and Labor Auction on November 3 at the Pittsville Community Hall. The date was recently changed because of the success of the PHS football team. The doors open at 7:30PM and the auction promptly starts at 8:15pm. The Pittsville FFA Alumni provides free food and beverage for all bidders. The FFA Alumni also use all proceeds to support our FFA Members.





## Pound Out Hunger Competition Benefits PANS

During Homecoming week, the students of Pittsville competed against Auburndale High School in more than one way. Students at both schools collected food donations for their local food pantry in a friendly competition. Each school kept a running total of the total poundage of food collected. The students of Pittsville won the wager this year, collecting over one ton of non-perishable food items. Between the two schools, over 3500 pounds of food was collected. Because of the success of this program, both schools plan on making this an annual event, even if the game does not fall on Homecoming week. PANS would like to thank all of the parents and students that donated items. The school would also like to thank Baum's Mercantile for promoting this event and donating generously.



Amphiltheatre Gallon-Romain



Running with the Bulls – Pamplona, Spain



Mediterranean Sea

## INTERNATIONAL ART CLUB TOUR

Summer vacation was quite an adventure for eleven Pittsville students. They started their travels in London, England. While the group was on an optional excursion, Sydney and Jen watched the Queen's Birthday Parade. It was very exciting for them to see Queen Elizabeth and Prince Charles. We traveled to Paris on the Euro Star. While in Paris we visited the Louvre, seeing exhibits such as Ancient Egyptian artifacts and the Mona Lisa. On the way to Spain, we toured an ancient castle, the Amphitheatre Gallon-Romain, and one of the seven wonders of the world – Dune de Pylar. Arriving in Barcelona, Spain we experienced the work of Antonio Gaudi at Parc Guell and Familia Sagrada. In Madrid we stopped at the Royal Palace, having an opportunity to tour the Royal Armoury Room. During an excursion to Toledo, we toured St. Mary's Cathedral that took 200 years to complete and exhibiting numerous architectural styles. Ending our trip to Toledo, we observed craftsmen at a sword making factory. Fifteen days later, we arrived back in the United States, looking forward to another trip in 2016 – Greece?



Tower Bridge, London - Arianna, Adrianna, Savanna, Tim, Kari, Tristan, Sarah, Kayla, Paul, Sydney, McKenzie

# Pittsville School District

# News

FIRST QUARTER, 2012-13

**Drivers: Please be watchful for pedestrians on Elementary Avenue. Slowdown as you make your way towards the school and bus loading area.**

*Taken from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Website ([www.dot.state.wi.us](http://www.dot.state.wi.us))*

## **RULES AND POINTERS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND DRIVERS**

Pay attention to reduce your chances of being in an accident. The most important safety tip to reduce pedestrian injuries and fatalities is to pay attention. You can significantly reduce your chances of being in a collision with a motor vehicle by obeying traffic rules and being aware of dangers posed by cars in your vicinity. Make eye contact with drivers if possible and make sure that they can see you. Both drivers and pedestrians have certain safety responsibilities that depend on both circumstances and common sense.

### **Drivers must:**

- Yield to pedestrians when crossing a sidewalk or entering an alley or driveway
- Yield to pedestrians who have started crossing at an intersection or crosswalk on a "walk" signal or a green light, if there is no walk signal
- Yield to pedestrians who are crossing the highway within a marked or unmarked crosswalk at an intersection where there are no traffic lights or control signals
- Not overtake and pass any vehicle that stops at an intersection or crosswalk to permit a pedestrian or bicyclist to cross the roadway safely

### **Pedestrians must:**

- Yield to drivers when crossing a road where there is no intersection or crosswalk or where the pedestrian does not have a green or "walk" signal and where vehicles have a green signal
- Not suddenly move into the path of a closely approaching vehicle that does not have sufficient time to yield for a pedestrian
- Walk on and along the left side of a highway when not walking on a sidewalk. Note: This law does not apply to bicycles. Bicycles operate under the same laws as other legal vehicles on the road and should always stay on the right side of the road.

