

CPMSD CONNECT ON



Our Mission: To Prepare All Students for Tomorrow's Challenges and Opportunities

Pocono Mountain School District 2016-2017 Issue 2

Staying Informed

First Day of School

The first day of school for Pocono Mountain School District students is Monday, August 29, 2016.

Standardized Dress Code

Pocono Mountain School District has a standardized dress code (PMSD Policy 221) for all students in grades K-12. For more information, check out the PMSD website at www.pmsd.org, go to Parent Section and Dress Code tab.

Free/Reduced Lunch

Electronic applications for Free & Reduced school meals are available on the Pocono Mountain School District website (www.pmsd.org), under the Helpful Links section, Free & Reduced Meals Online Application link.

School Meal Payments

Pocono Mountain School District does not accept cash payments from students in the lunch line. Parents may pay for school meals for their children as follows:

- Create an account and make payments using a credit card through the Parent Online link at www.pmsd.org
- Use the pre-printed envelopes provided at your child school to deposit check, cash or money order payments to your child's account.

School Meal Prices

- Breakfast (all grades) - \$1.40
- Lunch (grades K-6) - \$2
- Lunch (grades 7-12) - \$2.40
- Reduced Price Breakfast - \$0.30
- Reduced Price Lunch - \$0.40

Meet the Teacher Night

- PM East HS - September 7 at 6 p.m.
- PM East Junior HS - September 12 at 6 p.m.
- PM West Junior HS - September 13 at 6 p.m.
- PM Academy - September 13 at 6 p.m.
- PM West HS - September 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Anti-Bullying Parent Presentation

Don't miss Ryan's Story, an anti-bullying, suicide prevention presentation for all district parents on September 14 at 7 p.m. at the PM East Junior High School.



Pocono Mountain School District West Transportation Department mechanics receive training on propane bus mechanical features and diagnostics from BrightBill Body Works. PMSD replace 25 old diesel buses with 25 new propane school buses for the 2016-2017 school year. Propane buses have an excellent safety record, are quieter, produce no exhaust fumes and are 40 percent cheaper to run than diesel buses.

School PRIDE goes District-wide

By Dr. Mary Beth Gustafson

Assistant Superintendent for Special Education

Pocono Mountain School District is taking its positive school behavior initiatives district-wide, with a focus on PRIDE.

This school year, the district will implement Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) in all buildings and all grades from Kindergarten to 12. Each school will focus on school PRIDE, which means being Prepared, Respectful, Involved, Dependable and Empathetic.

"The clear expectations outlined for behavior, the use of common language for students and staff alike, has created a climate for students to do their best," said Dr. Mark Wade, Principal of PM West High School where the program was piloted for secondary grades last year. "It has helped establish routine, has aided in a decrease in discipline incidents as well as an increase in student level of achievement. Students, staff and parents alike, have reported an improved level of safety and satisfaction in the building since the implementation of the PBIS framework."

PBIS is not replacing the School-Wide Positive Behavior Support program for grades

K-6. Instead, these schools will use the PRIDE framework to refocus and revamp portions of their programs to achieve greater results.

PBIS is a proactive approach to establishing the behavioral supports and social culture needed for all students to achieve social, emotional and academic success.

Attention is focused on creating and sustaining primary (school-wide), secondary (classroom), and tertiary (individual) systems

of support that improve lifestyle results (personal, health, social, family, work, recreation) for ALL students by making targeted misbehavior less effective, efficient, and relevant, and desired behavior more functional.

One of the foremost advances in addressing school-wide discipline is the emphasis on school-wide systems of support such as PBIS that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create a positive school environment. A continuum of positive behavior support for ALL students within a school is implemented in areas including the classroom and non-classroom settings (such as hallways, buses, cafeterias and restrooms).

How Parents Support PRIDE Expectations	
Prepared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure child follows the standardized dress code • Text or call your child after school hours • Make sure child is on time for school and attending regularly
Respectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use appropriate language, volume and tone when communicating with staff • Listen and ask questions for clarification • Build positive relationships with staff and administration
Involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report any problems, concerns or unsafe situations to a building administrator • Attend meetings, school events or school sponsored activities • Keep communication on-going and positive • Review Home Access Center* for grades and assignments
Dependable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to requests for attendance at meetings (Yes or No) • Be on time for meetings, school events or school sponsored activities
Empathetic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show care, concern and acceptance of others • Acknowledge the efforts of staff and your child