



THE PMSD ESL CONNECTION

A Message from Amy Buffington

Pocono Mountain School District Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Federal Programs: Social Studies & Humanities



It is my pleasure to say we have almost come to the end of my first year of being the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for SS and Humanities along with Federal Funding. We have learned and grown together in the ESL Department in the last year. ACCESS test scores will be arriving momentarily, and we are ready to see the success of our students.

I would like to take a moment to explain how Federal Funding works for our EL population. We are awarded a grant by the state and given a section called Title III. This supplemental program concentrates on the delivery of language instruction for students who have a primary language other than English. This provides us with the opportunity to improve the education of limited English proficient (LEP) children by helping them learn English and meet state content and academic achievement standards. It also provides enhanced instruction opportunities for immigrant children. These funds allow us to purchase educational materials.

I am excited to tell you about a new supplement coming to our EL population at PMSD. We are joining a consortium

through the Lincoln IU and will be using LAS Links as a new progress monitoring tool next year. This tool will help our students and teachers actively monitor progress throughout the school year prior to taking the ACCESS test. The assessment will be conducted in the same program and format as the actual ACCESS test. It is my hope that this information will help the students, teachers, and families when preparing for the test.

We will also be piloting a Kindergarten field test screener for WIDA. We have been chosen by WIDA to help utilize a new screener they have for our incoming Kindergarten students. This will provide us with an opportunity to give feedback about future screeners.

These are exciting times in the world of ESL! I encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions at any time. Please remember to have students keep reading and learning throughout the summer. It is important for learning to be an ongoing process. Thank you for your time and attention! I look forward to working with everyone again next school year!



ATTENTION!

Calling all 2019-2020
Kindergarten students!
We need you to schedule your
appointment to register your child!



If you have a child who meets the eligibility for the 2019-2020 school year Kindergarten class, please contact the Pocono Mountain School District Central Registration Office at 839-7121 ext. 40400 to schedule an appointment. The child must be five (5) years of age or more, on or before September 1, 2019.

After the registration process has been completed, your child will be scheduled for a Kindergarten orientation session sometime in the spring at their respective school building.

The required documents are available on-line at www.pmsd.org

It is strongly recommended that you complete all required documents prior to your scheduled appointment.

2019 Monroe County Summer Meals Program for Eligible Children

Pocono Mountains United Way and the Hunger Coalition announced the locations for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) for low-income children during the summer break from school.

There are three locations available in Pocono Mountain School District.



*One site is for A Pocono County Place community members only. The other two sites are open sites for any low-income children within the District. ACPC members call (570) 894-8356, ext. 110 with questions.

The other two Summer Meals Program locations are open to all children 18 years old and younger and are as follow:

*The Mountain Center will offer breakfast and lunch to low-income children from June 12 through August 19, 2019. Breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., and lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

*Northampton Community College-Monroe Campus (Pocono Hall Food Court) will offer breakfast and lunch to low income children from June 17 through August 8, 2019. Breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., and lunch will be served from Noon to 1 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

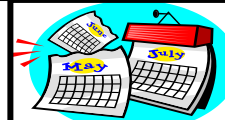
SFSP was established to provide free meals to children so they receive the same high quality nutrition during school vacations that they get in school cafeterias during the school year. Continued nutrition helps children return to school after summer ready to learn. The SFSP is a federally funded program operated nationally by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE).

***All sites are CLOSED on July 4th.**





DATES TO REMEMBER



- ☺ June 7th: Pocono Mountain East High School Graduation (6PM)
- ☺ June 8th: Pocono Mountain West High School Graduation (10AM)
- ☺ June 11th: Last day of School for students
- ☺ June 12th-August 19th: Monroe County Summer Meals Program @ The Mountain Center (Open site; closed July 4th)
- ☺ June 17th-August 8th: Monroe County Summer Meals Program @ NCC-Monroe Campus (Pocono Hall Food Court), Tannersville (Open site; closed July 4th)
- ☺ July 9th-August 22nd: Monroe County Summer Meals Program @ APCP This site is ONLY open to APCP community members who can call (570) 894-8356, extension 110 with questions.
- ☺ August 26th: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2019-2020. School continues to be in session on the 27TH, 28TH, AND 29TH
- ☺ August 30th: NO SCHOOL FOR LABOR DAY WEEKEND
- ☺ September 2nd: NO SCHOOL: LABOR DAY
- ☺ September 3rd: SCHOOL IN SESSION!!



Congratulations

Congratulations Class of 2019

Congratulations to the ESL students who are part of the class of 2019 from both Pocono Mountain East High School and Pocono Mountain West High School. Your Pocono Mountain Family is so proud of you! We wish you the very best in all of your future endeavors! Keep us updated with news from time to time.

Best Wishes for Continued Success in the Future!

ESL SUMMER TIPS FOR PARENTS

Kids whose parents are active in their child's education, will probably be much more likely to become successful language learners.

Useful English Study Tips For Summer

- Encourage children to **read** you any English stories *every* day.
- If parents can speak English, encourage conversation in English when possible.
- Visit your local library and ask about summer programs.
- **Read often!**
- Keep a summer journal.
- Create crafts/projects together. Read and follow the instructions together.
- Make grocery/shopping lists together.
- Cook together, use recipes together.
- NETWORK! Meet other families in your school.
- Be a role model for your children. When they see you learning more English, they will also want to improve their English and succeed in school.
- Spend time with friends and family!
- Help your child access interactive websites on the internet especially relevant to young learners. There are tons of free and useful English websites for kids. Visit pmsd.org for ESL learning games.



Just a few Websites:

E-Learning for Kids—www.e-learning.forkids.org (great free multi-subject website for grades K-6; site can be translated into several languages)

Pocono Mountain School District—www.pmsd.org

Pennsylvania Department of Education—www.education.state.pa.us

International Digital Library—en.childrenslibrary.org (these are all free online books in several languages for kids)

Photographic Dictionary—<https://photographicdictionary.com>

Videographic Dictionary (part of the Photographic Dictionary)—<http://videographicdictionary.com>

Fact Monster—<https://www.factmonster.com> (great range of free multi-subject activities for various age levels)

ABCya— <http://www.abcya.com> (multi-grade, multi-subject website in a game format)

Highlights Kids—<https://www.highlightskids.com> (games, puzzles, recipes, crafts)

Starfall—<https://www.starfall.com> (a great deal of free pre-k to grade 3 phonics/reading content, some free math content; additional content available with a paid annual subscription)



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