



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Back to School Information

We are preparing for supply and device pickups this coming week. K-4 supply and device pickup will be at PES on September 1 from 9:00-3:00 p.m. We will confirm the date and times for 5-12 supply and device pickup later this week. More information on the September 3 Kickoff Day is outlined below. Sixth grade orientation will be held on September 2 and seventh grade orientation will be September 3. In-person and virtual orientation options will be offered between 8:00-10:30 a.m. Sixth and seventh grade students and families can sign-up to attend an orientation session by filling out a survey that will be shared by email on August 29 or by calling the PMHS main office.



Back to School Kickoff Day

On Thursday, September 3, teachers will be sharing welcome back videos and/or arranging for introductory Zoom meetings. The purpose of the kickoff day is to introduce students and families to this year's teacher or advisor, familiarize students and families with online platforms, and to provide an overview of what to expect during the first week of school. We are in the process of developing a detailed schedule with video and Zoom links, course syllabi, and year-at-a-glance documents. We plan to have more information available next week.

IMPORTANT DATES

Sixth Grade Orientation

PMHS

September 2, 8:00-9:00/9:30-10:30 AM

Seventh Grade Orientation

PMHS

September 3, 8:00-9:00/9:30-10:30 AM

Back to School Kickoff Day

PK-12

September 3

School Board Meeting

PES Learning Commons

September 3, 5:30 PM

Labor Day Weekend

No School

September 4-7

State Primary Election

PMHS Gym

September 8, 7:00-7:00 PM

Remote Learning Days

PK-12

September 8-9

First Hybrid A Day

PK-12

September 10

First Hybrid B Day

PK-12

September 11

The district calendar is available at:
www.pittsfieldnhschools.org

Superintendent of Schools



The Pittsfield School Board has appointed John Graziano as the interim Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Graziano previously served as the Superintendent of the Newfound School District and has served as the headmaster or principal in the Pembroke, Farmington, and Stratford School Districts. He lives in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and has family in the Lake Region area. His first day with the Pittsfield School District was August 26.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

Starting September 10, our first hybrid learning day, students will report directly to their home base classroom at the beginning of the day. Due to the need for all staff members to be available for morning arrival coverage, students may not arrive to school any earlier than 7:45 a.m. Bus routes are being re-worked for the earliest bus drop off to align with 7:45 a.m. arrival time. We anticipate having the bus routes with revised pick up times available early next week. Dismissal at the end of the school day will be staggered but we do not anticipate it will impact regular bus drop off times. Students will be screened (temperature check and brief health questions) prior to the boarding the bus in the morning and at arrival locations.

Food Services

Over the past six months our Fresh Picks staff has been working hard to prepare meals for children 18 and under requesting meal deliveries. Our waiver to provide these meals free of charge runs out on August 31. The food services program will resume on September 10 (A Group) and September 11 (B Group). PES will utilize the Breakfast After the Bell Program to deliver meals to classrooms. PMHS students will pick up breakfast from kiosks and eat in their home bases (the cafeteria will not be open in the morning for breakfast at either school). The cafeteria will be open for lunch. Kindergarten students will eat in classrooms but all other grade levels will eat in the cafeteria. Also, starting on these dates, bagged lunches will also be available for hybrid learners to take lunch home for remote learning days. Students working fully remote can make arrangements for meals by returning the paperwork enclosed in back-to-school packets or by contacting the main office.

HEALTH SERVICES CORNER

Medication Drop-Off

Our school nurses will be available for medication drop off on Wednesday, September 2, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at PES and on Thursday, September 3 from 9:00-11:00 at PMHS. Medications need to be in a labeled bottle with a prescription and must be dropped off by an adult.

Health & Hygiene Practice

Families are encouraged to practice proper hand washing procedures and wearing a mask before returning to school.

Masks & Lanyards

All students (PK-12) attending hybrid learning days will be offered two reusable masks and a lanyard to help care for their masks during mask breaks and meals.