

Pella Middle School

Maximizing Life's Opportunities for Every Child



April 2015

Dates to Remember:

May 7	11:15 Dismissal
May 8	11:15 Dismissal
May 13	1:45 Dismissal
May 20	1:45 Dismissal
May 28	Laptop Roll-in
May 29	Final Day
June 2	Grades Posted

2015-2015 School Year

August 1	Schedules Available
August 24	First Day of School
September 3	
1.	Meet the Teacher
2.	1:1 Laptop Roll-out
3.	Parent Meeting - Athletics

April 2015 Newsletter

Believe it or not, we are talking about the final days of the 2014-2015 school year! The final day is scheduled for Friday, May 29th, and it will be a full school day. Monday, August 24, will be the first day of the 2015 – 2016 school year. The calendar for the 2015 – 2016 school year is attached on a link below:

<http://www.pellaschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/15-16District-Calendar.pdf>

All Students



Congratulations Mr. Karl Korver for winning the Golden Apple Award! Story to be aired later this week on Channel 13, and the rest of the story can be read on page five of the newsletter.



Tulip Time - May 7-9

We need your help to ensure all students are accounted for this week during Tulip Time. If you could let us know via one of the following, we would greatly appreciate it. It will eliminate your student being marked truant.

- **Email** Mindy Schnoebelen attendance plans: mindy.schnoebelen@pella.k12.ia.us
- **Call** the Middle School Office: **641.628.4784**
- **Send a note** with your children regarding your plans, and tell them they must turn it into the office.

Tulip School/Bell Schedule

Thursday 5/7/15

Period 1 8:15-8:57 (42)
Period 2 9:00-9:42 (42)
Period 3 9:45-10:27 (42)
Period 4 10:30-11:15 (45)

Friday 5/8/15

Period 5 8:15-8:57 (42) 7th only
Period 6 8:15-8:57 (42) 8th only
Period 7 9:00-9:42 (42)
Period 8 9:45-10:27 (42)
Period 9 10:30-11:15 (45)

8th Grade Specific

8th Grade Party

Please help me to thank Carrie Valster and the rest of the parent planning committee if you have not had the chance. This is a big undertaking and commitment by parents, and that is why it has been such a tradition in this school.

Carrie Valster:
carrie.valster@gmail.com



8th Grade Readers

Our 8th grade students traveled to Madison and Lincoln Elementary to read to the students. They wrote and published books in groups of three, and the elementary students were once again thrilled to have the "big" kids there to read to them. Stories had a lesson or message in them in regards to friendship, teamwork, humility, anti-bullying, etc. Mrs. DeHaan, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Bogaard, and Mrs. Hillyer are the 8th grade Language Arts teachers. Great job students!



7th Grade Specific

Are you ready for the 8th grade party next year?

As the 8th grade party is approaching for our 8th grade students, it seems like an appropriate time to share general information about what the 8th grade party is in case you do not know about it. I have attached a link to the letter that went out this year, simply for your information. The 8th grade party is an annual tradition that continues to be a success because of supportive parents. This year, the team of planners has tried to make it an event that once again focuses on the students in a less formal setting. Please take a look at the letter, and consider being a part of the planning for next year. If you would like to discuss the possibility of overseeing this next year, please let me know **prior to the end of the school year**. This will also allow parents to begin the planning process early in the 2015-2016 school year, in case your group of parents wants to make changes to the general idea of what the party is and/or entails. Again, parents make nearly all the decisions about the 8th grade party and dictate what type of party it is.

[8th Grade Party Link](#)

Jack Stratton(7th) and Lindsay Blommers (8th) Murals



Golden Apple Award for Pella Middle School's Mr. Korver

Throughout the school year, students write letters and e-mails to WHO-HD telling us why their favorite teacher is so special. Thousands of letters are received each year and each one is read and judged by WHO-HD and Allied Insurance.



Each month, WHO TV 13 picks a winning letter, contacts the school's principal and arranges a school wide assembly where that special teacher is surprised by WHO-HD and Allied Insurance. This presentation will be broadcast on the news, and Mr. Korver was selected for April's winner. Mr. Korver has been teaching 8th grade History for the past 31 years at Pella Middle School. Congratulations and thank you Mr. Korver!

Schedules for Next Year

Current 8th grade students' 9th grade schedules will be handed out sometime in the next few weeks. Please look over your students' schedules with them. Changes can be made by emailing one of the high school counselors.

Current 7th grade students' schedules will be available on Infinite Campus in August. Please call Anne Pentico if you have questions about your students' schedules.



Learning is not a spectator sport.

Counselor's Connection

Seven Ways to Prepare for Middle School and High School Transitions

By Ann Schimke

Q: What can I do to help my children make the transition to middle school and high school?

Whether it's sixth grade or ninth, graduating to a new level usually means bigger buildings, larger student bodies, more choices and more freedom. Along with excitement, students can feel anxiety, frustration and isolation. We spoke with several veteran middle and high school educators who gave us the following advice for how parents can help their children make a smooth transition.

To find the remainder of the article go to the link listed below.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jbhNNq-j-TrUsnlg6Zfg3oE6M1702z_aAI3fUTdljA0/edit

Thank you Mrs. Pentico

2014 - 2015 Approved District Calendar:

<http://www.pellaschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/14-15District-Calendar.pdf>

Activities/School Calendar - has ALL 2014 - 2015 district activities updated on it

http://www.littlehawkeyeconference.com/g5-bin/client.cgi?G5genie=206&school_id=4

Middle School Specific Site:

<http://www.pellaschools.org/schools/middle-school/>

Middle School Handbook:

https://docs.google.com/a/pella.k12.ia.us/document/d/1JuW6bmJiBZ9Mm9dhi-Xt_edleW_AyeOL8LxE7sc2S4l/edit

Pella 1:1 Handbook:

https://docs.google.com/a/pella.k12.ia.us/document/d/1QyO3_S4OmTFuauYwSz6lXl5SsjYh68y-h9K8qZ6M5VM/edit

Middle School Band:

<https://sites.google.com/a/pella.k12.ia.us/pella-middle-school-band/>

Pella Digital Learning Environment (DLE) Link:

<http://pcsd-dle.blogspot.com/>