

# Pella Middle School

***Acclimating  
For the  
Future***



## Dates to Remember:

5/4	Tulip Time – Dismissal at 11:15
5/5	Tulip Time – Dismissal at 11:15
5/10	PD – 90 minute Early Dismissal
5/17	PD – 90 minute Early Dismissal
5/26	12:30 Dismissal
5/26	Last Day of School
5/29	Memorial Day
5/30	Teacher Work Day

## **April - 2017**

As each year comes to a close, I get a little sappy about saying goodbye to our 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Two years is a short stint to work with such great kids. They have grown tremendously during this time, and I can't help but look at them and wonder who they're going to become and what they're going to contribute to this world. As a class, they have shown strong character and have modeled for our 7<sup>th</sup> graders how to do middle school well. Please let your son/daughter know how grateful we are for each of them, no matter what we have navigated this year. Each of them contributes in a special way to the class of 2021, and I hope they will always know how much they matter. These kids are great kids, and the future is bright for them!

*Maximizing Life's Opportunities for Every Child*

# Student Accomplishments



Ben Bollard (IT Dept) and Tony Schmitz (8<sup>th</sup> G grade) check their scores.

## BULLSEYE !

Several 8<sup>th</sup> G grade Students challenged staff members to an Archery match.



## National Reading Winners!

Congratulations to Mrs. Knight and Mrs. Bogaard's 8<sup>th</sup> grade class Language Arts Class. For the second time this year, they were the national winners for the Achieve 3000 reading contest, and that is a tremendous accomplishment!

We would like to extend our gratitude to Culver's owner, Tim Tegrootenhuis, for donating 20 ice cream sundaes to the students for their outstanding accomplishments this year.



*Attitude determines preparation, preparation determines outcome.*

# Student Accomplishments

## Students Participate in Knowledge Bowl



Mr. Jeff Siewert and Mrs. Carrie Blommers took this group of students to the Iowa State University Campus to participate in the annual Middle School Knowledge Bowl. Mr. Siewert was very proud of the students' accomplishments, and they came in second place. They won a tie breaker with Ankeny Middle School. Way to go students!

**\*Students from left to right: Emily Mills, Luci Laidlaw, Abbi Adrian, Julia Smart, Zoi Faro Emily Karlo, Hannah Nedder, Alyssa Geetings, Dan Start, Will Rasmussen**

## Pella Middle School Competes at Special Olympics

On April 18th, Pella Middle School took three athletes to Indianola Middle School to compete in Special Olympic track.

Kaelie DeHeer received first place in both the tennis ball throw and the 25M walk. Ellie Wiskus received first place in the mini javelin throw and second place in the 100M dash. Mallory Pfalzgraf received second place in the mini javelin throw and third place in the 50 M dash.

On May 25th, Pella Middle School will be taking five athletes to compete in Special Olympic biking.

**\*Pictured: Ellie Wiskus and Mallory Pfalzgraf**



*Attitude determines preparation, preparation determines outcome.*



# Student Accomplishments

## Go Make a Difference!



7<sup>th</sup> Grade students, along with Mrs. Schultz and Mrs. Sadler, go make a difference!

Each year, the 7th Grade class creates a business by pitching a business plan, securing a small business loan, and writing grants for extra funds.

Their business consists of operating a concession stand throughout the winter sports season.

**Students “Go Make a Difference” by sharing the funds locally, nationally, and internationally.**



**This year the funds were shared with:**

- Many Hands 4 Haiti - \$250
- Swim for Him - \$240
- Make a Wish - \$200
- Care Bags - \$400
- Launching Arrows - \$500
- Meals From the Heartland Transport Fee - \$150
- Pella Middle School - Movie Day at Pella Cinema and a pencil dispenser - \$1357.24



**Mrs. Sadler’s group raised \$800 with their Jersey Sales. They are making a decision where the money will go based on the United Nation’s Global Goals.**





# Respecting and Developing Every Child's Potential

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Party – Great Success!

I would like to thank **Rhonda Showman** for overseeing this year's celebration. The students had a great time, and it is always a great opportunity for the parents to put together a celebration for their students.

A special thank you to the department chairs. This does not happen without parents leading the way and a collective team effort.

- i. Decorating Team:
  - I. Hilary Rowe & Kate Hemming
- ii. Activities, Games, Music Team:
  - I. Sheri Stursma
- iii. Food Team:
  - I. Carla Baker
- iv. Fundraising Team:
  - I. Jaime Adrian, Jennifer Smart, Glenda Vander Wilt, & Carrie Naig
- v. Design, T-Shirts, & Invitations:
  - I. Jasmine Eisenbarth, Brenda Faro, & Victoria O'Neill

Lastly, there were a lot of other parents chaperoning and supporting this event, and I would like to thank them all from the Class of 2021, Pella Middle School, and myself. Your efforts to make this a special night are greatly appreciated!

## Summer Tennis

Lots of opportunities exist for youth tennis this summer in Pella! Click on the link to find out more or contact [brandt.lindsay@gmail.com](mailto:brandt.lindsay@gmail.com) with questions.



<https://sites.google.com/view/pellatennisassociation/home>

# Building Caring Relationships

## **Tulip Time** **Proactive** **Communication**

If you know your son/daughter will be gone for Tulip Time, please call or email Mindy or Danielle in the office at your earliest convenience so we may prepare the missing student list during Tulip Time.



### Email:

[Mindy.schnobelen@pella.k12.ia.us](mailto:Mindy.schnobelen@pella.k12.ia.us)

[Danielle.bortscheller@pella.k12.ia.us](mailto:Danielle.bortscheller@pella.k12.ia.us)

### Phone:

**641.628.4874**

## **The Community Gives Back** **Middle School gymnasium sound system goal of \$15,000 nearly met**

**Derek Sparks, HyVee store manager**, stepped up to donate another \$500 dollars toward this endeavor, and this makes their total donations to date \$3000.00.



**Pella Middle School Digital Media Class** will also donate \$2500.00. Digital Media is taught by Mr. Josiah Brandt. Mr. Brandt feels strongly about giving back to the students and middle school.



**Culvers owners, Tim and Sherri Tegrootenhuis**, called and asked what we needed in order to get the sound system installed this summer, and they offered to cover the remaining \$2,200.00 in order to make it happen.



**We will complete nearly all of the project this summer.**

- Remaining elements for a later date:
  - Projector
  - Electronic Screen





# Character Counts

Congratulations to **Kate Muller** and **Grant Nelson** honored with Character Counts awards for the class of 2021.

## *How were they selected?*

Pella Middle School staff nominate 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who regularly demonstrate the Pillars of Character. All students nominated get a congratulatory nomination letter sent to their parents. After their nominations, students are invited to apply for the character counts awards. The Character Counts Community Board then determines one 8th grade girl and boy as the winner for this year's awards. Kate and



Grant selected foundations to donate \$50 to on their behalf. Once again, congratulations to both of these students; they are outstanding ambassadors for the district, and they are both well deserving Pella Middle School students.

# Character Counts



***Character is what you show when no one is watching.***

**2016-2017 Approved District Calendar:**

[http://www.pellaschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2016-17\\_SchoolCalendar.pdf](http://www.pellaschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2016-17_SchoolCalendar.pdf)

**Middle School Specific Site:**

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

**Middle School Handbook:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/11sbdnoekXycEhaCmud0jfVtG3MQLNqjrFWv29sFkJik/edit>

**Middle School Band:**

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

**Pella 1:1 Handbook:**

[https://docs.google.com/a/pella.k12.ia.us/document/d/1QyO3\\_S40mTFuauYwSz6lXI5SsjYh68y-h9K8qZ6M5VM/edit](https://docs.google.com/a/pella.k12.ia.us/document/d/1QyO3_S40mTFuauYwSz6lXI5SsjYh68y-h9K8qZ6M5VM/edit)

**Pella Digital Learning Environment (DLE) Link:**

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