

# Pella High School

## Principal Newsletter

The mission of the Pella Community Schools is to maximize life's opportunities for every child.



Dear Parents/Guardians:

The end of October marks the completion of our first quarter as well as our fall activities. The students' focus and commitment to work at a high level while keeping attendance at a mark above 96 percent has been commendable. We appreciate your support in encouraging your child to work hard and put forth their best effort.

We are in the final stages of the construction project. The newly renovated classrooms will be occupied in early November and we look for the completion of the tile project and office public bathrooms to be in the near future. It has created a new and model look to the high school.

Pella High School presents Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* on Thursday November 2nd at 7:00 p.m. and two performances on Saturday November 4th at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

Congratulations to all fall athletes and coaches on a fun season, and continued luck in the postseason. Also, congratulations to the Girls Cross Country team finishing runner-up at state last Saturday. It is their third consecutive year as state runner-up in cross country. Thanks to the coaches, players, parents, and fans for the support of the program.

Thank you,  
**Eric Nelson**  
Principal

**Jon Muller**  
Assistant Principal

## Calendar

### 1st

Professional Dev: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

### 2nd & 4th

High School Play *James and the Giant Peach*

### 8th

Professional Dev: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

### 11th

Tulip Queen Announcement Party

### 13th

Parent Teacher Conferences - Individual Conferences

### 15th

Professional Dev: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**22nd** 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
Thanksgiving Break

### 23rd & 24th

No School -- Thanksgiving Break

### 29th

Professional Dev: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

## November 13 -- Parent/Teacher Conference -- Individual Conference

**4:30 - 8:00 High School -- Individual conference**

### **\*6:30 Junior/Senior Parent Meeting**

In preparation for student post-secondary planning, the school counselors would like to invite parents and students to a Future Planning information meeting. We will cover topics such as: college and scholarship applications, RAI scores, FAFSA details, and career related options.

Please come to the **library** at 6:30 for this brief information session. We will allow for time after our presentation for individual questions.

## Official Transcripts

If you need an official transcript sent to an educational institution, you must submit a request.

Transcript Request Form:

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

-click on the "Counseling" link

-click on the "Transcript Request Form" link

-enter your request and click on "submit."

Please continue to check the Senior Bulletin for important date for seniors and for scholarship opportunities; the bulletin can be found on our school's webpage and is attached the announcements.

## Play: *James and the Giant Peach*

Pella High School presents Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* on Thursday November 2nd, and Saturday November 4th at 2:00 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the auditorium. Tickets are on sale one hour before showtime, and are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for high school students and children. The Saturday 7:00 p.m. show will have a sign language interpreter.

The show is directed by Suzi Jones, Ashlee Whittington and Dameon Place with technical direction by Gabe Schott. Other staff members who have worked on the show include Andrea Taylor and Paige Miller giving assistance with vocal direction, Derek Stratton on lead trumpet in the orchestra pit, and Rachael Wurr assisting with choreography. Students in grades 9-12 are participating in the show as stage manager and assistant director, actors on stage, techs in the booth for light and sound, musicians in the pit, choreographers, stage crew, costume crew and even in marketing. The set, including a very giant peach, was created by parent Steve Parisee with assistance from fellow parent Mike Klein. Parent Lynne Henry gave invaluable assistance with costuming.

The show is suitable for all ages and has fantastic music by composers Pasek and Paul, who won an Oscar this year for the movie *La La Land* and a Tony for the musical *Dear Evan Hanson*. The directors, cast and crew look forward to seeing you at the show!

## Articles of Interest

“What parents need to know when kids are on social media” by Christine Elgersma, Common Sense Media, January, 2016. (www.CNN.com)

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/01/25/health/social-media-red-flags-for-parents/index.html>

The 8 Most Important Soft Skills Every Graduating Senior Needs and Why” by Lee Watanabe Crockett, February 13, 2017.

- [www.globaldigitalcitizen.org](http://www.globaldigitalcitizen.org)
- <https://globaldigitalcitizen.org/8-soft-skills-students-need>

## School Calendar: Quarter Two

**November 1:** Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**2 & 4:** High School Play James and the Giant Peach

**8:** Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**11:** Tulip Queen Announcement Party

**13:** Parent Teacher Conferences - Individual Conferences

**15:** Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**22:** 90-Minute Early Dismissal - Thanksgiving Break

**23 & 24:** No School -- Thanksgiving Break

**29:** Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**December 6:** Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**13:** Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**22:** Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**23-January 2:** No School

**January 3:** School Reconvenes

**10 & 11:** Semester Assessments

**11:** End of First Semester

**12:** No School - Teacher Work Day

**15:** Day One of Second Semester

**16:** First Semester Grades Due at 9:00 a.m.