

Pella High School

Principal Newsletter

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



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy new year! The first semester is quickly coming to a close with semester assessments scheduled for January 10 and 11. We appreciate all of the efforts students are making to finish the first half of the year strong and look forward to the start of second semester on January 15.

Pella High School continues to offer quality programs for all students. Course registration for the 2018-19 school year will be on January 31. Accurate course registration is very important, as it impacts course offerings and staffing for the next school year. The Pella High School course handbook is available at the following link: [Pella High School Course Guide](#).

If you have any questions about course registration, please contact the High School.

Thank you,

Eric Nelson
Principal

Jon Muller
Assistant Principal

Wade VanVark
Dean

Calendar

January

3 - School Reconvenes

10 & 11 - Semester Assessments

11 - End of Semester One

12 - No School - Teacher Work Day

15 - Second Semester Begins

17 - Prof. Dev. 90-Minute Early Dismissal

24 - Prof. Dev. 90-Minute Early Dismissal

27 - Winter Formal

29 - Feb 2: Iowa Assessments & NCRC

31 - Iowa Assessment (a.m.) & Career
Planning and Registration (p.m.)

Sr. Ski Trip (Make-up Date: Feb. 7)

Prof. Dev. 90-Minute Early Dismissal

2nd Semester Class Schedules, Course Drops or Adds

Through the Infinite Campus portal, students and parents are able to view and print class schedules from the **Reports tab**. Second semester schedules may have changed since first semester, so please review student schedules on the campus portal.

At the beginning of each semester, students will be allowed five (5) school days in which to add or drop a course. After the tenth (10) school day, dropping a course will result in an “F” for the class, unless an extreme emergency exists.

1st Semester Report Cards

Grades for Semester 1 are due Monday, January 15, 2018 by 9:00 a.m. By the end of that week, **report cards** will be made available on the Infinite Campus parent portal under the “Reports” tab. Reminder: Pella High School no longer calculates class rank, so it will not appear on semester report cards or transcripts moving forward.

Parent Teacher Conferences & Excellence in Electives

(February 12 from 4:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

Parent Teacher Conferences - If you want to schedule a conference with a particular teacher, please email him/her to schedule a conference meeting time. The conferences will be in teachers rooms. All winter coaches will be available by 5:30 p.m. An 8th grade parent meeting will be in the auditorium at 7:00 p.m. to cover PHS registration and course selection. Excellence in Elective teachers will be involved throughout the night with their program, but will be available at the beginning and end of the conferences.

Excellence in Electives (February 12 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 pm.)

Excellence in Electives is a way for students to highlight the various experiences they gain by taking elective courses here at Pella High. Many high school teachers will be in attendance. Teachers not participating in Excellence in Electives activities will be available in their classrooms for parent-teacher conferences. This will be the only parent-teacher conference of the second semester.

Junior Attendance & Decorum

Junior attendance and discipline will be reviewed this spring to determine if open campus privileges will be granted to students when they become seniors. A student must have established positive track records before the school will grant senior release next fall. Parent/Guardian permission must also be given before a student will receive senior release. Parents/Guardians will be able to grant or deny permission during summer registration.

Course Registration

Course registration for the 2018-19 school year will be on January 31 through the Infinite Campus student portal. Accurate course registration is *very important*, as it impacts course offerings and staffing for the next school year. The guidance staff will help students plan their course selections if needed. Please review the four year plan with your students on their Academic Planner on IC from last year. It is our plan to have class schedules given to students in May before summer break. Changes to schedules may be made at this time if a student needs to add and drop a course.

State and National Testing

It would be greatly appreciated, if possible, not to schedule appointments during testing times. We have set aside these dates and times specifically for State and National Testing. Teachers have adjusted their planning for these assessments and it is required for students to complete these tests.

- January 29-31 - Iowa Assessments for Sophomores & Juniors
- January 31 Schedule:
 - National Career Readiness Certification (NCRC): Freshmen (a.m.)
 - Iowa Assessment - Sophomores & Juniors (a.m.)
 - Senior Ski Trip (Seniors not attending the Ski Trip are required to attend school and report to the Media Center to take the NCRC assessment)

Pella Community High - Breakfast

An important part of everyday is a nutritious, well-balanced breakfast. Breakfast is served daily at every building in the district, including the high school. Students may purchase a complete meal including grain/protein, fruit/vegetable, and milk or make a la carte purchases that meet healthy Smart Snack guidelines. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. and again between periods one and two.

January 10 & 11 Assessment Schedule

The students will be assessed in multiple ways by the high school teachers. A student may be evaluated with a standard semester test, a project, a portfolio, a presentation, or essay, etc.

1. There will be 80 minute assessment sessions on January 10 & 11.
2. Students are only required to be in school if they have a test. Students may use the commons, library or lobby areas during the scheduled iStudy periods. Students are allowed to leave campus if they do not have an assessment. Students are not to be in the academic areas of the building during semester assessments.
3. All students will eat during the same single lunch period.
4. Students who cannot take their assessments during the scheduled semester test days will be expected to make-up assessments on or after January 13. All make-up assessments must be coordinated with teachers. Students are not allowed to move any semester assessments.
5. Students are not to be dismissed early from assessment sessions.

January 10 & 11 Assessment Schedule (80 Minute sessions)

Wednesday, January 10 (p 1-4)	Thursday, January 11 (p 5-8)
1st - 8:10 - 9:30	5th - 8:10 - 9:30
2nd - 9:40 - 11:00	6th - 9:40 - 11:00
Lunch - 11:05 - 12:25	Lunch - 11:05 - 12:25
3rd - 12:30 - 1:50	7th - 12:30 - 1:50
4th - 2:00 - 3:23	8th - 2:00 - 3:23

School Calendar

Semester One

January	3	School Reconvenes
	10 & 11	Semester Assessments
	11	End of Semester One
	12	No School - Teacher Work Day

Semester Two

January	15	Day One of Second Semester Semester One Grades Due at 9:00 a.m.
	17	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
	24	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
	27	Winter Formal
	29 - Feb 2	Iowa Assessments & NCRC Week
	31	Iowa Assessment (a.m.) & Career Planning and Registration (p.m.) Senior Ski Trip (Make-up Date: February 7) Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
February	1	8th Grade Orientation
	2	Post 3-Week Grades
	5	No School - Professional Development
	12	Parent-Teacher Conferences / Excellence in Electives
	13	Two Hour Early Dismissal
	15	Two Hour Early Dismissal
	16	No School
	21	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
	23	Post 6-Week Grades
	28	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
March	7	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
	12-16	Spring Break
	21	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
	23	End of 3rd Quarter
	30	No School
April	2	No School
	7	Junior/Senior Prom
	13	Post 12-Week Grades
	18	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
	25	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
May	3	Tulip Time - 11:15 Dismissal
	4	Tulip Time - 11:15 dismissal Post 15-Week Grades
	9	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal Senior Awards Night

May (continued)

16	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
22	Seniors Last Day
23	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
25	Graduation
25, 29, 30	Semester Assessment, Laptop Return, & Student Check-Out
30	Last Day of School - 12:30 Dismissal

* Go to www.pella.k12.ia.us and click on the calendar tab to see all events/activities. You may also access the calendar by going to www.littlehawkeyeconference.com