

Pella High School

Principal Newsletter

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



Dear Parents/Guardians:

September was a busy month of activities with our football, cross country, and volleyball seasons well underway. We also hosted 19 schools for the marching band's Dutch Invitational. Plus, an outstanding week of celebration during Homecoming. We are filled with Pella Pride as we continue to see the excitement and participation in our high school activities.

Effective at the end of the 2018-19 school year, I would like to inform you that I will be taking early retirement. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you and your students for the last 18 years as an administrator of the Pella High School. The support from the students, staff and the community has been outstanding!

As we continue into the 2018-19 school year, here are some dates to remember in October:

- October 15: Parent-Teacher Conferences - Open Forum
- October 16: 2-Hour Early Dismissal
- October 17: Picture Retakes
- October 18: 2-Hour Early Dismissal
- October 29: No School
- October 26: Mid Terms

Thank you,
Eric Nelson

October 2018

Calendar

- Oct. 3** 90 Minute Early Dismissal
- Oct. 5** 6-Week Grade Check
- Oct. 10** PSAT Test
Professional Development:
90 Minute Early Dismissal
- Oct. 12** **What You Don't See** trailer will beat the HS football game
- Oct. 15** Parent Teacher Conferences: Open Forum
What You Don't See trailer will be at the High School during Parent Teacher Conferences
- Oct. 16** Two Hour Early Dismissal
- Oct. 17** Picture Retakes
- Oct. 18** Two Hour Early Dismissal
- Oct. 19** No School - P/T Comp. Day
- Oct. 24** 90 Minute Early Dismissal
- Oct. 26** Midterm
- Oct. 31** Professional Development:
90-Minute Early 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

Parent-Teacher Conferences: October 15 -- Open Forum

Parent-Teacher Conferences at the high school will be on Monday, October 15, from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. This session will follow a traditional format. All teachers will be located in the Commons. Athletic coaches will be at the conferences by 5:30 p.m.

Junior/Senior Parent Information Session: Oct 15 -- 6:30 - Auditorium

The counselors will be hosting a parent session with college and career planning tips. If you are wanting information to help with post-secondary planning, please attend.

[Jessica Manning](#)

| [Teresa Thompson](#)

Parent-Teacher Conferences: November 12 -- Individual Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences at the high school will be on Monday, November 14, from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. All teachers will be located in their classrooms. Athletic coaches will be at the conferences by 5:30 p.m.

Have you moved? Do you have a new phone number or a new email address?

Through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal (ICPP), parents are able to update emails, phone numbers, addresses and emergency contacts through the Infinite Campus parent portal. See the steps below on how to make your updates on the ICPP:

- **Address update:** under Family > Household Information
- **Phone & Email update:** under Family > Family Members
- **Emergency Contact update:** under Student > Demographics

What have we spent on school fees and school lunch?

Through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal (ICPP), parents are able to see a journal on all fees paid to the Pella Schools for school fees and food service fees. See the steps below on how to see that fee journal on the ICPP:

- **Fee Journal:** under Family > Fees > Select "All Years" or year specific > Select "All Members" or student-specific
- **Food Service:** under Family > Food Service > Select a patron > Select your date range to preview

Financial Aid

The planning for further education greatly hinges on financial aid for families, especially as educational costs continue to rise. The regulations within the financial aid world recently changed, and now families and seniors are allowed to apply for aid sooner than in the past (Oct. 1). Please visit the ICAN website for any assistance about the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) online filing process and policies.

http://www.icansucceed.org/en/studentsparents/high_school/pay_for_college/financial_aid_process/fafsa/

Senior Release

We are approaching our midterm of the school year and we want to thank both parents/guardians and our students for what is being accomplished in our classrooms. That being said, there will be students who are challenged by the content of our classes. Our senior release policy is any senior who has an F at midterm will lose senior release privileges and will be assigned to iStudy during free periods for the next three weeks to allow those students the opportunity to work on improving his or her grade. If during those three weeks a student provides his or her iStudy instructor with a grade report signed by the teacher showing a passing grade, senior release privileges will be restored. If you have questions about senior release, please contact Mr. Nelson (eric.nelson@pella.k12.ia.us or 628-3870).

Calendar: Semester One

Oct. 3	90 Minute Early Dismissal
Oct. 5	6-Week Grade Check
Oct. 10	PSAT Test
Oct. 10	90 Minute Early Dismissal
Oct. 15	Parent Teacher Conferences: Open Forum
Oct. 16	Two Hour Early Dismissal
Oct. 17	Picture Retakes
Oct. 18	Two Hour Early Dismissal
Oct. 19	No School - P/T Comp. Day
Oct. 24	90 Minute Early Dismissal
Oct. 26	Midterm
Oct. 31	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
Nov. 7	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
Nov. 12	Parent-Teacher Conferences: Individual Conferences
Nov. 14	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
Nov. 16	12-Week Grade Check
Nov. 21	90-Minute Early Dismissal - Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 22 & 23	No School -- Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 28	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
Dec. 5	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
Dec. 7	15-Week Grade Check
Dec. 12	Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal
Dec. 21	90-Minute Early Dismissal - Winter Break
Dec. 22 - Jan 2:	No School
Jan. 3	School Reconvenes
Jan. 10 & 11	Semester Assessments
Jan. 11	End of Semester One
Jan. 14	No School - Teacher Work Day
Jan. 15	Day One of Second Semester
Jan. 15	Semester One Grade Due at 9:00 a.m.

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