

# 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 the second semester on January 15. We do not have school on January 14 because it is a teacher workday. Semester grades are due on January 15 at 9:00 a.m. with final reports card viewable later that week.

Pella High School continues to offer quality programs for all students. Course registration for the 2019-20 school year will be in late January and early February. Accurate course registration is very important, as it impacts course offerings and staffing for the next school year. The Pella High School course handbook will be available in the near future. Please have a conversation about their plans for next year.

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

Thank you,  
Eric Nelson  
Principal

Derek Schulte  
Assistant Principal

## January 2019 Calendar

### 1st Semester

- Jan. 3: School Reconvenes
- 10 & 11: Semester Assessments
- 11: End of Semester One
- 14: No School - Teacher Work Day
- 15: Semester One Grades Due at 9:00 a.m.  
Start of the Second Semester

### 2nd Semester

- Jan. 15: Day One of Second Semester
- 23: Professional Dev  
90-Minute Early Dismissal
- 26: Winter Formal
- 28: Senior Ski Trip  
Career Academy of Pella Apprenticeship  
Information Night 7:00 p.m.
- 30: Professional Development  
90-Minute Early Dismissal

\* Go to [www.pellaschools.org](http://www.pellaschools.org) and click on the calendar tab to see all events/activities. You may also access the calendar by going to [www.littlehawkconference.com](http://www.littlehawkconference.com)

## *1st Semester Report Cards*

Grades for Semester 1 are due Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 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.

## *Parent Teacher Conferences & Excellence in Electives*

(February 11 from 4:30 p.m.–8:00 p.m.)

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 11 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)

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 online registration starting March 1.

## *Course Registration*

Course registration for the 2019-20 school year will be in late January and early February 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 counselors have been meeting with students to plan their course selections. Please review the four-year plan with your students on their Academic Planner on IC. It is our plan to have class schedules given to students in May before summer break. Changes to schedules are encouraged to be made at this time if a student needs to add and drop a course.

## *Pella Community High - Breakfast*

An important part of every day 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. - 8:15a.m. and again between periods one and two.

**A free and reduced application can be filled out any time during the school year. The application is available on the [district website](#) or by contacting Connie Boldt at 641-628-1748 or email [connie.boldt@pella.k12.ia.us](mailto:connie.boldt@pella.k12.ia.us).**

## *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 the 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.

## *Semester Assessment Schedule: January 10 & 11*

Semester assessments will be given in all classes. 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 should be in the cafeteria, the library, or 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 14. 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 Minutes per Assessment)*

<b>Thursday, January 10 (p1-4)</b>	<b>Friday, January 11 (p5-8)</b>
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

## *Calendar:*

### Semester One

- Jan.** 3: School Reconvenes  
10 & 11: Semester Assessments  
11: End of Semester One  
14: No School - Teacher Work Day  
15: Semester One Grades Due at 9:00 a.m.  
Start of the Second Semester

## **Semester Two**

**Jan.** 15: Day One of Second Semester  
23: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
26: Winter Formal  
28: Senior Ski Trip  
Career Academy of Pella Apprenticeship Information Night 7:00 p.m.  
30: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**Feb.** 1: Post 3-Week Grades  
4: No School - Professional Development  
5: 8th Grade Orientation  
11: Parent-Teacher Conferences / Excellence in Electives  
12: Two Hour Early Dismissal  
14: Two Hour Early Dismissal  
15: No School  
20: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
22: Post 6-Week Grades  
27: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**Mar.** 6: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
11-15: Spring Break  
20: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
27: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
29: MidTerm

**April.** 3: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
6: Junior/Senior Prom  
10: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
15-18: Iowa Assessment Week  
Post 12-Week Grades  
19: No School  
24: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal

**May** 2: Tulip Time - 11:15 Dismissal  
3: Tulip Time - 11:15 dismissal  
8: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
Senior Awards Night  
10: Post 15-Week Grades  
15: Professional Development: 90-Minute Early Dismissal  
23: Seniors Last Day  
24: Graduation  
29, 30, 31: Semester Assessment, Laptop Return, & Student Check-Out  
31: Last Day of School - 12:30 Dismissal

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