

BLACKHAWK BULLETIN

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February 2024 Volume: 50 Number: 5



*Improving America's Future...
One Student at a Time*

It is the policy of the Port Edwards School District that no person may be denied admission to any public school in the district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curriculum, co-curricular, pupil service, recreational, career and technical education classes or other program or activity regardless of race, religion, political affiliation, sex or sexual orientation, age, national origin, handicap, pregnancy, marital or parental status, ancestry, color, creed, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, arrest or conviction record, membership in the National Guard, state defense force or any other reserve component of the military forces of the United States or Wisconsin, or any other reason prohibited by state or federal law.

The district encourages informal resolution of complaints under this policy. A formal complaint resolution procedure is available to address allegations of violations of the policy of the Port Edwards School District.

For assistance, please contact James Bena, Non-Discrimination Compliance Officer, at 801 Second Street, Port Edwards, WI 54469 or call 715-887-9000, ext. 102.

Blackhawk Bulletin is an official publication of the Port Edwards School District, offering news, announcements, and details of upcoming events. The school district welcomes newsletter contributions, comments, questions, and suggestions.

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Editor: Callie Kulinski
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Superintendent's Article: February 2024

Submitted by: James Bena, Superintendent & 4K-5 Principal



Although the weather outside is a bit dreary this time of year, several exciting things are happening in the classrooms and at the district level of Port Edwards Schools.

April, 2024 Referendum Update Residents of the Port Edwards School District are invited to attend a pair of meetings in late February and early March:

Middle & High School tour & meeting: Tuesday, February 27, 6:00 pm (meet in the bus lobby, enter on 3rd Street)

Elementary School tour & meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 6:00 pm (meet in the main lobby of Ed Heuer Elementary School)

The meetings held on February 27 & March 5 will give taxpayers the opportunity to see firsthand several of the physical structure issues at both the elementary and MS/HS buildings. Following the walking tours, everyone in attendance will be invited to that building's library for a review of the referendum questions, and for a chance to ask questions about the process. If you have questions about the referendum, please visit the Port Edwards School District website, and click on the "District Referendum" link on the front page, or feel free to call 715-887-9000 ext. 101.

U.W.-Stevens Point Harju Grant In late October, the Port Edwards School District submitted a grant application to the Harju Center for Equity in Education, which is a department at U.W.-Stevens Point. In late December, our district was notified that we were one of four schools in Wisconsin to earn this \$10,000 grant for 2024. Grant monies must be used to promote education in rural schools; the Port Edwards School District will be using its grant funding for professional development in curriculum writing.

PEEF Award Winners Since 1998, the Port Edwards Education Foundation has awarded annual grants to PESD teachers, in order to support additional classroom programming and projects. Since its first year of donations, PEEF has awarded over \$314,000 to Port Edwards School District teachers, for the benefit of our students and schools.

During the current 2023-24 school year, the following eight teachers applied for and earned PEEF grants. This year's winners and the title of their grant were as follows:

- Joe Hintz & Jeanne Bruener (M.S. Social Studies) "The Story of Us."
- Wendy Henne (Kindergarten) "Building Fine Motor Skills Through Play"
- Natasha Mentch (Art) "Creating Confident Artists"
- Tamara Parszewski (MS/HS Choir) "Piano 101"
- Emilie Anderson (MS/HS Band) "Music In the Parks"
- Riley Thomas (MS/HS Phys. Ed.) "Lawn Games for Life"
- Carla Leonhardt (HS English) "Increasing Student Engagement in Reading"
- Kerry Doran (HS Science) "Better Vision"

Congratulations to each of the P.E.E.F. 2023-24 grant award recipients, and a sincere thank you to the PEEF Foundation Members for supporting our students and teachers.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Submitted by: Donna Shroda, 6-12 Principal



While our main educational goals are to teach Reading, Math, and all of the other subjects, we as a school also try to provide opportunities to develop students' soft skills and demonstrate leadership. Beyond our 5R's - respect, responsibility, relationships, reflection and resolution, we also attempt to teach our students soft skills such as integrity, resilience, communication, confidence, self-awareness and positivity. Surprisingly, I just read in a research article that creativity was the number one soft skill in short supply in the workplace! It said creative leaders solve problems in unique, innovative ways; they are willing to experiment and think outside the box. Not only will these soft skills help our students in the classroom, on the sports field, and in a club, but in the workforce and life. I have highlighted two great examples of our students excelling in these areas.

On December 13, our athletic director, Shane Steltenpohl, chaperoned four of our younger athletes to represent Port Edwards at a WIAA Sportsmanship Summit at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point. Breanna Ingram, Sam Martinson, Ayden Schumer, and Paige Van Meter were among more than 420 students from 76 high schools who attended. The Summit began with a welcome from WIAA Executive Director Stephanie Hauser, followed by the morning keynote speaker Craig Hillier, professional speaker and author of Playing Beyond the Scoreboard and How to Step Up and be a Team Leader & Still Keep Your Friends. The students also attended breakout sessions such as, "Sportsmanship: The Official's Perspective," "Setting Sportsmanship Guidelines for Parents." and "My Coach Plays Favorites." Hopefully, our athletes found some insight to bring back to their teams to promote good sportsmanship.

John Edwards High School continues to participate in the Teen Leadership Program, with the community and area schools, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Their mission is *to improve area high school students' understanding of Community, Occupations, Organizations, and Leadership skills to form the next generation of leaders*. Skills learned and practiced include leadership skills valued by employers, communities, and organizations. Monthly, the students met at community businesses and studied the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, listened to speakers, participated in activities, and had healthy discussions. Throughout the school year, all the students plan and implement a project that involves the community and portrays their new leadership skills. This year Jasper Detlefsen, Sierra Eklund, Taylor Hermanson, and Breanna Ingram represented our school. Special thank you to Paul Liebherr, who helped transport our students.

Counseling News

Submitted by: Jennifer Moore, MS/HS Counselor

Middle School & High School Spring Test Assessment Dates

Please mark your calendars and watch for more details to be sent home. All students are required to test and need to be present on the dates listed for their grade level.

Grades 6-8 will test the *Wisconsin Forward Exam* on Tuesday, April 9th, Thursday, April 11th and Tuesday, April 16th.

Grade 10 will test the *Wisconsin Forward Exam* on Wednesday, March 20th.

Grades 9 and 10 will test *PreACT Secure* on Wednesday, April 3rd.

Please note, grades 11 & 12 will not be in school on the morning of Wednesday, April 3rd

Grade 11 will test *ACT w/Writing* on Tuesday, March 19th.

ACT Off site ACT Test Dates

For students wishing to test again to possibly improve their scores.

<u>Off site test dates are as follows:</u>	<u>Registration deadline</u>
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024

To register for any of these additional test dates, at your cost, please go to: www.actstudent.org

Start College Now/Early College Credit Program

Sophomores and juniors interested in Start College Now or Early College Credit courses for Fall 2024-25 should watch for an email from the Counseling Department with information on when to sign up. Applications are due March 1, 2024

NCAA Eligibility

Any high school student considering playing sports in a Division I or Division II school should visit the NCAA Clearinghouse website to review academic eligibility. It is the student's responsibility to comply with all requirements. VISIT <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>

Education for Employment and Academic and Career Plan

To view the PESD Education for Employment plan and learn more about Academic and Career Plans for students, visit <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yDBqCOIS2LZRllo6a4zo9udpKJyJp3y5YFEmwwKKML8/edit?usp=sharing>



Notes from the Nurse

Submitted by: Katie Bortz, CESA 5 School Nurse

Recalled Cinnamon Applesauce Pouches

In November of 2023, the CDC began investigating reports of elevated blood lead levels in individuals who consumed certain types of cinnamon applesauce pouches. As of January 8, 2024, the FDA has received a total of 321 reports which came from 38 different states. The brands involved include Wanabana, Schnucks, and Weis. These brands can be purchased through Amazon, Dollar Tree, Family Dollar, Schnucks Grocery Stores, Weis Grocery Stores and other online retailers. These products have a long shelf life, so it is recommended that consumers check their homes and discard these products.

- To properly discard the product, consumers and retailers should carefully open the pouch and empty the content into a trash can before discarding the packaging to prevent others from salvaging recalled product from the trash.
- Clean up any spills from the product and then wash hands well

Symptoms of lead exposure from eating contaminated food may be nonspecific. Many people will not experience any symptoms. Consumers should contact their healthcare providers if they are experiencing any symptoms following the consumption of a recalled product. More information about this health concern can be found at the link below:

<https://www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/investigation-elevated-lead-chromium-levels-cinnamon-applesauce-pouches-november-2023>

We hope that you are off to a healthy start in 2024. Please contact the health office if there is anything we can do to serve you or your family.

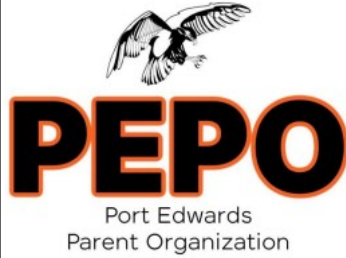
Looking for Free Parenting Advice?

The Wood County Health Department, in partnership with UW-Extension, gives Wood County residents access to research based information on parenting and relationships. You can search for information based on your child's age and even sign up for virtual parenting classes. All classes are free or low cost. They also offer some in person classes if that is your preferred learning style. A link to the UW-Extension Division of Parenting and Family Relationships Website can be found here:

<https://parenting.extension.wisc.edu/>



Katie Bortz
CESA 5 School Nurse
608-617-2635
bortzk@cesa5.org



A message from Port Edwards Parent Organization

Santa helped our PEPO helpers deliver **800** candy canes to our students before the holiday break. **WOW!** Thank you to all of the families that participated and bought candy canes for all of your friends at school and thank you to Santa for helping us out!

By the time you read this newsletter, we played Bingo during our annual Candy Bar Bingo family night. The event was held on Friday, January 19th. All you needed to do was to bring a candy bar to receive your Bingo card. Thank you to the Port Edwards Fire Department for letting us borrow their Bingo equipment.

COMING SOON! Movie night returns! Watch our Facebook page, the district social media, or your kids' Friday folders with details on movie, date and time!

Our Fall fundraiser, Cherrydale, was a huge success due to you! Keep a lookout on purchases that we are able to make due to your fundraising. We will keep you updated on purchases and special events that we are able to do because of this.

Don't forget we have our Blackhawk apparel sale open year round now!! Blackhawk apparel make great birthday gifts or anytime gifts. Please use the following link to access the store: <https://1stplace.sale/101560>. Orders are through 1st Place Spiritwear and PEPO earns 10% of all sales. What a great way to support PEPO and get some new and exciting Blackhawk apparel.

Our next PEPO meeting is Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the Elementary School library. We hope to see you there! It's never too late to check us out and see what is happening at your kid's school.



The Port Edwards School District would like to thank the Port Edwards Lion's Club for their very generous donation to the School District's "Christmas Cheer" program. Christmas Cheer, which is led by JEMS/JEHS Guidance Counselor Jen Moore & PESD staff member Ann Aschenbrenner, helps make the holiday season brighter for several area families each year. Presenting this year's donation is Port Edwards Lion's Club President Jim Kempen, to Jen Moore and District Administrator & Lion's Club member Jim Bena.

Elementary Spotlight

Submitted by: Kala Dorshorst, Elementary Teacher

November's character trait was Gratitude. The PK-5th grade students did a great job. Continue to be grateful. These were the students who were recognized for showing Gratitude.

4K Students



Kinsley



Christina

Kindergarten-5th Grade



Front Row: Macie B., Vianey J., Keaton D., Max R., Jordan R.

Middle Row: Savannah L., Sara M., Ella R., Bella B., Charlotte K, Dalton B.

Back Row: Theodore S., Javin R., Levi M.

Not pictured: Annaleeah M.

December's character trait was Empathy. The PK-5th grade students did a great job. Continue to be empathetic. These were the students who were recognized for showing Empathy.



Charlotte

4K Students



Alice

Kindergarten-2nd Grade



Front Row: Eleanor P, Addison G., Lucy W., Hunter S., McKenna B.
Back Row: Ruby G., Ellie B., Alese H., Abigail Z., Lainey C., Zara B.

3rd - 5th Grade



Front Row: Emerson B., Edward L., Isaac M., Maddie L., Charlotte O., Darien B.
Back Row: Noah S., Charles M., Aiden T., Josephine S., Lillie T., Isabella W.

Middle School Spelling Bee

Submitted by: Beth Willcome

On Monday, January 15, 2024, 15 students from John Edwards Middle School participated in the Port Edwards School District Spelling Bee. After an amazing 75 rounds and 234 challenging words, sixth grade student Natalee Combs correctly spelled “forsook” and “scandium” to claim the championship. Seventh grader Aaron Mingo placed second in the contest. Natalee and Aaron spelled head-to-head for 41 exciting rounds of spelling action to determine the champion. Natalee Combs will go on to represent the Port Edwards School District at the CESA 5 Regional Spelling Bee, which will be held on February 15 in Wisconsin Rapids.



2024 John Edwards Middle School Spelling Bee Champion Natalee Combs (left) and Runner-Up Aaron Mingo (right)



2024 Spelling Bee Participants

Back Row: Jeremy Luebke, Titus Doran, Rowan Schmelzer, Miles Hanson, Brylee O’Neil, Aaron Mingo, Gage Struzynski, Sam Casey

Front Row: Natalee Combs, Kamden O’Neil, Campbell O’Connor, Sara Trykoski, Jace Winters, Eain Baumgart, Noelle Combs

The Port Edwards School District would like to say thank you to the Port Edwards Education Foundation and the Alexander Family Foundation for their recent significant donation to the P.E.S.D. Choral Department. The donation was used to fund the purchase of a new electric piano and new classroom risers. The new items replaced equipment that was past its useful and functional life and are very much welcomed by our growing Middle and High School Choirs. Shown are PEEF Treasurer/retired PESD Educator Pat McGrath, presenting the donation to District Administrator Jim Bena.



Maintenance Staff utilized the snow day we had on Friday, January 12th and put the new risers together for the Choir classes to start using Monday morning!

Boy's Basketball Alumni Night

On January 2, 2024, we celebrated our Boy's Alumni Night. Our Blackhawk alumni were able to watch our Blackhawks beat the Tri-County Penguins 96-39. We are thankful for our continued support from the alumni! Your support is just one of the many things that make our village so special!



Kids don't come with instructions. Bright by Text sends helpful parenting tips, activities & resources right to your phone—for free! Text 'BADGER' to 274448 to sign up!

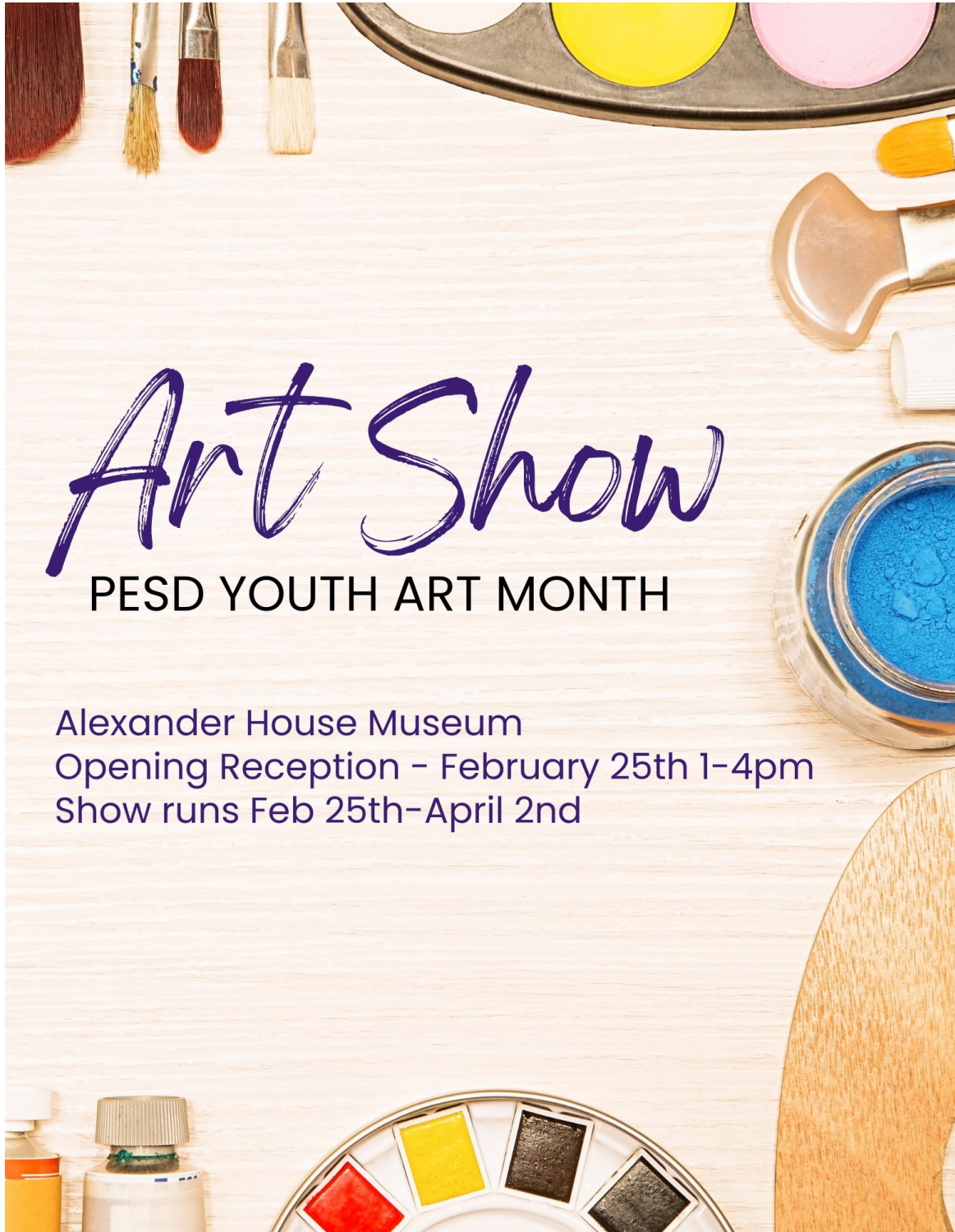
Bright by Text supports a 'whole child, whole family' approach to early childhood that improves parents' confidence, competence, and connections with their children.

Each message links to age-appropriate resources (short videos, articles, books, games, & activities) with content from trusted sources like Bright by Three, Cooking Matters, Delta Dental, PBS, Sesame Street, Vroom, and partners like local libraries, museums, and health organizations.

Questions? Contact Ben at United Way at 715-421-0390 or ben@uwswac.org.



Save the Date! Our district wide Youth Art Month art show opening reception is happening on Sunday, February 25th from 1-4pm. Stop by to view artwork, in a gallery setting, from the Port Edwards School District K-12 students. The opening reception will include refreshments and a chance to meet several of the artists, as well as awards given to students, donated by several local sponsors. The show will run from February 25th-April 2nd during the Alexander House open hours.



2024-25 Kindergarten Registration Reminder

Submitted by: Tina Melvin, Elementary School Secretary

Plans are being finalized for the kindergarten class of 2024-25. By law, a child must be five years of age on or before September 1, 2024 to be eligible for kindergarten in the 2024-25 school year.

If you have not already done so, it is important that you log on to the website to register your child. You can email the forms to melviti@pesd.k12.wi.us or drop off at the elementary school office at 951 5th Street from 7:45-3:30. If your child is currently attending 4-Year-Old Kindergarten in Port Edwards, we have his/her registration and immunization records on file. Current 4K students do not need to register for 5K.

4-YEAR-OLD HALF-DAY KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION REMINDER



Once again, we will be offering this voluntary 2-1/2 hour program at the John E. Alexander South Wood County YMCA. Your child must be 4 years old by September 1, 2024 to be eligible for 4K.

Also, 4K classes will be offered at the following sites, subject to availability:

Building Blocks Learning Center, THINK Academy, Grant Elementary School, Grove Elementary School, Mead Elementary Charter School, Woodside Elementary, Humke Elementary 4K, and Head Start 4K (for Head Start students only).

Transportation will be provided within the Port Edwards School District. Parents must register in order for their child to attend. **If you have not already done so, it is important that you log on to the website and fill out the forms.** You can email those forms to melviti@pesd.k12.wi.us or drop them at the elementary school office at 951 5th Street from 7:45-3:30.

For questions regarding 4-Year-Old Kindergarten, please call 715-887-9070.

Preschool Special Services

If you have a preschool child who seems to have any problems with physical development, vision or hearing, emotional/behavioral adjustment, speech or other communication skills, or learning in general, your child may be eligible for special services at no cost to you. For more information, please contact Jim Bena, 4K-5 Principal at 715-887-9070

ORDER YOUR JOHN EDWARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL OR HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

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TO COVER**



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Go to the website or scan the QR code and enter either John Edwards Middle School or John Edwards High School to place your orders today!

**MIDDLE
SCHOOL
\$21**

**HIGH
SCHOOL
\$45**

*Price increases to \$50 on 2/12/24

February 2024 ES Breakfast Menu


Middle/High School

Breakfast Prices:

All Students: \$1.60 Adults: \$2.45

Menus Subject to Change

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 Yogurt Crunch Mania Graham Snacks Fruit Juice Milk	2 Frudel Fruit Juice Milk
5 Fuel 4U Cereal Kit Fruit Milk	6 Omelet Bagel Fruit Juice Milk	7 Chex Mix Cheese Sticks Fruit Juice Milk	8 WG Glazed Donuts Fruit Juice Milk	9 No School!
12 No School!	13 Mini Waffles Syrup Fruit Juice Milk	14 Chocolate Crescent Yogurt Fruit Juice Milk	15 Banana Bread Fruit Juice Milk	16 Frudel Fruit Juice Milk
19 Fuel 4U Cereal Kit Fruit Milk	20 Bug Bites Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Milk	21 Mini Cinni Fruit Juice Milk	22 Bagel Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Milk	23 Frudel Fruit Juice Milk
26 Cereal Bars Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Milk	27 Mini Pancakes Syrup Fruit Juice Milk	28 WG Muffin Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Milk	29 Breakfast Pizza Fruit Juice Milk	

February 2024 ES Lunch Menu

Alternate Lunch Choice:

Monday: Smuckers

Tuesday: Taco Salad

Wednesday: Turkey Wrap

Thursday: Chef Salad

Friday: Cheese Pizza


LUNCH PRICES:

Elementary: \$2.60 Middle School: \$2.75

High School: \$2.80 Adults: \$4.08

Menus Subject to Change

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

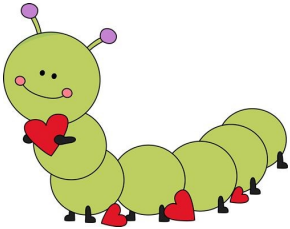
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 French Toast Sticks Applesauce Juice Syrup	2 Big Daddy's Pizza Green Beans Banana Ice Cream Sandwich No Alternate
5 Chicken Nuggets Smiles Cooked Carrots Apple Slices Pudding Cup	6 Orange Chicken Rice Broccoli Pineapple Fortune Cookie	7 Hot Dog WG Bun French Fries Baked Beans Mixed Fruit	8 Rotini Meatballs & Sauce Garlic Bread Warm Apple Slices Peas	9 No School!
12 No School!	13 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Gravy Corn Pears	14 Hot Ham & Cheese Curly Fries Baked Beans Peaches Sherbet Cup	15 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Grapes Sauces	16 Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Cheez-Its Peas Apple Slices
19 All American Chicken Wrap Mashed Potatoes Mixed Veggies Applesauce	20 Baked Potato Bar Diced Ham Shredded Cheese Broccoli Peaches Dinner Roll	21 Pretzel Bun Sandwich Baked Chips Corn Mandarin Oranges	22 Chicken Patty WG Bun Pasta Cooked Carrots Pears	23 Hamburger WG Bun Cheese Tray Tator Tots Baked Beans Grapes
26 Calzone Marinara Sauce Pears Peas Pudding Cup	27 Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Gravy Sweet Potatoes Peaches Dinner Roll	28 Chicken Quesadilla Spanish Rice Refried Beans Orange Wedges Salsa/Sour Cream	29 Lasagna Roll Garlic Bread Green Beans Pineapple	

February 2024 MS/HS Breakfast Menu

Middle/High School

Breakfast Prices:
 All Students: \$1.60 Adults: \$2.45
 Menus Subject to Change

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 Crunch Mania Graham Crackers Yogurt Fruit Juice	2 Cinnamon Roll Cheese Stick Banana Juice Milk
5 Pop-Tart Yogurt Fruit Juice Milk	6 Breakfast Sandwich on Croissant Fruit Juice Milk	7 WG Muffins Sunflower Seeds Fruit Juice Milk	8 WG Glazed Donut Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Milk	9 No School!
12 No School!	13 Omelet Bagel Fruit Juice Milk	14 Banana Bread Sunflower Seeds Fruit Juice Milk	15 Strawberry Cream Cheese Bagel Fruit Juice Milk	16 Cinnamon Roll Cheese Stick Banana Juice Milk
17 Pop-Tart Yogurt Fruit Juice Milk	20 Breakfast Sandwich on Croissant Fruit Juice Milk	21 Chex Mix Yogurt Fruit Juice Milk	22 Mini Pancakes Syrup Sunflower Seeds Fruit Juice Milk	23 Cinnamon Roll Cheese Stick Apple Slices Juice Milk
26 Cereal Bar Yogurt Fruit Juice Milk	27 Omelet Bagel Fruit Juice Milk	28 WG Muffin Sunflower Seeds Fruit Juice Milk	29 WG Glazed Donut Cheese Stick Fruit Juice Milk	

February 2024 MS/HS Lunch Menu

Alternate Lunch Choice:

Monday: Smuckers

Tuesday: Taco Salad

Wednesday: Turkey Wrap

Thursday: Chef Salad

Friday: Cheese Pizza

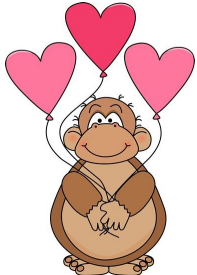
LUNCH PRICES:

Elementary: \$2.60 Middle School: \$2.75

High School: \$2.80 Adults: \$4.08

Menus Subject to Change

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 French Toast Sticks Omelet Applesauce Juice Syrup	2 Big Daddy's Pizza Pasta Salad Green Beans Banana Ice Cream Sandwich No Alternate
5 Chicken Nuggets Smiles Cooked Carrots Apple Slices Rice Krispie Treat	6 Orange Chicken Rice Broccoli Pineapple Fortune Cookie	7 Chicken Fajitas Spanish Rice Refried Beans Peaches Salsa/Sour Cream	8 Rotini Meatballs & Sauce Peas Warm Apple Slices Garlic Bread	9 No School!
12 No School!	13 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Gravy Corn Pears Dinner Roll	14 Hot Ham & Cheese Curly Fries Pineapple Baked Beans Sherbet Cup	15 Beef or Chicken Burrito Bowl Rice/Chips Refried Beans Corn Grapes	16 Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Cheez-Its Apple Slices Peas
19 All American Chicken Wrap Mashed Potatoes Mixed Veggies Applesauce	20 Baked Potato Bar Diced Ham/Chicken Broccoli Peaches Dinner Roll	21 Pretzel Bun Sub Sandwich Baked Chips Baked Beans Mandarin Oranges	22 Chicken Patty Pasta WG Bun Jell-O Cooked Carrots Pears	23 Hamburger WG Bun Cheese Tray Tator Tots Baked Beans Grapes
26 Calzone Pizza sauce Green Beans Pears Pudding Cup	27 Chili Cheese Filled Breadsticks Corn Blueberries	28 Mini Tacos Spanish Rice Refried Beans Orange Wedges Salsa/Sour cream	29 Lasagna Roll Garlic Bread Green Beans Pineapple	

PORT EDWARDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Business Meeting of the Board of Education

5:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 15, 2023 – Elementary IMC, Fifth Street., Port Edwards, WI

Minutes

Meeting called to order by President John Daven at 5:37 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: John Daven, Leo Thomasgard, Kathy McGrath, Cary Hildebrandt, Dana Duncan

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: James Bena, Superintendent, Lisa Miller, Business Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Shroda

1. Consider Approval of Agenda

Motion by Duncan, second by Hildebrandt to approve the agenda as presented. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

2. Report from Student Representatives; Student & Staff Recognition

Student Council member Cari LaCour gave an update on the current activities at JEHS. The girls and boys basketball teams have started and Math League competed in their first competition of the year at UW-Stevens Point. Drama presented the play, Par for the Corpse last week and it was a huge success.

3. President's Report

A. Board Member Attendance

President Daven reported that all Board members were in attendance

B. Next Board Meeting

President Daven reported that the next meeting of the Board of Education will be on December 13, 2023.

4. Administrative Reports

A. Elementary Principal Report - Principal Bena

Principal Bena reported that the DPI report cards were released on November 14th. Mr. Bena stated that the district as a whole and each of the three schools met expectations. Principal Bena reported that "Donuts for Grown-Ups" was held last week and 153 students and parents attended. Mr. Bena thanked PEPO for their help and Mrs. McGrath for attending.

B. MS/HS Principal Report – Principal Shroda

Principal Shroda reported that the annual holiday senior breakfast will be held on December 8th. On December 14th, the holiday lunch will be sponsored by the ecology club and held in the auditorium. Principal Shroda spoke about the drama production and thanked the Alexander Foundation/PEEF for all of the donations for the Dorothy Alexander Auditorium. Ms. Shroda stated that 225 tickets were sold and the performance was a huge success and thanked all those that attended.

C. District Administrator Report – Superintendent Bena

Superintendent Bena gave an update regarding the upcoming referendum, including information on videos created by CESA 10 with Building and Grounds Director, Frank Neve and Superintendent Bena. These will be added to the referendum link on school's website. Superintendent Bena reported that on November 6th, he, Scott Drew, Lisa Miller and Donna Shroda had a formal discussion with the Legacy Foundation regarding a grant to help fund a Community Resource Officer. Mr. Bena stated that the kitchen had an inspection by the Wood County Health Department on November 8th and no violations were found in either building. Mr. Bena thanked the kitchen staff for their great work.

5. Questions and Comments from People in Attendance

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

6. Consider Approval of Minutes of Past Meeting – October 30, 2023.

Motion by Duncan, second by McGrath to approve the minutes of the past meeting. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

7. Consider Approval of Financial Reports

A. Check Summaries October 1-31, 2023

#34217-34315 & 202300250-202300426 - \$493,233.42

B. District Revenues Report October 1-31, 2023

C. District Expenditures Report October 1-31, 2023

D. Cash Receipt Summary.....October 1-31, 2023

E. October Cash Balance Report

F. October Substitutes Report

- G. October Budget Revisions
- H. Consider Approval of Gifts

Business Director reported the following gifts:

- Knights of Columbus – Donation to purchase winter apparel for children in need
- Wisconsin Rapids Kiwanis Club – Donation of winter gear

Motion by Duncan, second by Daven to approve the financial reports as presented. Voting yes - Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS:

8. First Reading of Neola Policy Updates

Motion by McGrath, second by Thomasgard to accept the first reading of Neola Policy updates. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

9. Opportunity for Individual Board Member Comment

Kathy McGrath – Thanked Mr. Bena for the weekly updates to the Board, much appreciated.

Cary Hildebrandt – Good to hear about the play and all the students that are involved.

10. Call for Adjournment

Motion by Duncan, second by Hildebrandt to adjourn the meeting. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Lisa Miller, Acting Secretary

PORT EDWARDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Business Meeting of the Board of Education

5:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 13, 2023 – Elementary IMC, Fifth Street., Port Edwards, WI

Minutes

Meeting called to order by President John Daven at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: John Daven, Leo Thomasgard, Kathy McGrath, Cary Hildebrandt, Dana Duncan

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: James Bena, Superintendent, Lisa Miller, Business Director

1. Consider Approval of Agenda

Motion by Thomasgard, second by Duncan to approve the agenda as presented. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

2. Consideration of motion to adjourn into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute:

19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercise responsibility.

Motion by McGrath, second by Duncan to adjourn into closed session. Voting yes—Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried.

A. Consider Approval of Past Executive Meetings – October 30, 2023

B. Employee Requests: Discussion/Approval

3. Adjourn Executive Session and Reconvene into Open Session to take any action deemed necessary from the closed session.

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Duncan to adjourn executive session and reconvene into open session. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried

5:30 p.m.—Business Session

PRESENT: John Daven, Leo Thomasgard, Kathy McGrath, Cary Hildebrandt, Dana Duncan

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: James Bena, Superintendent, Lisa Miller, Business Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Shroda, Amy McMillen

4. Report from Student Representatives; Student & Staff Recognition

Cari LaCour, Felicity Clouse and Jason Doebereiner updated the Board on the latest activities at JEHS. They reported that JEHS has two girls participating in the joint wrestling program. The band and choir performed at the end of November and the Ecology Club will be hosting the holiday dinner tomorrow. The students also reported that on Saturday the pep band will team up with the band from Tri-County and go to the Milwaukee Bucks game. On Friday, December 22nd, all middle school and high school students will go to the movie theater.

5. President's Report

A. Board Member Attendance

President Daven reported that Board members, Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt and Duncan were in attendance.

B. Next Board Meeting

President Daven reported that the next meeting of the School Board will be Monday, January 10, 2024.

6. Administrative Reports

A. Elementary Principal Report – Principal Bena

Principal Bena reported on the current activities at the elementary school. This month's character trait is empathy. Each day it is discussed with the students and then students are nominated that exemplify this trait. Mr. Bena congratulated Mr. Erdman on a very successful music concert.

B. MS/HS Principal Report – Principal Shroda

Principal Shroda gave a report on our At-Risk program and our teacher Amy McMillen. Mrs. McMillen has 28 years of experience and 6 years here at JEHS. Mrs. McMillen works with our at-risk students to help them find success. The district is very fortunate to have Mrs. McMillen. Principal Shroda and Ms. Moore nominated Mrs. McMillen for an award and tonight she was awarded \$250 to use for her classroom. Ms. Shroda introduced Pat Peterson from NAREN (National At Risk Educational Network) who presented the award to Mrs. McMillen.

C. District Administrator Report – Superintendent Bena

Superintendent Bena reported that on November 30th he and Lisa Miller attended a Baird budget forecast model workshop at

Northcentral Technical College in Wausau. Superintendent Bena stated that the calendar committee will be meeting in January to begin preparing next year's calendar. Mr. Bena stated that the first two community referendum information meetings will be held on February 27th and March 5th. These meetings will begin at 6:00, the first meeting will be held at the middle/high school building and the second will be held at the elementary. Superintendent Bena stated that the referendum website is growing and building each day and can be found on the front page of the school website.

Mr. Bena congratulated custodian, John Buchholz on his 35 years of service to the Port Edwards School District.

7. Questions and Comments from People in Attendance

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

8. Consider Approval of Minutes of Past Meeting – November 15, 2023

Motion by McGrath, second by Duncan to approve the minutes of the past meeting, November 15, 2023 Voting yes – all.
Motion carried.

9. Consider Approval of Financial Reports

- A. Check Summaries November 1-30, 2023
#34316 – 34390 & 202300478 – 202300587 - \$440,701.19
- B. District Revenues Report November 1-30, 2023
- C. District Expenditures Report November 1-30, 2023
- D. Cash Receipt Summary.....November 1-30, 2023
- E. November Cash Balance Report
- F. November Substitutes Report
- G. November Budget Revisions
- H. Consider Approval of Gifts

Motion by Duncan, second by Thomasgard to approve the financial reports as presented. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10. PESD Policy Updates (2nd Reading)

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Duncan to approve the 2nd reading of the PESD policy updates. Voting yes—all. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

11. Review of School Violence Drill

Motion by Thomasgard, second by Hildebrandt to approve the school violence drill report. Voting yes – all. Motion carried

12. Consider Approval of Teaching Contract

A. Jennifer Johnson

Motion by Duncan, second by Hildebrandt to approve the teaching contract for Jennifer Johnson. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

13. Consider Approval of the Co-Curricular Contracts:

- A. Ethan Jensen – MS Girls Basketball
- B. Jordyn Schraeder – MS Girls Basketball

Motion by Duncan, second by McGrath to approve the co-curricular contracts for Ethan Jensen and Jordyn Schraeder. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

14. Consider Approval of the 2024-25 Course Descriptions

Motion by Duncan, second by Hildebrandt to approve the 2024-25 Course Descriptions. Voting yes – all. Motion carried.

15. Consider Approval of Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$850,000 Per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes

Motion by Duncan, second by Thomasgard to approve Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$850,000 Per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried.

16. Consider Approval of Initial Resolution Authorizing General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$7,300,000

Motion by Duncan, second by Thomasgard to approve the Initial Resolution Authorizing General Obligation Bonds in an Amount not to Exceed \$7,300,000. Voting yes - Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried.

17. Consider Approval of Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Questions of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$850,000 Per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes and an Initial Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$7,300,000.

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by Duncan to approve Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Questions of the

Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$850,000 Per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes and an Initial Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$7,300,000. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, McGrath, Hildebrandt, Duncan. Motion carried.

18. Opportunity for Individual Board Member Comment

Hildebrandt – Congratulated Amy McMillen and thanked Ms. Shroda and Ms. Moore for nominating her.

Duncan – Merry Christmas to all!

McGrath – Stated how fortunate the District is with the staff we have and the community we live in. Thanked all for the wonderful things happening and appreciate everyone for their hard work.

Daven – Happy Holidays to all. Thank you to all staff that go above and beyond to make our school unique.

19. Establish Future Board Meetings

Wednesday, January 10, 2024, Closed Session at 5:00 (if needed); Business Meeting at 5:30 p.m. – Elementary IMC

20. Call for Adjournment

Motion by Hildebrandt, second by McGrath to adjourn the meeting. Voting yes – Daven, Thomasgard, Hildebrandt, Duncan.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

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