

Collaborative Teams – Late Start Mondays

Evan Hecker, Kamiak Elementary Principal

Our six Pullman Public Schools and their professional learning teams just finished up our fourth “Late Start Monday” in which educators commit to working together to ensure higher levels of learning for every student. Why is it important for our educators to ensure learning while challenging and supporting each student to achieve full potential? Well, the evidence, research, and science prove that to achieve this outcome, educators need time to collectively set and share goals that are immediately essential to student learning outcomes.

So, what does this all look like on our late start Mondays?

Our professional learning teams throughout our district continue to collectively identify our guaranteed and viable curriculum, the most important thing we can do. In other words, we are in a never-ending process in which our professional learning teams work together to ensure that students learn the essential grade level or content-area standards all students must learn each year.

To assess whether or not our students are learning the essential standards, our teams gather evidence of learning at critical points in the instructional journey in an effort to give their students an opportunity to enhance their learning. Our professional learning teams create common formative assessments to ensure that all students have enough practice and support before having to prove they have learned the essential standard on a summative assessment.

Think of formative assessments as all of the practice before a big game, or the rehearsal before the big performance.

When our professional learning teams collectively look at information from assessments, they view it as an opportunity to impact all students. They recognize this job-embedded professional development as an opportunity to learn from one another, to share best teaching practices, and to recognize that there will be differences in results, but strive to work without passing judgment on anyone’s professional practice.

After our professional learning teams examine their common formative assessment information, they can plan how to intervene with students who have not yet learned the essential standard, and those who have mastered the content. This usually involves identifying the instructional strategies that led to high levels of learning, but most importantly, this helps our teams identify students who need additional time and support as well as those who are ready for enrichment or extension activities centered on having a deeper understanding of essential learning targets.

Our Monday late starts give our professional learning teams the opportunity for an ongoing cycle of collective improvement that will improve student learning. Ultimately, it’s up to us to help redesign an educational system that was never created for ALL students.



The Pullman School District Board of Directors and the Pullman School District shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities programs without regard to race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation (including gender expression or identity), marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, participation in the Boy Scouts of America or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator, Assistant Superintendent, (509) 332-3144, and Section 504 Coordinator, Director of Special Services, (509) 332-3144. 240 SE Dexter Street, Pullman, WA 99163. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in the application process by contacting the Personnel Coordinator at (509) 332-3584.

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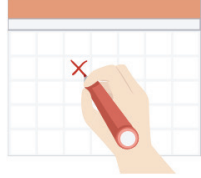
Child Find 2022-2023

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

This screening is an opportunity to identify, locate, and evaluate children who might have a disability and to address potential concerns. This is available to children (birth through 5 years of age) residing, or living in a temporary situation, within Pullman School District's boundaries.

UPCOMING SCREENING DATES:

- ✓ Friday, November 4
- ✓ Friday, January 13
- ✓ Friday, February 3
- ✓ Friday, March 3
- ✓ Friday, April 14
- ✓ Friday, May 5



All children ages 5-21 who are suspected of possibly having a disability who reside in, or are living in a temporary situation, within PSD's boundaries are entitled to child find activities. This includes all children enrolled in PSD schools, children who are being home schooled, and children enrolled in a private school located in the district (even if they reside in another district).

For more information or to **schedule an appointment**, please contact Pullman School District's Instructional Programs Office at (509) 332-3144.



FAQ ABOUT WINTER WEATHER

Automated phone calls and/or text messages will be made to all parents/guardians by approximately 6:00 a.m. An announcement will also be made local radio/tv stations, on the district website and district social media pages.



How do you decide whether or not to close school when it snows?

The staff monitors or receives weather and highway information from the National Weather Service, State and local law enforcement, the City of Pullman Transit Department, and the Department of Transportation. District transportation, maintenance, and administrative staff assess the travel and snow removal conditions throughout the district. They report to the superintendent or designee with recommendations regarding the safety on transportation routes and feasibility and snow removal. A decision is made regarding school opening and communications with staff and media are initiated before 6:00 am, if possible.

What if the District operates school but the parent decides it is unsafe for their child to go to school?

The decision to operate schools is one that is made after reviewing general conditions and the District's ability to respond to snow removal, maintain safe parking lots and sidewalks at the schools, and move buses safely on streets, roads and highways. Unique conditions at a child's home, a parent's individual judgment about the safety of driving conditions, and the parent's individual judgment about his/her child's ability to maneuver in and cope with the conditions will be honored as it is when a parent makes a judgment for other health and safety reasons to keep their child at home.



Why are some districts open and others closed?

We make our decision based on available information about conditions within our district. Every district has their own unique resources and conditions (equipment, staff, topography, etc.) to cope with winter conditions. The weather conditions can vary considerably from one district to another, and even within a district with a large geographic area such as the Pullman School District.

When would you close school early because of snow?

If the weather conditions deteriorate during the school day such that the District is unable to adequately respond to snow removal, maintain reasonably safe conditions at the schools, or move buses safely on streets, roads, and highways a decision will be considered to close school early. Typically, once children are at school it is generally safer to keep them there until the end of the school day since there may not be anyone at home to receive some children.



When do you cancel outdoor recess?

Decisions regarding outdoor recess are made based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, temperature, wind chill, precipitation, and the ability of students to dress for the conditions. Experts agree that outdoor exercise benefits student learning and behavior, as long as the students are properly dressed for the conditions. We use a "temperature with wind chill" measure to determine if the temperature is appropriate to hold outdoor recess (other factors are also taken into account). Individual schools will base decisions on their schools microclimate.

Temperature with wind chill:

- 32 degrees and above - Outdoor recess can be held
- 13-31 degrees - Students can participate in outdoor recess, and should return indoors after 20-30 minutes
- 12 degrees or less - Students will have indoor recess

For more information about district Winter Weather Protocols, please visit www.pullmanschools.org

You're Invited!

Pullman High School Drama Presents:

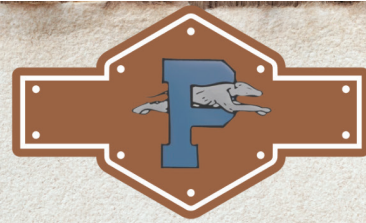
THE LION THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

DRAMATIZED BY JOSEPH ROBINETTE FROM THE STORY BY C.S. LEWIS.

November 3-5 and November 10-12

7:00pm in the PHS Auditorium with a matinee on Saturdays at 2:00pm

Cost is \$5 for students, \$10 for adults



PHS Boosters Hound Hootenanny

Annual Dinner and Auction Thursday November 17, 2022

Watch for announcements about attending and volunteer opportunities!!

AUCTION TICKETS ON SALE NOW

For more information please visit pullmanhighboosters.org

Tickets are: \$40 before November 4th | \$45 after November 4th