

K-5th Grade Parent-Teacher Conferences “Maximizing Parent Teacher Conferences”

Jim Bruce, Jefferson Elementary Principal

Mark your calendars! March 13th-15th, 2024 is Parent-Teacher Conferences for grades K-5 in the Pullman School District.

- March 13th: Student early dismissal (K-5th grade). Conferences will be during the afternoon and early evening.
- March 14th: No school for Preschool & K-5 students. Conferences will be all day during the school’s normal hours.
- March 15th: No school for Preschool & K-5 students. Conferences will be during the morning. Some conferences may occur during the afternoon, but this will be communicated to you by your child’s teacher.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are an excellent opportunity for families to meet with teachers one-on-one and learn how their child is doing academically and socially. To make conferences as smooth and stress-free as possible, following are some tips for before, during, and after the conference.

Before the Conference

- **Listen-** If you hear your child talking about something that they are doing well in or is struggling with, make a note of it. When it’s time for the conference, you’ll have a list of topics to discuss.
- **Ask-** Sit down with your child and ask them about school. What’s happening in class, at lunchtime, or in special classes such as music or physical education? Does your child enjoy classroom activities? Does your child feel like they are falling behind academically? Are they bored? Are there any troubling issues with classmates? Try asking your child what they think their teacher is going to share with you about them.
- **Assemble notes and papers-** Write down questions you want to address with the teacher. Bring copies of any assignments you have questions about. Think ahead of time how to tactfully bring up concerns.

During the Conference

- **Be on time-** Schools tightly schedule parent-teacher conferences because there’s only so much time available and several families to see. Show up at least a few minutes early. If you’re unable to attend the conference, contact your child’ teacher as soon as possible to reschedule a time.
- **Make childcare arrangements-** Some teachers have the student lead or participate in the conference. If you child’s teacher follows this format, please have your child attend the conference with you. Maximize your time with teachers by hiring a babysitter or teaming up with another parent to take turns watching children that have not yet enrolled in school.
- **Take notes-** Make note of what the teacher tells you about your child. Bring up your concerns, making sure to explore strengths, weaknesses, and social skills.
- **Keep emotions out of it-** It is always difficult to hear that your child may not be the person you thought they are in the classroom. Keep your cool and bear in mind that the teacher is offering constructive feedback.

After the Conference

- **Share with your child-** If your child did not participate in the

conference, share with your child what you and the teacher discussed. Emphasize the positive things the teacher said. Remember that it’s important for your child to feel positive about learning, the teacher, and the school. If your child did attend, take time to discuss any questions that they may have and to clarify what was discussed.

- **Follow up-** If there were important issues that need to be dealt with, such as finding a tutor or arranging counseling for your child, make sure to follow up in writing with the teacher soon after the conference. Specify what steps will be taken, what your responsibilities and the school’s responsibilities will be, and what the timetable is for action.
- **Meet with the school principal-** If, after conferring with your child’s teacher, you still feel that serious issues weren’t adequately addressed, set up a time to talk to the school counselor or principal.
- **Follow through-** Once you know what you can do at home to help your child succeed in school, co-create an action plan with your child to implement.

As a school district we value the opportunity to conference and collaborate with families about their child’s education, both academically and social-emotionally. Our goal is to have 100% parent/guardian attendance during conferences, thus we greatly appreciate families making arrangements to attend this valuable time.

If you have not received information from your child’s teacher about Parent-Teacher Conferences by the time that you receive this month’s Pullman Community Update, please contact your child’s teacher to receive the necessary information.

National Board Certified Teachers

??? Did you know? ???

We have 16 National Board Certified Teachers in our District!



Kate Agnew
Health & Fitness



Kevin Agnew
Career Choices/
Leadership



Aubrey Anderson
Gateway to
Technology



Jill Bickelhaupt
Family & Consumer Sciences
CTE Director



Jacqueline Carlson
Math



Katharine Covill
Orchestra



Raelah Currier
English



Willma Fields
Kindergarten



Declan Keogh
History and
Psychology



Heather Lohrmeyer
Elementary Art/STEM



Sandra Pagan-Rivera
Second Grade



Elizabeth Powell
Math



Amy Ripley
Fitness, Movement,
Sport & Health



Holly Steele
Third Grade



Joni Stevens
Math Specialist



Doug Winchell
Multimedia, Photography,
and Broadcasting



PULLMAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION (PEF) MONTHLY UPDATE

The Pullman Education Foundation operates exclusively for charitable and educational purposes to improve the quality of public education in the Pullman School District and provide a means of enhancement.

Over \$16,000 worth of scholarships is available to graduating Pullman High School students. The deadline to apply for these scholarships is fast approaching. Visit PullmanEducationFoundation.org and submit your scholarship by April 19. Contact PEF at the website or on Facebook if you have any questions.

<https://www.pullmaneducationfoundation.org/>

THE WORLD’S MOST POPULAR
MUSICAL COMES TO PULLMAN HIGH

Les Misérables



“The timeless story of redemption and forgiveness will move and inspire you!”

MARCH 7-9 & 14-16 | PULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

TICKET FEES:
\$5 Students
\$10 Adults

7:00PM SHOWS &
2:00PM MATINEE
ON SATURDAYS



“Day on the Hill” for Education: Democracy at Work

Nathan Roberts, Board Director District 4

The 2024 Washington State legislative session is in full swing, marked by the recent occurrence of the WASA (Washington Association of School Administrators), WSSDA (Washington State School Directors Association), and WASBO (Washington Association of School Business Officials) Day on the Hill for education in Olympia. This day marks the culmination of sorts in a year-long journey to the legislature for School Directors and our association, WSSDA. During this journey we create a statewide legislative agenda to communicate the priorities of the 1,477 locally elected school directors across Washington State.

For school directors, this process commenced a year ago, spanning from January to April 2023, as school boards initiated discussions and proposed possible revisions to WSSDA's advocacy platform, ultimately finalizing proposals during board meetings in March and April. Throughout the Summer, representatives from all school districts statewide then convened through WSSDA supported committees to review and organize these proposals for the General Assembly in September, during which one board member from every district gets to vote to accept and prioritize these positions into WSSDA's platform. This platform guides the collective advocacy efforts of organizations like WSSDA on behalf of the 1,098,997 students in Washington State.

The General Assembly stands out as one of the pivotal school board legislative advocacy events in this annual policy cycle. Through deliberation and voting on all WSSDA legislative and permanent positions, the assembled school directors from across Washington State contribute to the development of an advocacy agenda with broad support. Following the conclusion of all voting and the adoption of positions, the resultant platform, currently containing 239 positions, will steer all WSSDA's advocacy efforts throughout the upcoming legislative session. Day on the Hill stands out as the opportunity for representatives from all districts to travel to Olympia and use this platform to advocate for the priorities that match most with the needs of their district.

In Eastern Washington, our emphasis aligns to the WSSDA platform in many ways. Regionally we remain steadfast year after year in a few key areas relevant for us. For instance, transportation presents significant challenges for Eastern Washington districts like Pullman, which cover a large area with families residing in rural regions outside the city limits. Issues such as bus funding and a shortage of bus drivers impact student transportation, prompting us to focus on advocacy efforts that tailor transportation policies to address our regional needs. Affordability of insurance emerges from the WSSDA platform as another pressing concern for Pullman School District, with costs for property and liability coverage escalating dramatically beyond what is funded by the legislature.

A few other proposals reflected in the WSSDA platform and supported by the Pullman School District include advocating for school construction funding, increased funding for staff positions, relief from green building compliance fees, addressing issues of isolation/restraint and student discipline, and enhancing support for special education and mental health services.

The momentum of this work culminates during the legislative session and most explicitly during Day on the Hill, but it's a democratic process a year in the making. Individual school directors annually build and evolve the advocacy agenda to represent the changing priorities of their respective districts. This agenda not only offers year-round guidance to professional organizations like WSSDA and the legislature on priorities for education. But more importantly, it provides representatives of every district with a collective platform to take to Olympia en masse. It is a shining example of the often messy but vital process of public governance and the legislative process in our state.

The opinions expressed in Board Reports are those of individual school board members and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the board as a whole or of Pullman Public Schools.

Highly Capable Program Selection for the 2024-2025 Academic Year

Referral forms for current Kindergarten through 11th grade students to receive highly capable services during next school year will be accepted March 4 - 15. Parents/guardians, teachers, students, and anyone else with direct knowledge of a student's abilities may refer a student for highly capable services.

In addition to referrals, universal screener results will also be considered. Our district utilizes the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment in grades K - 8 as a universal screener.

For more information on the Highly Capable Program, the program referral process, or to find referral resources please follow the link below. On March 4, the referral submission link will also be available here: https://www.pullmanschools.org/departments/teaching-and-learning/highly_capable_program

To request a written translation of this notice in another language, please contact the Instructional Programs Office at (509)332-3144.

برنامج اختيار الطلاب ذوي القدرات العالية للعام الدراسي 2024-2025

ستقبل استمارات الإحالة للطلاب الحاليين من الروضة وحتى الصف الحادي عشر لتلقي خدمات الطلاب ذوي القدرات العالية خلال العام الدراسي القادم في الفترة من 4 مارس إلى 15 مارس. ويمكن لأولياء الأمور/الأوصياء والمعلمين والطلاب، وأي شخص آخر لديه معرفة مباشرة بقدرات الطالب أن يحيل الطالب للحصول على خدمات الطلاب ذوي القدرات العالية.

بالإضافة إلى الإحالات، سيتم أيضًا أخذ نتائج الفحص الشامل بعين الاعتبار. ومن ثم تستخدم منطقتنا التعليمية اختبار مقاييس التقدم الأكاديمي (MAP) في الصفوف من الروضة إلى الصف الثامن كفحص شامل.

للحصول على مزيد من المعلومات بشأن برنامج الطلاب ذوي القدرات العالية وعملية الإحالة إلى البرنامج أو العثور على موارد الإحالة، يُرجى اتباع الرابط الموضح أدناه في 4 مارس، سيتاح أيضًا رابط تقديم الإحالة هنا: https://www.pullmanschools.org/departments/teaching-and-learning/highly_capable_program

لطلب ترجمة خطية لهذا الإشعار بلغة أخرى، يُرجى الاتصال بمكتب البرامج التعليمية على الرقم (509)332-3144.

2024-2025 学年高水平计划选拔

3月4日至15日，我们将接受幼儿园至11年级学生在下一学年获得高水平服务的推荐表。家长/监护人、教师、学生和其他直接了解学生能力的人士都可以推荐学生获得高水平服务。

除推荐外，我们还将参考全体学生选拔结果。本学区采用学业进步量表(MAP)在K-8年级的全体学生中开展选拔。

欲了解有关高水平计划和计划推荐流程的更多信息，或查找推荐资源，请查看下方链接。3月4日起，我们也将公布推荐提交链接。
https://www.pullmanschools.org/departments/teaching-and-learning/highly_capable_program

如需获得本通知的其他语言书面翻译版，请联系教学计划办公室：(509)332-3144。

Selección para el Programa de Altas Capacidades para el año escolar 2024-2025

Los formularios de recomendación para que alumnos actuales de kinder a 11.º grado reciban servicios para altas capacidades durante próximo año escolar en curso se aceptarán del 4 al 15 de marzo. Los padres, tutores, maestros, estudiantes y otras personas con conocimiento directo de las capacidades de un estudiante pueden recomendar a un estudiante para servicios para altas capacidades.

Además de las recomendaciones, se tomarán en cuenta los resultados de evaluaciones universales. Nuestro distrito utiliza la evaluación de Medición del Progreso Académico (MAP, por sus siglas en inglés) como evaluación universal del Kinder al 8.º grado.

Para ver más información sobre el Programa de Altas Capacidades, el proceso de recomendación o para el programa, o para encontrar recursos para las recomendaciones, use el enlace siguiente. A partir del 4 de marzo, el enlace para enviar recomendaciones también estará disponible aquí: https://www.pullmanschools.org/departments/teaching-and-learning/highly_capable_program

Para solicitar una traducción escrita de este aviso en otro idioma, comuníquese con la Oficina de Programas Educativos al teléfono (509) 332-3144.



**ENROLLMENT
NOW OPEN
for 2024-2025**

ENROLL ONLINE WITH PULLMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TODAY!

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR ENROLLMENT

- ✓ Documentation of Student Age
- ✓ Medically Verified Certificate of Immunization Status or Certificate of Immunization Exemption
- ✓ Ages & Stages Questionnaire (Kindergarten Only)

Please visit our website to enroll your student or for more information about enrolling your student for the 2024-2025 school year at www.pullmanschools.org/enrollment



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.

Board of Directors

Arron Carter Director, District 1 acarter@psd267.org	Nathan Roberts Director, District 4 nroberts@psd267.org
Lisa Waananen Jones Director, District 2 lwaananenjones@psd267.org	Amanda Tanner Director, District 5 atanner@psd267.org
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