

Pullman School District Building and Grounds Maintenance

Joe Thornton, Executive Director of Operations

The Pullman School District Maintenance Department is the group that does all the building maintenance and grounds work for the school district. This department is responsible for maintaining approximately 650,00 sq. ft. of building space (spread out over 10 sites) and approximately 60 acres of outdoor grounds. The team is responsible for all building maintenance needs from plumbing to HVAC, electrical, painting and all general building repair needs. The grounds responsibilities include parking lot snow removal, athletic field prep, landscaping and turf management. Additionally, this team is responsible for getting supplies delivered to the school for the Nutrition Services Department that feeds students breakfast and lunch. For the most part, the work the team does is accomplished in-house, but a few situations where building codes or specialized equipment requires an outside contractor be hired to do the work. Some examples of this are some electrical work, fire sprinkler systems, elevator repairs and some specialized HVAC repair. A separate team of employees are the building custodians that are responsible for the daily cleaning of all the schools, sidewalk snow removal and the huge task of summer deep cleaning of schools and floor refinishing.

Athletic Field Prep and Turf Management: Athletic fields need to be prepped at PHS and LMS for athletic contests such as football, soccer, baseball and softball. In addition, facilities for tennis and track and field are maintained. Depending on the season and weather conditions, the time and effort needed to prepare a field for an athletic event can be substantial. Especially for spring sports such as baseball and softball, the time necessary for field prep is challenging. Spring on the Palouse can bring problems. It is not uncommon for a playfield to be mud one week and then hard as a rock the next--and then maybe even snow falls in April as we are trying to host a game. Maintaining turf areas, both athletic fields and playground is very time consuming. Recent water restriction prevents the district from irrigating fields in the summer as much as we used to be able to irrigate. This is a good thing, from both a cost saving perspective and from a conserving the aquifer perspective. As a result, in July, August and September some fields may give the appearance that the grass is "dead." The turf is not dead, but just dormant and will begin to grow again as soon as fall moisture arrives. However, it is necessary for player safety to begin to irrigate football and soccer fields in August to prepare a softer playing surface for those sports.

The only real downside to the lack of summer irrigation is the appearance of the fields, but this regime also increases invasive weeds that will take advantage of the dry turf. Another particular challenge for the maintenance and grounds crew is staying on top of weeding invasive plants that get established in landscape beds. The school district is very restricted as to what, when and where weed control chemicals can be applied on school district property. As a result, the use of herbicides is pretty limited. Weeds in landscaping beds can become a problem and need to be mechanically (hand) weeded. Rarely does staff have the time to stay on top of all the weeding that needs to get done and sometimes this gets bumped to the summer when some extra summer help is hired. These summer crews will often spend the first couple of weeks on the job pulling weeds.

Summer Maintenance Projects: Every spring, building principals compile a list of summer projects that they would like to have done in the schools. These are projects that, because of the complexity of the project, cannot get done while school is in session. It may be some remodeling that needs to be done in a classroom or office, repair/rebuilding of a play structure or extensive repair to HVAC components. These projects are the focus of the summer for the maintenance crew, along with the continual work that needs to be done with landscaping and turf. Summer is also the time of year that each individual building custodial crew can get into classrooms and deep clean carpet, clean furniture, refinish hallway floors and refinish hardwood gym floors. The 10 weeks of summer is a critical period for the maintenance and custodial crews to accomplish the jobs that cannot get done while school is in session.

Summer Life and Safety Inspections: Each summer, life and safety systems are tested by a contractor, as required by law, to make certain these systems are in good operating condition and will operate properly when needed. These systems include fire alarm systems, smoke detectors and fire suppression systems (fire sprinklers).

The Pullman community has been extremely supportive of the funding needed to build quality spaces for teaching and learning. We are lucky that the average age of our schools is relatively young compared to many other districts. Even with that fact, we still have some aging spaces in the district. The old part of Pioneer Center was built in the 1930s. The original section of Sunnyside School was built in the 1960s. Jefferson and Franklin Schools are approaching 30 years old. The Pullman School District continues to make maintaining quality schools a priority by providing the staff and funding necessary for building upkeep. Both the maintenance and the custodial crews do a wonderful job of maintaining and cleaning the quality school buildings in the Pullman School District.

The PHS AAPI club presents

MULTICULTURAL Night



HOSTED BY THE PHS ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER (AAPI) CLUB IN COOPERATION WITH THE WSU INTERNATIONAL CENTER AND THE PSD ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Join us in celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures in our community! Indulge in complimentary culinary delights while enjoying engaging games, vibrant displays, captivating cultural performances, and invaluable local insights.

20+ countries represented! complimentary food

cultural displays & performances local info

fun games, activities, and more!



**DON'T
MISS OUT!**

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Pullman High School

6:30–8:30 pm

The Behavior Battle: Solutions in Schools

Evan Hecker, Kamiak Elementary Principal

Effective behavior management is essential for creating a positive learning environment that promotes the academic and social-emotional growth of students. By employing a combination of solutions, schools can address behavior issues more effectively and support the success of all students. Behavior issues in the classroom can have a detrimental effect on the learning environment. It is crucial to address these issues effectively to create a conducive learning community for all students.

To effectively manage behavior in schools, it is essential to use clear and consistent strategies throughout the day. The National Association of School Psychologists emphasizes the need for ongoing evaluation and revision of these strategies. Effective behavior management involves communication and collaboration between teachers, counselors, and other support staff to ensure a coordinated approach.


Our district schools all track and share various aspects of student behavior, academics, and personal development using tracking tools. This allows collaborative teams to progress monitor student behavior through various tiers of responses for different problem areas. Collecting valuable data and insights helps to inform our behavior management strategies.

Rather than attempting to address behavior issues for all students simultaneously, we find it beneficial to identify a small percentage of students as a focus group. By concentrating efforts on a select group, our educators can provide targeted support and interventions more effectively. For example, at Kamiak Elementary, we have implemented a Safe Recess Academy to improve our student behavior on the playground. We found that our discipline referral data shows that some of our students have the most room to grow when it comes to physical contact on the playground. The program's goals are to help students form new habits, learn interpersonal skills, practice problem-solving, role-play interactions, and teach them how to play fair.

Understanding the underlying reasons for student behavior is crucial in addressing behavior issues. Instead of solely focusing on the behavior itself, we engage in logical and unemotional discussions to identify the root causes. By determining the function of behavior, we can design appropriate interventions.

While there are numerous resources available for behavioral intervention, we find it important to keep the list of strategies manageable and accessible. We identify a reasonable number of effective strategies and ensure they are readily available when needed. Streamlining strategies can enhance consistency in their implementation.

Behavior management in schools requires a multi-faceted approach. It is important to implement practices such as focusing on a select group of students, identifying the function of behavior, streamlining strategies, and conducting efficient meetings. By combining these approaches, our educators can create an environment conducive to positive behavior and enhanced learning outcomes.



ENROLL TODAY

Our Mission is to Ensure Learning While Challenging and Supporting Each Student to Achieve Full Potential

1

VERIFY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Use our 'Find my School' address lookup tool to verify school of attendance. This is available on our website at www.PullmanSchools.org/Enrollment

2

COMPLETE ONLINE APPLICATION

Complete online application form, located at www.PullmanSchools.org/Enrollment or pick up a paper application at any school or the district office.

3

SUBMIT DOCUMENTS ONLINE OR IN-PERSON

Upload into online application, or mail/drop off required documents to your student's assigned school or the district office.

Paper and translated enrollment applications available upon request.

TRANSFER TO A DIFFERENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

If you would like to attend a school different than your assigned attendance zone, please fill out an In-District Transfer Request, available on our website.

TRANSFER FROM OUTSIDE OF DISTRICT

If you live in another school district in Washington, but would like to attend Pullman Public Schools, please fill out an Out-of-District Transfer Request, available on our website.

NEW TRANSFER REQUESTS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN AUGUST PRIOR TO THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

DOCUMENTS TO PROVIDE TO YOUR STUDENT'S SCHOOL

AGE REQUIREMENTS

In Washington, students must be 5 years old on or before August 31 to enroll in Kindergarten and 6 years old on or before August 31 to enroll in First Grade.

PROOF OF STUDENT AGE

Acceptable documents include a birth certificate, passport, adoption record, previously verified school records, a religious, hospital, or physician's certificate showing date of birth, an entry in a family bible, or any other documents permitted by law.

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS

Washington public school students will be ineligible to attend school if appropriate immunizations are not provided to their school. Questions? Email mhyatt@psd267.org.

AGES & STAGES QUESTIONNAIRE

The ASQ is a screening tool that takes a snapshot of your child's current skills. It is used for all kindergarten students to help our educators prepare for how to best support their students in each classroom.

Documents can be uploaded into the online application, or mailed/dropped off at your student's assigned school or at the district office (240 SE Dexter St). If you need an alternative way of submitting documents, please contact your student's school. If you need a translated application, they are available on the website or at any school.

Students experiencing homelessness are not subject to provide required documents in order to enroll.


NEED ASSISTANCE?

HELP IS AVAILABLE ONLINE, BY PHONE OR IN-PERSON.

Contact your school's secretary or call the district office at (509) 332-3581

Email enrollment@psd267.org

SCAN ME




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, sex, honorably discharged veteran or military status, 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.

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 application by April 19. Contact PEF at pullmaneducationfoundation@gmail.com or on Facebook if you have any questions.

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

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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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