



PIONEER MIDDLE SCHOOL
PANTHER POST

Week of October 22 - 26, 2018

"All students will learn and grow academically, socially, emotionally and physically!"

"Parenting is no sport for perfectionists."

Andrew Solomon

The Week Ahead

- **Wednesday**
 - Pizza Day Lunch
 - Little Caesar Pizza Kit pickup at 3:30 - 6:00
- **Thursday**
 - Butt Ugly Tobacco Presentation (for grade 6)
- **Friday**
 - Halloween Dance 6:00-9:00

Dates to Remember

- October 30: Picture Retake Day
- October 31: Halloween
- November 4: Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 6-7: Babysitting Course
- November 9: School Remembrance Service at 9:15AM
- November 11: Remembrance Day
- November 12: No School
- November 21: Pizza Day
- November 22-24: AAA Boys Volleyball Provincials
- November 23: Professional Development Day (No School)

Items of Note

- While we may not have reached our goal of 600 kits sold, students managed to sell a very respectable 411 Little Caesars Pizza Kits. The proceeds of which will go towards playground equipment (e.g. sets of playground balls, etc.)
- West Central High School is hosting 3A Boys Volleyball Provincials November 22-24. While most matches will be at West Central, some will be played here at Pioneer. The 23 & 24 are non-instructional days, but the 22nd is a regular school day. So Thursday will be a busy day around the school with high school teams and fans coming and going throughout the day. Parking will also be a challenge. We thank you in advance for your patience and invite you to come watch some high caliber volleyball.
- On any given day in September, 6.8% of our students were absent. The number of absences so far in October, has grown to 10.5% for an overall year-to-date average of 8.7% absentee rate. When you look at a typical class of 28 students, that equals 2-3 students missing lessons and learning activities. On an individual scale, an average Pioneer student missed 1 day of school out of 18 in September. Over the course of the year, that would be 10 absences. Recent research out of the US indicates that for every day of school a child misses, their achievement on standardized tests drops 1%. For a student who misses 10 days in a year (once per month), that's a drop of 10%. That 10% compounds year after year and students quickly find themselves struggling with course content. Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing more than 2 days of school per month. By grade 6, chronic absenteeism is a leading indicator that a student will drop out before graduation. In order to improve opportunities for your child's success, we ask you ensure they are in school everyday unless they are sick or in bereavement.

