



PIONEER MIDDLE SCHOOL
PANTHER POST

Week of June 3, 2024

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

“It's time to listen to the stories of the Indigenous; we are blessed as a country to look to the wisdom of a really old country.”

~ Gord Downie

Dates to Remember

- June is Panther P.R.I.D.E. Month
- June is Indigenous People's History Month
- June 3: 6S & 6/7E Airport Field Trip
- June 3: School Council & Friends of Pioneer Mtgs. 7:00PM
- June 4: Gr. 7 Land-Based Learning at RMH Nat. Hist. Site
- June 4: Division Track & Field
- **June 6: Bus Registration Forms Due**
- June 6: School Spirit Day -- Wear Panther PRIDE Gear
- June 7: PD Day - No School for Students
- June 11: Gr. 6 FLA PAT partie B.
- June 11: Gr. 7 & 8 MIPI (Math) Testing
- June 13: Gr. 6 Math Screener Testing
- June 13: Spring Concert 7:00PM
- June 18: EOE Baldy Hike
- June 19: Gr. 6 Social Studies PAT
- June 19: West Central HS Gr. 8 Open House 4:30-6:00PM
- June 20: Gr. 6S and 6E Science PAT
- June 21: National Indigenous People's Day
- June 25: Year-End Awards and Grade 8 Farewell 10:00AM
- June 25: Year-End Dance 1:00PM
- June 25: Report Cards Released
- June 26: Last Day for Students
- June 28: Office Closed for Summer

As we enter the final month of school, we also enter the **Year-End Push**. It's a busy time of year. Teachers are pushing to complete the curriculum and final assessments, including PAT's, numeracy & literacy tests, final projects, and final exams. They are doing this all while trying to keep students engaged and focused after a long year of studies. Parents can do their part to help students be successful by ensuring their children are attending regularly, getting plenty of sleep, and eating well.

Items of Note

As we near the end of the school year, I'd like to take a moment to discuss **Promotions vs. Placements**. These used to be known as “passing” or “failing” your grade. Research over the past 20 years has clearly indicated that retaining or failing a child after grade 1 has little to no positive impact on the child's future achievement. Indeed, failing a child increases the likelihood they will drop out of school. Therefore, when students are struggling to make their grade, schools will begin to individualize programming for them; often through the use of an IPP (Individualized Program Plan).

There are two types of IPPs: adapted and modified. Adaptations are strategies we use to ensure students are meeting the curricular outcomes at their grade level and should still be making their grade by the end of the year. A modified IPP changes the curricular outcomes. A student on a modified IPP will not likely be achieving these same grade-level outcomes. Modified IPP outcomes could be from a lower grade or completely changed to meet the learning needs of the child. Additionally, a student who is not on an IPP may not be achieving curriculum objectives due to poor attendance, lack of engagement in their studies, work not being completed, lack of work ethic, etc. Whether an IPP is in place or not, when students are not achieving the curricular outcomes for their grade by the end of the year (i.e. they are not “passing”), students are “placed” into the next grade. This will be clearly indicated on their year-end report card.

Check your child's year-end report card to see if they have made their grade. If they are being “promoted,” they have met the curricular outcomes and “passed.” If they are still being “placed” into the next grade, they have NOT met the curricular outcomes for their grade and they will need to work hard to be successful in coming years.