



PINE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL District News



Pine Valley Central School District Newsletter

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Superintendent's Message

By Bryna Moritz, Superintendent of Schools

I hope this message finds you all well and merry for the holiday season. This year has been a whirlwind with much excitement and thankfulness for the normalcy returning to our school system. While we are embracing group work, faces where we can see smiles, and the ability to eat and be merry less than six feet apart, we are committed more than ever to taking what we learned during the pandemic and move forward more efficiently. We remain laser focused on improving academic achievement and opportunities for children, while providing a safe, warm, connected environment.

Our work in academic achievement continues to advance. We are in year three of the new reading program for students in kindergarten to sixth grade. This year we have also rolled this program up to seventh and eighth grade. In kindergarten to eighth grade we have begun to implement a rigorous, standards aligned Math program. Additionally, we are working to reemphasize the Step Up to Writing program. We currently have on staff an English Language Arts Coach and Mathematics Coach to support teachers in this program implementation. These individuals are non-evaluative of our staff and are there to coach and support our teachers.

Our district continues to look for new and exciting ways to support ALL our students and families. We have expanded our Unified Sports offerings to include basketball. We continue to offer various club and athletic opportunities and provide afterschool care for families of students in K-6. The counseling team is now offering Coping Camp to help students learn de-escalation techniques from an early age. They are also taking students from grade seven to grade twelve to tour Universities and various work settings each year. Our hope is to rapidly improve on the support provided to students and families in developing and making a post-graduation plan. Our new Behavioral Coach has been working with teachers and principals to help students own their learning and take control of their own progress. Additionally, our High School has implemented Incentive Day to help support and incentivize student learning.

Deputy Brandon Hite from the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Department has been in the district since October. He has already formed strong relationships with students, been a support on numerous difficult situations, and helped illuminate various safety issues. We are thrilled to have him in district and look forward to seeing him expand his role in the coming months.

On November 28, 2022, we will officially welcome Little Love Bugs daycare into the district. Little Love Bugs will offer workable hours, meals, and consistent care to children 6 weeks and up. They will need to follow the appropriate state allowable room ratios and preference will first be given to district residents, then to staff and then to neighboring communities. Please reach out to our Elementary Main Office if you would like contact information to begin your child's registration.

Regarding our facilities and buildings, our 2019 Capital Project is coming to a close. As you probably know from prior communication, the bids were unfavorable for a new kitchen at the high school. We will work with the community stakeholders and construction management group to hopefully bring this to fruition in our next project. Instead of this work, we will utilize the remaining funds to update our door security, lockdown capability and provide some much-needed building hardening.

Teacher retention and recruitment continues to be a nationwide problem. I am grateful for the amazing veteran staff that have remained at Pine Valley. I am also grateful to our Board of Education and whole leadership team for their proactive and innovative approach to this much larger problem. We will continue to pursue new solutions to provide students with quality opportunities and programming.

In addition to the 2019 Capital Project, we will be using some of our grant funds to address needs in our district with a lower aid ratio, if done in a project. This spring our current center courtyard playground will be removed and a new playground with a "Honey I Shrunk the Kids" theme will take its place. All equipment removed will either be repurposed in our back playground or offered to the towns as a donation. By September 2023, students will be able to utilize this new space.

On the horizon, in order to keep our debt and aid level we will be approaching stakeholders to be part of planning groups for a new capital project. This planning work will begin later in the 2022/2023 school year. We are only in initial conversations on this topic as this was pushed back due to the grant funds allotted the district that allow for some other capital work. More information will come as we get closer on this.

It is my pleasure to work with your families, our students, and this staff. We are very lucky in the valley. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Go Panthers!

New SRO at PV



More from Pine Valley
Elementary School on
pgs. 2-5



Elementary School News

by Mrs. Brandi Meacham, Elementary School Principal

Big Apple Crunch



On October 27, 2022, the Pine Valley Elementary School gathered for a photo opportunity and participated in the “Big Apple Crunch!” The Big Apple Crunch is run by a nonprofit group that invites schools and students to take a bite out of a NYS grown apples.

Fire Safety



September Students of the Month

UPK - 6th Grade



- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Jules Caparco | Aria Colvin |
| Alicia Ritter | Gabriella Sebastiano |
| Mia McBride | Tabitha Hill |
| Raven Henry | Brantley Johnston |
| Thomas Wright | Obed Rosario |
| Ariana Riley | Kenneth Joyce |
| Kade Luce | Roan Kohler |
| Karter Lugos-Hicks | Tucker Racinowski |
| Emma Buczek | Liberty Ross |
| Abigail Kelley | Jaxson Emke |
| William Pekrul | Mackenzie Schroeder |



- Madison Clark
Geminiah Tuttle
Myla Daniels
Avalee Wickmark
Bryson Fagnan
Lakelyn Brisley
Taylor Postle



- Music**
Abigail Stanfield
Oakley Ellis
Lilana Gross
Emma Buczek
Payton Dotter
Kamryn Logan
LaVeda Spitale
Megan Abbey



Library

- Alicia Ritter
Oakley Ellis
Ariana Riley
Brooke Silleman
Payton Dotter
Donald Tuttle
LaVeda Spitale
Jaxson Emke

Physical Education

- Kierstyn Gastol
Kade Luce
Isabella Utley
Brantley Johnston
Milena DiPietro
Tucker Racinowski
Ashlynn Silleman



Technology

- Grace Rinehart
Zachery Weidmann

Congrats Students of the Month!

Halloween at PV Elementary

This year Pine Valley's Halloween theme was...It's a Zoo Around Here! Staff had a wonderful time dressing up and getting into the spirit of Halloween. Look at all the amazing activities they had planned for the students.

The Transportation Department treated the elementary students to a fun-filled morning of tricks and treats aboard a safari themed school bus.

Mr. Housler and Mr. Cunningham celebrated Halloween with the entire elementary school by dancing to the Monster Mash!

At the end of the day, students got to show off their costumes in a Halloween parade. Everyone had a Spooktacular time celebrating Halloween by joining in the fun and festivities at Pine Valley.





Jr./Sr. High School News

by Mrs. Kourtney Almeida, Jr./Sr. High School Principal

WBL: Fostering Self & Career Exploration



Work-based learning (WBL) engages employers and schools. It provides structured, supervised learning experiences for students. It strengthens key skills such as communication, enthusiasm and attitude, problem solving and critical thinking as well as professionalism. All of these skills provide students a competitive advantage when it comes to achieving a sense of themselves as a worker in the workforce.

Our high school multi-age classroom weekly participates in community work-based learning experiences. Our students visit local establishments in South Dayton and Cherry Creek, applying skills they have learned in the classroom to meaningful real-world tasks in a workplace. They are learning the value of doing a good job and the expectations of various workplace.

We begin our week by traveling to the South Dayton American Legion. Our duties include wiping down tables, sweeping and mopping floors, vacuuming rugs, and wiping down bathrooms and kitchen counters. Occasionally, we will wash dishes and windows. Not only does this provide valuable life skills that will lead to future independence, but it also lets us give back to our veterans and servicemen and women.

All kinds of life skills can be learned at a grocery store: money management,

social skills, advertising and labeling, nutrition and smart sales shopping. Our Tuesdays involve a shopping trip to South Dayton Supermarket and the Dollar General. Prior to our excursion we generate a shopping list. This list is initiated according to our needs for Wednesday's outing to the elementary school. On our trip we look at prices, expiration dates, comparing values (name brand versus generic) and making sure we have the required amounts of product to meet our recipe criteria. We also have scavenger hunts. Our lists include things like price, nutrition, ingredients and sell by dates. Lots of label reading going on!!

Wednesdays we go to the elementary school and our students teach a lesson in two self-contained classrooms. Each of our students is given a specific part of the lesson that they are responsible for. Student-led learning is incredibly beneficial in promoting leadership skills and instilling confidence. So far, this year we have taught lessons on fire safety, bus safety and traffic safety. We also incorporate a snack of some sort that the younger students assemble by following step-by-step directions given from the older students. This, of course, is always a big hit!

Back to work on Thursdays! Early work experiences are valuable when exploring employment interests and career options. Thursdays are our Trillium



Lodge day. Before the restaurant opens for the busy weekend, our “staff” joins their crew. We help prep food and roll and polish silverware. We also vacuum, sweep and mop. We are learning about different aspects of the food industry and being responsible to the consumer through food safety.

TGIF! Fridays we have a good time helping out at the South Dayton Free Methodist Church. Our students get to connect to the community while getting a healthy boost to their self-esteem by volunteering some time to the Department of the Aging. We decorate paper sacks and then help fill bags of food that get delivered to seniors in the area. It’s extra special to know that our artwork brings joy to someone else. Lately, we’ve been busy sorting and organizing clothing and toy donations for the coming holiday. In

October we helped fill over 300 favor bags for fire prevention week.

While on campus we get more real-world related experiences. Weekly, we work the Home and Careers room by doing dishes, sweeping the floor, wiping down counters and refrigerators, and laundry. One student, daily, helps the custodial staff take down tables, clean the floor and take out trash after all lunch periods have ended.

Our biggest venture: preparing an entire Thanksgiving meal for our high school teachers and staff. We sent out 89 invitations and received 63 confirmed reservations! We worked together to plan the menu. Weekly, we watched the store fliers for items we may need, hoping to catch something on sale. Next, we had to devise a schedule. Preparing a meal of this size would take some time and effort. We also had to keep in mind that

we would be serving the meal to our guest and cleaning up, so that needed to be planned out ahead of time as well. This is a big undertaking, we know, but we are looking forward to the challenge of putting on a good meal.

Our class would like to thank the administrators for the support of this program and contributions to the Thanksgiving meal. Thank you, also goes out to Mrs. Liz Hesse and her cooking classes for making the desserts, adding extra hands for the dinner, and for use of the Home and Careers classroom. Thank you to our bus and transportation staff for getting us to and from our work-based learning experiences safely. And lastly, we would like to thank our community partners for giving up their time and the use of your establishment to further our educational opportunities.

Halloween at PV Jr./Sr. High School



Boy's Modified Soccer



Coach Chandell Nichols

The 2022 season was a great one! We won two games: both against Cattaraugus Little Valley. Though we are proud of our wins, we are prouder of our team's reputation as one that showed great sportsmanship as well as our improvement on the soccer field. During games our audience and opponents expected to see us helping the other team up when they fell down and being respectful toward the referees, the other players, and the other coaches. Our opposers knew that we would go out and play a fair game. We also participated in showing our love to our community and our varsity team by picking up trash on the side of One Mile Road and walking in support of a varsity player's lost family member.

Our ninth graders who played this season and will be moving up to the varsity level next year are Cyrus Jackson (team captain), Tobias Doner, and David Ramirez. They will be missed as they were a vital part of our team. Though we had a rotating co-captain for each game, Cyrus was the overall team captain, and he led the team in many drills and our stretching before every game. Tobi

and David both played the position of stopper and were two of our most aggressive players. They were never afraid to put pressure on the other team. Hayden Chase also began the season with us, but he was pulled up to varsity halfway through.

Our returning players for next season will be James Baker, Zach Hojnacki, Hunter Jackson, Brayden Simmons, Ryker Parker, Liam Bradigan, Andres Morillas, Landon Reger, Logan Goddard, Isaac Kelley, and Romin O'Neal. They each worked hard to win our games, have fun, build our own characters, and build our team up. We are excited to see how the things we learned in this season will progress into our next season.

Boy's Varsity Soccer

Another season is in the books for the Pine Valley Boys' Varsity Soccer Team. Although our record may not reflect it, it was a great season with lots of hard-fought games and great moments! Coach Housler and Coach Cunningham could not have asked for a better group of athletes to play soccer for Pine Valley. Every game was a battle and this team has continued to pave the wave for next year's soccer season and years to come.

Starting with our senior players, this group of athletes did an outstanding job! They truly knew what it means to be part of a team. No matter what the circumstances were or what team they played; these athletes never backed down from a challenge. It didn't matter what the score was or how much time was left on the clock, this team kept playing and giving it their all until the final whistle blew.

Next up, our juniors, sophomores and freshman players showed their passion for our team and the sport, their enthusiasm was incredible! They worked hard, you could see their love for the sport and their desire to improve daily. We hope all the players return; they will play a big role on next year's team! These athletes played lots of minutes at every game and did a great job in any position we put them in. Overall, it was a fantastic season and both Coach Housler and Coach Cunningham hope the team had a lot of fun. We are already looking forward to next season and cannot wait to grow the program, to become bigger and better and strive to reach new goals. This year's terrific season would not be possible without the hard work and dedication our all our players. A huge thank you to our administration team.



Coaches Housler & Cunningham

PV Football



Coach Matt VanKoughnett

the offensive line. The other Pine Valley players for Varsity include Connor Elliot, Jon Sheldon, and Dylan Green. The varsity team finished with a record of 2-7. Their record does not indicate the amount of effort and growth this team had.

The Modified Panthers had a tough schedule this year too. We faced some powerhouse opponents but also dominated several games too. With freshman playmaker Cam Slade, as a captain, the team showed serious growth. We had 10 students in total that came out, almost doubling our last year's numbers. James Greene and Cam Howard were solid both on the offensive and defensive line. Bryce Dustin McCoy, Zach Cooper, Jereth Horvath showed tremendous improvement since last year. And the seventh graders Zane Rogers, Kaden Helman and Tyler Pflueger were put to the test at the next level after their Championship Longhorn team. We even came out and helped run the chains for one of the Longhorn games.

The partnership with Gowanda seems to be very beneficial for all of our players and the school. We are glad to be a part of a program and still playing football.

Thank you to all the parents and players putting in the hours driving and waiting to pick up their athletes. We couldn't have done it without you. I look forward to even more growth as a program in the years to come.

This JV volleyball season has been a very exhilarating and unique one for me. This year was the first group of athletes I have taught and now coached. The team consisted of Madison Ebel, Danica Silleman, Breanna Snyder, Madilynn Robertson, Lily Hohl, Cameron Rinehart, and Autumn Bailey. Even though our record does not reflect it, these girls played so hard this season. Their individual skill levels have flourished and more importantly their teamwork has increased tremendously. When we began this season in August, I knew we had a lot of work in front of us both emotionally and physically. The last four or five games I saw a transformation in this team that I have not seen for many years. These girls are a very young team, all but one of



them are eighth graders, moving straight up from modified to JV. To me the accomplishments these girls have made off the court are way larger than the ones that they made on the court, and I look forward to what they will do in years to come. We held a volleyball clinic on October 15th where we invited 5th and 6th graders to attend, and the varsity and JV girls were able to show them basic skills. October 18th was our "Pink out" game for Breast Cancer Awareness. I'd like to thank the Board of Education, our administrators, and parents for allowing me to have this opportunity to coach the youth in our district. Thank you coach Buczek, for the endless hours of setting games up, going to meetings, and making sure all the paperwork was set, it doesn't go unnoticed. Thank you to Mr. Slisz and Coach Kate for sitting on the sidelines and encouraging not only myself but my players. Thank you, Mr. Schalk, for working the clock and score board for every home game. A special thank you and shout out goes to Madilynn Robertson, Breanna Snyder, and Lily Hohl for staying for every home game and doing the book and libero for every varsity game.

JV Volleyball



Coach Tare Hayes

PV/Gowanda Girl's Varsity Soccer



Coach Karah Herman

This year's varsity team was full of a great group of young women. This included seniors: Haleigha Hardy (captain), and Luisa Smith. My juniors consisted of Aryanna Bardo, Molly Fritsch, Alexia Harvey (Gowanda), and Kaitlyn Hender (Gowanda). My sophomores are Sarah Kruszka (captain), Destiny Lindquist and Julianna Yasurek. The freshmen are made up of Rayne Bruyer, Katie King, Reda Robinson (Gowanda). My eighth graders were Sandy Ivett, and Lauren Hostetter (Gowanda). My lone seventh grader is Ashley Irwin. Chandell Nichols and I were unfortunately unable to put together enough girls for a modified girls' team this season. So, my 9th, 8th and 7th graders were able to be a part of the varsity team this school year, which in fact made my team very young, and we had a lot to prepare for before our first game and throughout the entire season.

I know that these girls played their hearts out every single game. We battled hard against very well-developed teams, and it was so

obvious in the progress that we made. I had compliments from many coaches on their sportsmanship and their improvement in their soccer skills. My goal when I coach is to show them the life lessons that come from playing on sports teams throughout high school. Yes, losing is the hardest part. But what really matters is having fun and playing the sport respectfully. We ended our season with an overall record of 2-15 and in the CCAA East League 2-10. I wish the seniors the best of luck in their future endeavors, and I am looking forward to coaching indoor soccer this winter and summer soccer next year.

I would like to thank these girls for coming to practice every single day and working hard, whether it was the conditioning, their footwork and skills, or just laughing and making memories. I would like to thank the parents for supporting their student-athlete in every way possible. Thank you, Chandell Nichols. I appreciate you because even when you were asked to coach the Boys' Modified Soccer team, you still came to our home games after your practice and to our Saturday morning practices. Thank you, Dee Herman, for driving our bus, doing the timer and keeping stats. Thank you, Darlene Morrison, for supervising our games. Thank you, Ryan Stefanik, for keeping our fields in pristine condition. Thank you, Chris Buczek, our Athletic Director, for all your hard work to keep our sports programs running. Finally, thank you to the administration team for everything they do to allow us to have a soccer program here at Pine Valley.

Girl's Modified Volleyball

The 2022 Girls' Modified Volleyball Season came to an end on October 21st with a game at Gowanda. I know our record wasn't the best but there were many things to be happy about this year from the girls.

I had a total of nine girls. Two of them came back from the modified team last year. They were able to guide some of the 7th graders. The two eighth graders were Tianna Bova and Karley Ebel. Karley was awarded the veteran of the year award; she received this award because she was one of the only players on the team that had the experience from last year. Karley also wanted the best out of 7th graders. Tianna was awarded the Cheermaster award. The 8th graders were fantastic to have around this year! We will miss them next year and wish them the best with the JV team.

I had a total of seven 7th graders on the team. These 7th graders had no idea how to play volleyball on the first day of practice. I saw a lot of improvement from these 7th graders after a week of practice. I had a couple of 7th graders that took the leadership role of the team and that was Ava West and Brook Sterling. They would come to volleyball every day and they would ask questions "How do I get better". Everyone else contributed to the team this year which was great to see. Alexis Colburn and Sadie Kruszka killed it with their serves this year. Addison Lyndsley contributed when she came off the bench during games. Saphera Lindquist would come to practice pushing everyone to get better. That is why she earned the Teammate Award. Kieran Zollinger earned the Most Improved Player Award. Kieran showed many signs of improvement and development over the month we were together. This group of ladies was a special one!!



Coach Zachary Len



Overall, this group of ladies was an awesome group to work with. I enjoyed my time with them this past month. I am extremely proud of how these girls played this year, with most of them never playing volleyball in their lives before. Ladies remember to keep your head up and play until the whistle goes.

Special Thanks to these people

Ryan Riley – Being accommodating and helpful whenever I needed the help. Setting up all of our home games (Setting up the bleachers, making sure the scorer’s table is set up along with the chairs, and making sure the floor is swept before every game). Your support to the team was unnoticed.

Joe Parisio – Thank you for the help this year even if the task was a difficult one. You don’t know how much I appreciate it.

Darlene Morrison – Thank you for being the main Bus driver for our games getting us to and from everywhere we went safely.

Chris Buczek – A BIG THANK YOU to the Athletic Director. If you were not around there would be no modified volleyball team or any sports teams. Thank you for setting up our schedule and making sure everything was ready on home game days.

Girl's Varsity Volleyball



Coach Kaitlyn Hoth

“‘Breathe, believe, and battle.’ My former coach, Troy Tanner, told us that before each match. Breathe – be in the moment. Believe – have faith that you can rise above it. Battle – you gotta be prepared to go for as long as it takes.” – Kerri Walsh

This season our team consisted of two seniors: Kaitlin Hayes and Grace Pfeuger; three juniors: Muriel Zollinger, Vivien Libby, and Jessina Miller; and four sophomores: Danica Farnham, Lizzie Roland, Oliva Lawton, and Sara Sunick. Eighth grader Madilynn Robertson joined us for our playoff game.

If you asked me to describe this season in one word, I would say, “adversity.” We only had three returning players who had competed at the varsity level last season (Kait, Grace, Danica). I think it took some convincing, but Muriel returned to the game, and I was glad to have her back. It was Vivien’s first time

touching a volleyball, but you would not have known that by the end of the season. Jessina and the remaining sophomores spent last year with Tara, but I knew they brought a lot of potential and counted on them to step up as numbers were tight again this year. Many of the girls were learning to play positions I do not think they had expected to play, but they stepped up and made a great deal of progress throughout the season.

The Panthers ended the season 6-13 overall with a loss to Clymer/Sherman in the Class D Playoffs. It was a challenging season for sure, but also a season of growth. The girls faced adversity and worked through each challenge they were faced with, whether that be an 8-point deficit to come back and win the set, playing without a setter, or taking a game to 5 sets against a team we had previously lost against in 3 sets. Looking back on the season, I would say the biggest highlight was that 5-set match in Gowanda. We had previously lost to Gowanda at home in 3 sets. The girls battled and took the match to a fifth set. It was the best volleyball we had played all season, and quite honestly, some of the best volleyball I have been apart during my time coaching at Pine Valley. It was Kaitlin’s fourth year on varsity, playing in the libero position all 4 years. She dominated all year in the position but was quite literally unstoppable in Gowanda that night. She rallied in 45 digs; a career high. Vivien had her best game as well with 11 kills and 3 blocks. When a match goes into 5 sets, we are usually looking at 2+ hours of volleyball, and I am beyond proud of the effort that was shown that night.

Congratulations to Kaitlin Hayes, who was chosen as a first-team all-star, and Danica Farnham, who was chosen as a second-team all-star! Congratulations to Muriel Zollinger, who received the sportsmanship award. Thank you to all the parents and family members, athletic director Chris Buczek, modified coach Zach Len, scorekeeper Derek Schalk, Bobby Slisz for helping at practices, the various bus drivers we had, Ryan Riley, the PV administration, and all the support from the PV students and community. As always, a HUGE thank you to JV coach, Tara Hayes. “T,” every year I look forward to taking on another season with you, and I know I always say this, but I seriously could not do it without you. Despite all the challenges we face, we continue to move forward together. Lastly, thank you to my team. Many late nights were spent in the gym so I could still be present at practice after work. Thank you being flexible, working hard, and overcoming adversity.

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Elementary Teacher



Jennifer Youngblood
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Welcome our newest Pine Valley Panthers!